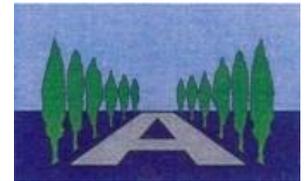


The Avenue Newsletter

Keeping you up to date with what's going on... w/e 27.01.2023



Head teacher's message

I mentioned in the newsletter last week and in a letter to parents earlier this week, that the National Education Union (NEU) has announced that its teacher members will be taking industrial action over the next couple of months. The NEU teaching union is pressing the government to commit to a fully funded pay increase for their members and are formally in a dispute over pay and conditions. The recent pay increase for teachers had to come out of existing budgets. The NEU is also committed to secure good working conditions for all staff and a better education for all children and young people.

If you don't have the dates proposed for strike action, the NEU strike dates affecting Reading schools are:

Wednesday 1 February
Thursday 2 March
Wednesday 15 March
Thursday 16 March

We have some teachers who are planning to strike and have staff who have children at schools that will be closed or partially open. The picture is ever evolving and I anticipate that we will have to close some classes. I will be in touch, offering as much notice as possible, to inform you of any classes that will be closed.

I understand that this will cause you a number of difficulties and thank you for your understanding. Best wishes, Symon.

The Butterfly Community Café

Despite the cold weather two 6th form students have been working hard at the Butterfly Café. Both are working towards gaining an Asdan employability certificate that will demonstrate the skills they have learnt and applied. Jennie Kettell has raised more than £40K to establish the **not-for-profit** community interest company to set up a coffee van that provides worthwhile work experience for young people with severe/specific learning disabilities. www.thebutterflycommunitycafe.com



6th Form

Sixth form green group have been enjoying their trips out into the community. Students have been working on independently choosing and paying for items.



Kingfisher

This term, Kingfisher have been reading *The Runaway Pea*, by Kjartan Poskitt and Alex Willmore. This adventure follows a pea on his journey around the house, and eventually becoming a huge pea plant! Kingfisher class have enjoyed learning about the life cycle of a pea plant, from seed to pods.

We have made our very own artistic recreations of scenes from the story and are slowly creating a labelled display of the different parts of a plant. We have also planted our very own pea pods, and in P.E we warm up with a yoga exercise that re-enacts the growth of a plant from curled up seeds to blossoming flowers!



Heron Class

Heron class went on a very nice wintery walk around Tilehurst. We took lovely pictures.



The Avenue Allotment—Volunteer opportunity

We are looking for keen people who are able to give some time in our school allotment. We've a wonderful allotment which is a fantastic wellbeing and learning environment however, we find that over the holidays the weeds take over and it's quite a task to get this space back to its best self. If you're able to offer some time we would love to hear

Key dates

End of Term
10.02.2023

Mental Health week
06.02.2023

World Book Day
02.03.2023
More details to follow