



The Avenue School

SPECIAL NEEDS ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

School Year 2018-2019

Term 4

PERFORMANCES at THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL and THE HEXAGON

A group of pupils visited the Royal Albert Hall for Berkshire Maestros "Music Leads the way". It was a very long day, with rehearsals, but our young people were amazing and stole the show. It was a fantastic experience for all involved.



*"Dear All the Wonderful Performers from the Avenue School,
I return from watching my daughter performing at this event, the memory of this evening will be of you!
You were truly AMAZING! Your passion and joy really took my breath away. Your talent shone through! Thank
you, so very much, for all your practicing, hard work, happiness and bravery. Be truly proud of how wonderfully
you represented your school, families but most importantly yourselves!
Much love and Best Wishes,"*

Pupils from Nuthatch and Heron classes performed "A Thousand Years" by Christina Perri at the CHILDREN HELPING CHILDREN performance at the Hexagon. Once again the pupils were fantastic, impressing other performers and the audience alike.

Thank you to all staff and our school community, for supporting these events and enabling our young people to be able to be involved in these wonderful experiences.

Woodpecker Class



This term the Woodpecker Class visited Finkley Down Farm. We all had a fantastic time. We have seen so many great animals like rabbits, meerkats, goats, alpacas, and lambs, as well as Clydesdale horses. We all had a great day out feeding lambs and goats and cuddling rabbits. We had a chat with the gentleman who was looking after the rabbits and he told us that rabbits need mainly hay and/or grass, some leafy greens and a small, measured amount of pellets. Rabbits don't naturally eat root vegetables/fruit: Carrots and fruit are high in sugar and should only be fed in small amounts as occasional treats.



BARN OWL

Barn Owl Class have been learning about animals this term. As part of our topic work we went on a trip to Locket Farm and Henry Street Garden Centre, where we met some goats, pigs, and chickens.



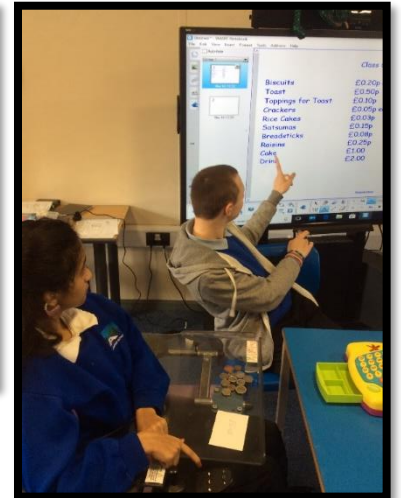
We have also been enjoying weekly music sessions, exploring songs based around a trip to the zoo.



MAGPIE

In Maths this term we have been looking at the topic of 'Money'. During a Maths lesson we set up a class café where all pupils joined in. We each took turns in being the customer and the café assistant. All pupils helped each other when we got stuck.

When we are out in the community we work on our money skills by visiting different cafés, and we are starting to become more independent.



MERLIN

In Merlin Class, we have been looking at poetry.

The students wrote their own 'found' poems from a collection of words on their tables. They experimented with language and structure to create some amazingly creative poems!

The Enchanted Potion

The mirror spell,
He like golden cauldron,
Tiny wand and old silver,
Sparks,
Bubbles,
Book,
Bright eyes,
Quiet hands.

-By Tom

A summer poem of words

Turquoise sea of sky
Birds and golden breeze,
Blue cool is peaceful,
Children relax on sand,
The grass and the boiling sun.

-By Seb

Harry Potter

The spell,
Potion book,
Eyes Twinkle,
Golden cauldron,
Enchanted mirror,
Bright whispers,
Old
Laughs.

-By Erin

Summer

The sun is golden and
boiling,
Blue breeze cool
Is peaceful
So birds laughing sky
The sand and grass
A sound at sea...

-By Yousef

Save the lonely animals

Help blue oceans,
Vanished tropical rainforests
And destroyed habitats,
Nature gone,
Toxic chemicals
Who waste planet earth.

-by Sharliyah

We were also inspired by Rossetti to create our own colour poems:

What is pink?

A cute unicorn flying fast to
Disneyland.
A beautiful flower swaying
slowly in the summer
breeze.
A pink flamingo standing
gently in calm water.
A pig squealing loudly in the
mud on the farm.

-By Reece

What is yellow?

A post-it note wavering rapidly in
the wind,
My literacy book burning
satisfyingly in the flames,
A yellow umbrella deflecting the
rain easily,
The sun shining brightly in the
sky.

-By Sam

What is yellow?

Sun glowing beautifully in
the bright sky,
Sunflower blossoming
marvelously in the cooling
wind,
Flag waving triumphantly in
the fire ridden sky.

-By Tommy

HERON

Heron class visited WH Smiths in Reading and met the author Sue Palmer, who has just written the book, 'May's Moon', which is all about space. Sue introduced herself to the children before asking questions about space suits, rockets and galaxies, etc. The children then split into pairs and began a quiz where they had to look for clues hidden on the shelves. The winner won a bouncy moon ball whilst all the other pupils were given a bookmark.



While the children settled down with refreshments, provided by W H Smiths, Sue read an extract from her book.



A great time was had by all!

KESTREL



The Kestrels have held a pop up café this term and served many drinks to many lovely customers as part of an Asdan Life Skills unit. It has certainly helped their independence and many now make their own drink at snack time.



EAGLE

The spring term has been busy, but fun filled and enriching in our experiences. We have continued to learn a range of new skills, including vacuum cleaning.



We have also had the chance to practice our money skills through operating the tuck shop. The tuck shop has been such a hit with all students across the school.



As a class, we have also had a lot of fun playing a range of turn taking games, which have helped promote problem solving skills and working together.



KINGFISHER

Kingfisher Class have had lots of fun learning about animals as part of the topic for the term. We enjoyed looking at the different animals in the sensory story Dear Zoo, listening to the animal sounds they make!



We have also been given the opportunity to spend some time with Diego, the school dog, and had lots of fun playing fetch with him. We have even caught him on a couple of occasions sneaking into our classroom to try and take some of our toys to play with!



We went to Beale Park for our school trip. The weather was perfect for us to walk around and look at the animals. We watched the meerkats chase each other, listened to the birds and looked at the bright colours on the peacock feathers. We had a great time on the train ride too!



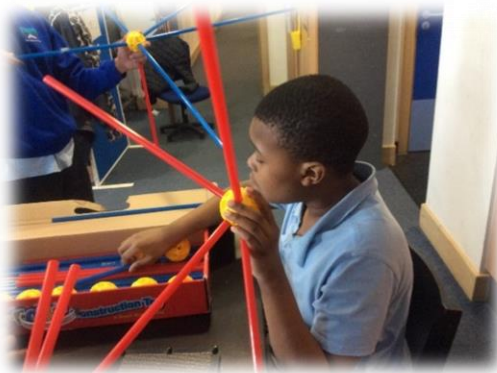
CORMORANT

A busy term for Cormorant Class, having lots of fun learning in and out of the classroom. We have been developing our learning within our life skills curriculum. In addition to our household, PSHE, food technology and community learning we have had a great deal of fun in music and dance sessions.



In food technology sessions this term we have been preparing vegetables and using them in pasta, wraps, sandwiches and rice dishes.

Out in the community we are taking our passion for keeping the community clean and tidy seriously. We now have a number of areas we are starting to visit and undertake our environmental work (in the local and wider community).



We have been encouraging all of our pupils to undertake independent learning and discovery. Some of the activities were focused on developing their learning through play and construction materials.

Pupils of Cormorant Class have had lots of activities where interaction with peers and adults has been the underlying theme of their learning.



STARLING

Proud Moments

Ali enjoys art and here he used clay to model a face. He used tools to add features to the clay face.



Oliver made a lego model during Stage 4 of Attention Autism. He brought it back to Group Time and proudly showed it to his friends in class.

Justin can order coins from 1p to £2 independently. He was very proud of himself and posed for a photograph at the Teaching Table.



ROBIN

Robin Class have been learning all about animal classification and groupings as part of their topic, Animals. Over the past two topic sessions they have been learning about birds and reptiles through a range of different activities.



Work Related Learning Celebrate in Style with Afternoon Tea



On the 27th of March parents, teachers, employers and students came together to celebrate our work related learning progress. After a short presentation, that gave an overview of all the different types of learning experiences the students have so far this year, certificates were given out. It was then time to enjoy a relaxed afternoon tea, of sandwiches, cakes and scones where parents, students and employers could chat informally. We had great feedback from everyone

'It's really hard to find the words to say how pleased I am that Eric has embraced the opportunity of work related learning at Ridgeline. Avenue took the time and trouble to find a placement that my child would be genuinely interested in and that truly offered an accessible and real experience of what working life or 'life after Avenue' could look like for my child.

It was so impressive to hear about what all the young adults at Avenue had been doing. The variety of opportunity was fantastic. Very well done to everyone. - **Pat Dyer Parent**

We all really enjoyed our visit on Wednesday for the presentations and tea.

Thank you so much. Tea was delicious and it was wonderful to hear your vision for the pupils.

Cassilda Courtier-Dutton
Newbury RDA Group Instructor



Work Related Learning

Sohail has been developing his work related learning skills. We are excited to here that he has been transferring his new skills from his work placement to home. Well done Sohail!



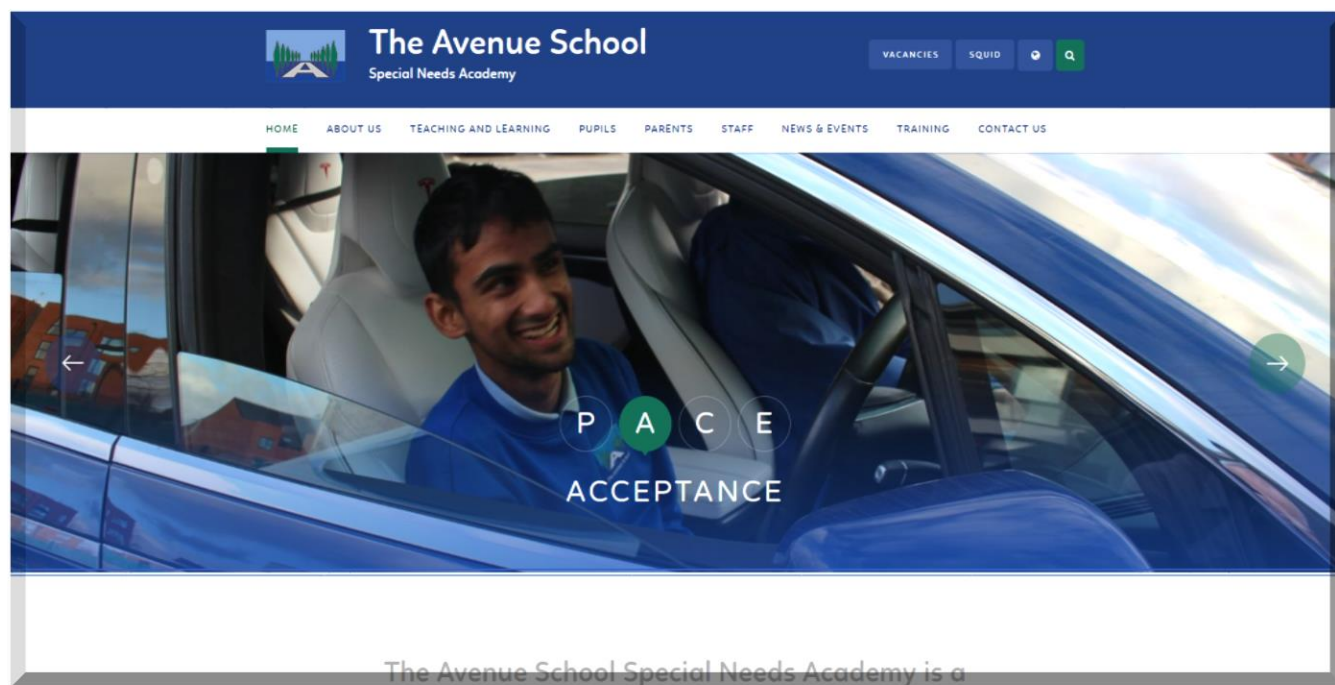
Thank you to you and school for breaking him in to a new activity which he seems to enjoy and is pretty good at.

Mrs Samia Sharif
Mother of Sohail

WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

We are happy to welcome back Kathy Rice and Mary Roche, who are returning from Maternity Leave.

SCHOOL WEBSITE RELAUNCHED



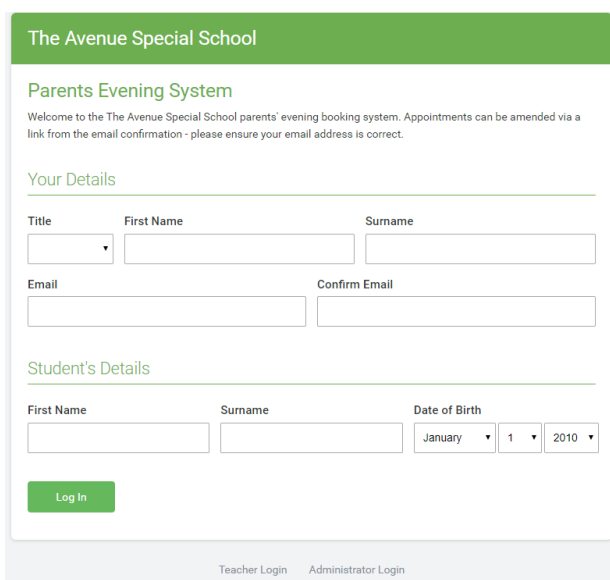
Our rejuvenated school website is now up and running. Please log on to find out about school policies, teaching and learning, as well as day to day activities: www.avenue.reading.sch.uk

ABOUT US:	includes our Mission Statement and Core Values & Beliefs; School Development Plan and information on Governance.
TEACHING & LEARNING:	information including Curriculum and Leavers' Destinations.
PUPILS:	includes class specific information, school council and clubs.
PARENTS:	information including: Term dates; School Meals; Family Support; Letters Home; Parents Evening; and PTFA.
STAFF:	information for staff.
NEWS & EVENTS:	Calendar, Newsletter and Latest News.
TRAINING:	details on professional training for staff and details on Outreach.
CONTACT US:	details on how to contact the school and the lettings provision.

If you have any thoughts, suggestions or comments about the newsletter, please send them to admin@avenue.reading.sch.uk.

PARENTS EVENING 28th MARCH 2019

It was great to welcome so many parents and carers to Parents Evening, last week. These evenings are a chance for Class Leads and Teaching Assistants to talk to you on a one to one basis on your child's progress so far this academic year, and plans for the rest of the academic year.



The Avenue Special School

Parents Evening System

Welcome to the The Avenue Special School parents' evening booking system. Appointments can be amended via a link from the email confirmation - please ensure your email address is correct.

Your Details

Title First Name Surname

Email Confirm Email

Student's Details

First Name Surname Date of Birth January 1 2010

[Log In](#)

[Teacher Login](#) [Administrator Login](#)

We have introduced a new system for booking parents evening. We had a good response, however, we always welcome feedback.

For those who cannot access the system, bookings can be made by the school, we would just ask that you let the class lead know.

Details of how to access the Parents Evening Booking System are on the "Parents" section of the school website.

sQuid

Please use sQuid to top up for dinners on a regular basis, trips, food tech donations and Afterschool Club



SCHOOL UNIFORM

We have a small stock of Cardigans,
Polo shirts, bags and some other
items in school for sale

Please contact Karen on Reception,
or email

admin@avenue.reading.sch.uk, for
more information

**Order Your School Uniform Online**
Brigade Parents Direct to School
The Quick & Convenient Way to Order Your Crested & Non Crested School Uniform



***ORDER YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL UNIFORM WITH FREE DELIVERY INTO SCHOOL/ACADEMY ***

ORDERS ARE PLACED IN A QUEUE UNTIL THE 15th AND 30th OF EACH MONTH AND DELIVERED INTO SCHOOL UP TO 14 DAYS AFTER
PLEASE SUBMIT SCHOOL ADDRESS ONLY IN THE DELIVERY FIELDS & INCLUDE YOUR CHILD'S NAME INTO SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Log onto www.brigadeuniformdirect.uk.com enter your child's school name (delivery to school service) and select the school from the drop down list provided

****IMPORTANT INFORMATION—SUMMER HOLIDAY ORDERS****
Please note that the last order date for delivery into school before the summer break is 30th June

www.brigadeuniformdirect.uk.com

The Avenue School

*Please make a note of these
dates*

<i>EVENT</i>	<i>DATE</i>
<i>Last day of Term 4</i>	<i>Friday 5th April 2019</i>
<i>First Day of Term 4 for pupils</i>	<i>Tuesday 23rd April 2019</i>
<i>Last day of Term 5</i>	<i>Friday 24th May 2019</i>
<i>First Day of Term 6 for pupils</i>	<i>Tuesday 4th June 2019</i>

The Avenue School Special Needs Academy, Conwy Close, Tilehurst, Reading. RG30

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