



SPECIAL NEEDS ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

School Year 2015-2016

Term 5

Special Feature - Osmington Bay 2016



This year we took 9 pupils with us from 7A and 6A to Osmington Bay. We left school at 11am and stopped on the way to have lunch at Ringwood, where they had a taster of what was to come.

Once we arrived on site we were asked to make our beds and unpack ready for dinner followed by the evening entertainment. This was 'passport to the world'.



Everyone had to wander around the site finding flags and answering questions about those countries to gain points.



Tuesday morning after our first night, we left for the Olympic Sailing School in Weymouth. We helped to build rafts and then managed to all float on them.



After lunch back at base we started our afternoon with abseiling. Some of us climbed the inside of the tower and abseiled down. Some of us powered a hoist up the middle of the tower and helped to power down using their arms.



After abseiling we sent along to the rifle range in small groups of three for target practice.



That evening our entertainment was 'Photo Freeze'. Our rep gave us a theme and we had to act it out.



Wednesday morning we were up bright and early after a good night's sleep, heading back to Weymouth for some sailing. It was a foggy day to start with and hard to see the sea. We got into three different sailing boats and starting with the petrol motor, then got out the sails and everything was so sensory. The quiet sea noises, the cold water, the swishing sails. Everyone loved the experience.



Later on we had a go at climbing up the same tower we abseiled down





There were some of us that wanted a little bit of competition Ryan and Ali.



There was a competition between the adults too, well done Scarlett for winning it for the girls.

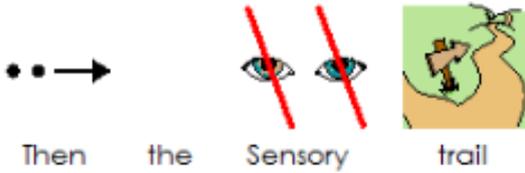


That evening we were treated to a sing song around the fire.

Lots of songs with actions, everyone loved it. Some of us were natural stars.



Thursday started with low ropes, games of trust and support. Asim was a star, brave and funny.



Navigating around with no eye sight, support each other again making sure they all complete the course.



We also completed other exciting activities such as, Archery, tunnelling, zip wire and then disco Thursday evening.



The week ended with a brilliant disco on the Thursday evening, where everyone danced for an hour and a half until they dropped, resulting in some good night's sleep.



There was an ongoing selfie competition between The Avenue and Osmington Bay. The girls back at school won hands down with all their beautiful shots.



Class 2A

This term Class 2A have been learning about flowers and insects. We have visited parks, woodland, Dinton Pastures and visited our own sensory trail as we explored and encountered flowers and insects in their many different forms. We have been using our clipboards and following instructions to find various insects and flowers. The pupils of 2A have thoroughly enjoyed this experience and it has suited them very well to be learning outside.



Class C

Class C visited the Living Rainforest as part of our Spring term topic, 'Animals'. Pupils were thoroughly engaged in the wonderfully interactive environment, and we witnessed some great moments of focus as we made our way through the rainforest. Zac enjoyed feeling the leaves, and also managed to find a small family of birds sleeping under a bridge. Altor was captivated by the fish and the terrapins, whilst Russul made friends with a noisy tropical bird!



This term Class 2B have been following the IPC unit plants and insects. As part of their maths they have been following a sequence of photo instructions to plant bulbs. The children have enjoyed exploring the soil and watering their plants. They have also used tick charts whilst out on the sensory field to keep an eye on our local wildlife amongst the shrubs and bushes.



To help our pupils to learn to tidy up after dinner, Geoff from Remap Charity redesigned our dinner trolley. There is a wooden tray slide where pupils can now place their tray whilst disposing of their rubbish, cutlery, plate and cup; there is also a unique tray drop function and a switch which says 'tidying up has finished'! Pupils have been very enthusiastic to try out the new trolley and their independence is growing. Leanne, our cook, is also delighted with the trolley. Thank you Remap and thank you Geoff!



Charity Stall

As you are probably aware the school has a charity stall situated in its Reception area. We are always pleased to receive donations of items for the stall. We need items in excellent condition please. If you know a company or retail outlet that have any end on line items that they no longer want and are prepared to donate please speak to them on our behalf. We really have had some amazing items



Every penny goes into our school fund to help to pay for those extra items to enhance the school lives of our wonderful pupils.

Holidays are fine, but not in term time please

Please think about your child's education and book your holidays in the school holidays, not when school is open.

As the weather is starting to get warmer can you please ensure that you send in Suncream and a sunhat for your child.



Thank you to all those parents who have replied by e-mail to the letter that went home we are busy trying to collect everyone's e-mail address to help communication and sharing of documents such as this termly newsletter. If you haven't already done so please send an email to kemery@avenue.reading.sch.uk so that you can be added to the list.

Unless requested there will no longer be paper copies sent home



Term 5 2016

Monday 6 June 2016 - Friday 22 July 2016

* Teachers' In Service Training day: Monday 6 June (school closed for pupils)

Total days 35

Total days in school year: 195 (including 6 in-service training days)

Pupils should not attend school on any of the days that are shaded above. Parents/Guardians please note that the school is normally closed for pupils on 6 days in the school year for Teachers' In Service Training days. In addition, we have allocated an extra day for Health and Safety Training. Please see above dates

Public Holidays in year 2015/2016

| | | | | | |
|------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|
| Christmas | 25-Dec-15 | Good Friday | 25-Mar-16 | Spring bank Holiday | 30-May-16 |
| Boxing Day | 26-Dec-15 | Easter Monday | 28-Mar-16 | August Bank Holiday | 29-Aug-16 |
| New Year | 01-Jan-16 | May Bank Holiday | 02-May-16 | | |

The Avenue School

Please make a note of these dates

| EVENT | DATE |
|---|---|
| Last Day of term 5 | Friday 27 th May 2016 |
| First day of Term 6 | Tuesday 7 th June 2016 |
| Special School Dance festival | Thursday 9 th June 2016 |
| Ufton Court- some pupils and staff | Monday 13 th June- Friday 17 th June 2016 |
| Royal Albert Hall Concert | Tuesday 14 th June 2016 |
| Parents Evening | Monday 27 th June 2016 |
| Lions of Zululand | Wednesday 6 th July 2016 |
| Last Day of Term 6 | Friday 22 nd July 2016 at 1.15p.m |

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A National Support School