

Krishna Avanti PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Official School Newsletter

ISSUE 2
January 2013



KRISHNA AVANTI
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Onwards and Upwards.....

Dear Parents/Carers,

'Happy New Year' and Welcome Back'

Our Ethics and Philosophy theme this half term is **respect** and in assembly on Monday we discussed the true meaning of this very powerful word. It was interesting to hear what the children had to say and their responses while varied, were consistent:

-Respect is something we earn.

-We can not respect others until we respect ourselves.

-We must respect any differences in others i.e. religions, cultures, the way we look; particularly our skin colour and any disabilities or differences we may have.

A final comment was 'if you eat lots of kidney beans you get respect—interesting interpretation! On a more serious note, such wise words from those who are so young. This then led me to think about what the word respect

may mean from the perspective of leadership and management and I found the following quote:

'Leaders who win the respect of others are the ones who deliver more than they promise, not the ones who promise more than they can deliver'

I will leave you all with that thought—No pressure from my perspective!

Once again, a big thank you to you all for your support, guidance and dedication to our school— it is greatly appreciated and never goes unnoticed.

Mrs Pauline Edwards



A special thank you to:

- FOKAS for all their support, which the school receives in so many different forms.
- Our staff and all our volunteers who work so hard to serve the needs of all our pupils.
- Avanti House School staff for working in partnership with us all.
- Members of our local community.
- Our faith partners for all their guidance.

Finally, to all the children who make our lives so interesting and so lively on a daily basis!

Our pupils.....

Our meetings with the Student Council will continue this term on a monthly basis. Our first meeting this week will focus on a more formal evaluation of how well the members think the school is doing. For this task we have adjusted our School Improvement Plan into more 'pupil friendly' language.

With the help of one of our parents from FOKAS, we will also be developing a Girls Improvement Group, which should be very

interesting, particularly as they now have a designated space on the Student Council Information Board, which has caused much discourse between the girls and boys! We will be exploring a number of areas, but will focus very specifically on girl's engagement and achievement across the curriculum.

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DATES FOR THE DIARY.....

- **Parent's Evening—
22nd/24th January : 3.00-
5.30pm—details to follow
on ParentMail.**
- Theatre of Law Project—
January/February
- FOKAS—separate details to
follow
- Visit from a writer and writing
workshop—years 3 and
4—16th January
- Parent Drop-in Sessions 6.00
-7.00pm:
-14th January— General dis-
cussion and Phonics workshop.
-14th February General
discussion and Behaviour
Workshop
- Chinese New Year Cele-
brations —parents invited to
attend on 8th February
after our collective wor-
ship session.
- **18th March - Gaur
Purnima celebrations -
with our faith partners
8.10-11.00 am**

**Half term
18th–22nd February**



Keep an eye on the parent noticeboard/ ParentMail, as this will have important information that we want to share with you all.

Free School Meals
PLEASE contact Mrs Radia or come to the parent drop-in sessions on the 14th January and 14th February, if you think you are entitled to Free School Meals.

Methods of Communication

Parent Questionnaire

Outcome

Thank you to all those parents who completed the questionnaire. The general findings are that you either agreed or strongly agreed to the following:

-The level of communication between parents and school is sufficient.

-Parent Mail is useful.

-This newsletter is very informative.

-The drop-in sessions with the Headteacher/SLT are useful.

-The drop-down sessions in class help you to understand what your child is doing in school.

In response to your suggestions:

-More structure to our drop-down sessions with the Headteacher/SLT will now take place. These sessions will now be topic based and we will run a parent workshop for every session.

-ParentMail: If you do not like this method of communication, please do see the Office and they will ensure you receive hard copies of any communications.

-Pupil review sessions will now take place on a termly basis.

School Improvement—Future Improvements

Our School Improvement Plan will focus on the following key areas over the coming two terms:

Achievement

1. Testing -Finding out how our pupils feel about the school, themselves and what they already know and how this might help us to set more challenging targets, particularly in Reading, Writing, Speaking & Listening and mathematical skills.
2. Designing specialised tracking systems to make sure we know how all of our pupils are doing all of the time – monitoring pupil progress.
3. Making the Student Council stronger to ensure that we know how the pupils feel about the school and that we listen to what they have to say and more importantly act upon it where we can.
4. Designing systems to ensure that **all** students can achieve, especially those who have or are experiencing any difficulties or have specific needs with their learning.
5. Stretching and challenging the pupils' learning by developing all aspects of their curriculum.

Learning

1. Working with other schools and organisations to ensure that we share our skills and knowledge about learning.
2. Giving staff support in order to ensure that they can meet all of the pupils' needs.
3. Finding out the best ways of marking the children's work and setting homework for them.
4. Making sure we have the correct number of staff with the necessary skills to help the pupils make progress— consistently good and better is our target in the learning experience for all our pupils.
5. Developing our very unique ethos, particularly the way in which we deliver our assemblies and collective worship programmes.
6. Expanding our extra-curricular activities/after school provision (clubs).
7. Developing our Ethics and Philosophy curriculum.
8. Developing a Home School Book, which supports communication in all forms.

Behaviour and Safety

1. Developing systems to ensure that we.
 - Discuss how all of the pupils are performing every week, linking their behaviour, attendance and attitudes to learning and the safeguarding of all our pupils.
 - Take certain actions to ensure that we work in partnership with you, before things affect the ability of the pupils to learn—working proactively as opposed to reactively.
2. Developing a behaviour and reward system which helps the pupils to develop both academically and as a 'whole' person.
3. Developing the way in which we deal with bullying and racist behaviours.
4. Developing all aspects of our practice, in order to ensure that pupils feel safe at all times. Develop a safeguarding audit tool.

Leadership and Management

1. Working in partnerships with others to ensure that the school becomes a 'leader' of learning or both pupils and staff.
2. Testing staff judgements on how we think we are doing, by inviting others - pupils, staff and parents - to comment on how well they think we are doing.
3. Working with the local authority, Governors and the Trust to plan for the school growing in size.
4. Developing relationships and different forms of communication with as many people as possible.
5. Seeking the views of others and acting on what we hear, where we can.
6. Developing learning opportunities and systems in a unique manner for all our staff, in order to ensure that they feel supported and can develop their skills and knowledge.
7. Linking all our developments with how much funding we receive—working in a smarter/cost effective manner.
8. Working more closely with parent bodies i.e. FOKAS.
9. Developing a higher sense of 'togetherness' and 'community' across our school as we grow, finalising our senior leadership team structure and looking at future staffing structures.

Parent Drop-in Sessions 6.00-7.00pm:

14th January— General discussion on the development of a consistent approach towards Homework, review of the school holiday dates and a Phonics workshop for parents.

14th February—General discussion on marking and assessment and a Behaviour Management workshop for parents.