



The Avenue School

SPECIAL NEEDS ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER

School Year 2018-2019

Term 5

Springtime Fun!

In the last week of term we had a variety of fun activities to celebrate Spring time.

Basil & Crew Mobile Farm.

On Thursday 4th April we had our annual visit from Basil & Crew Mobile Farm. Every class had the opportunity to meet the animals and staff from this wonderful establishment and see at close hand what different breeds and types of animals are usually found on farms.

The pupils were allowed to touch all the animals (that they could catch!) and ask the very friendly and knowledgeable staff questions, such as how do they look after individual animals, what food do they eat and how do they groom them and keep them looking so healthy and happy. It was, as always, a wonderful day enjoyed by all!



Easter Egg Hunt

Friday 5th April was a full day of celebrations starting with an Easter Egg Hunt which, because of inclement weather, was held indoors. Pupils had to search around the school for their class paper Easter egg and, when found, take it to Janet and Tracey and swap it for real Easter eggs or chocolate animals.

Found! The class paper egg and the rush to swap it for the real thing!



Searching for the class egg



The fruits of his labour!



March of the Elephants

During the afternoon of April 5th the students donned their colourful elephant masks and, with the staff, paraded around the school before following the sensory trail outside.

Although the weather wasn't as kind to us as it might have been everyone joined in with great enthusiasm.

This was a sponsored event with the money going to 'Happy Days Children's Charity'.

Here are a few reasons they need our help with sponsorship;

They fund holidays for young people and their families.

They take groups of children and young people on residential trips.

They arrange experiences such as sport activity days, art and music workshops.

They provide days out for groups to hundreds of venues throughout the UK, including the seaside, theatre, zoos and farm parks.



Work Related Learning

'Welcome back to the Avenue'

This term we have welcomed back ex-students of our school. Our ex-students enjoyed meeting up as a group and reflected on their experiences of school and discussed what they were up to now, life after school.

Students and teachers were delighted to see them as they enjoyed a tour of 'What's new at the Avenue' and were impressed with the new areas and approaches the school has adopted.

We already have our next date in the diary! We look forward to inviting them back, alongside our 2019 leavers and current year 11's to enjoy lunch with us in the autumn.

If you are in contact with any ex pupils of the Avenue who would like to be part of our Lunch event please ask them to contact me at hbardsley@avenue.reading.sch.uk or telephone on 0118 9375554

Friends Reunited!



Ex students enjoying the sensory garden



Symon meeting two of our ex pupils

Friends Reunited!



Catching up over a cuppa!



Maarit & Symon joining up with current and ex students

The Cool Guys are back together again!



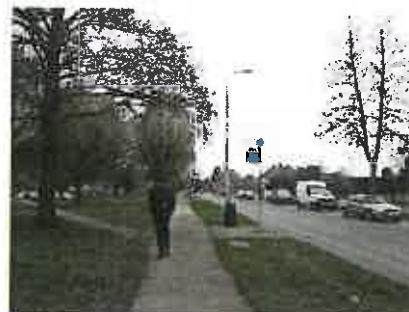
Travel Training

On the Buses



One of our students, from Magpie's class, has been learning to travel independently from his home in Tilehurst to school on a daily basis since February half term. He has been able to catch the number 33 bus from the bus stop outside his house and get off at Churchend Lane bus stop. He uses his bus pass to pay for his journey.

He has had the full support of his family assisting in his journeys.



Kestrel Class



Kestrels have been very busy this term.

Firstly they have been looking at pollution in the news. They created a display on the cause of air pollution and from the they watched



then recalled facts CBBC news item

They also took a trip to ASDA, Tilehurst, for a shopping trip. They were asked to look for certain food items, weigh them, if necessary and go to the checkout to purchase them.

How much



does this cost?

Picking the best produce



Where are the scales?



I prefer this brand



Time to pay



Swift Class

Swift class have begun cricket sessions on a Wednesday Morning. We have teamed up with Nuthatch class to form a bigger group where we work on our throwing, catching, batting, bowling before normally finishing off with a game.

Everyone has made progress with their skills.

Some of us visited Addington School to represent The Avenue in a Table Cricket tournament where a great time was had by all!

Some of us are enjoying cricket so much that we have started to play in our breaks and lunchtimes too!



The School Poly Tunnel

A team of volunteers have built a Poly Tunnel for our school. They brought with them the necessary skills needed to complete the build and make it strong so that it can be used for years to come.

The young people have been growing melons, squash, cucumbers, tomatoes, beans, pumpkins, and various flowers



Magpie Class

This term Magpies visited Marwell Zoo. While we were there we saw all the animals and took lots of pictures. In our English lesson, the next day, we researched and wrote our own fact files about our favourite animals that we saw in the zoo.



Royal Windsor Horse Show

On Thursday 9th May two of our students were given the amazing opportunity to ride at the Royal Windsor Horse Show!

A few of our students attend horse riding sessions every Monday and Wednesday. The Monday session was chosen to enter the 'Riding for Disabled Fancy Dress Class'.

The students entered as 'The United Kingdom' and dressed, appropriately, as Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Phillip.

The pupils had a very enjoyable day and because of the great job they did they finished 5th overall.

The staff were so happy to have given our pupils the opportunity to take part in and experience such a wonderful day.



Cormorant class



PSHE

In Personal, social and health education this term we have been learning about growing up. We have also had a lot of fun in learning how to be independent with our personal hygiene.

Food tech



In food technology we have worked on basic skills of peeling, chopping and grating. These have come in really useful when we have made fruit salad, pasta salad and wraps.

Household



We have been fine tuning our skills in home management. Pupils have been busy putting learning into action undertaking a range of everyday tasks.



Our DIY skills have been in use as pupils have started to improve our outside area. We have been constructing spaces to sit and play. Pupils have been learning how to use an electric screwdriver, sanding and painting. Next term we start work on our new outside structure.



Sparrow Class

This term Sparrow Class have been taking part in outdoor learning at Ufton Court. On Friday afternoons we have been working with Brett, finding out all about woodland plants and creatures. We have taken part in scavenger hunts to collect things that we found in the woods, we have also been on bug hunts to find creepy crawlies but our favourite activity must be feeding the goats, sheep and hens on the farm!



Merlin Class

Merlin Class are really happy to
announce that they have a
Twitter Account!



Tweets	Following	Followers	Likes
20	46	13	6

Merlin Class -The Avenue Special Needs School

@wearemerlinclass

We are Erin, Reece, Bradley, Daniel, Tom,
Tommy, David, Marcy, Yousuf, Seth, Sam &
Shardiyah #wearemerlinclass

#soundsofdifference

Re-orig: Inspire

www.facebook.com/wearemerlinclass/

Joined December 2015

11 Photos and videos



Tweets Tweets & replies Media



Merlin Class -The Avenue Special Needs School @wearemerlins · 7

ICT - English lesson researching about our dream jobs! #skydreams #wearemerlins #soundsofdifference



Merlin Class

All students in Merlin Class are working really hard to get their Explore Certificate in Arts Awards!

They have created wonderful pieces of art in different media such as photography, painting or composing a piece of music.

Well done Merlin Class!



Heron Class

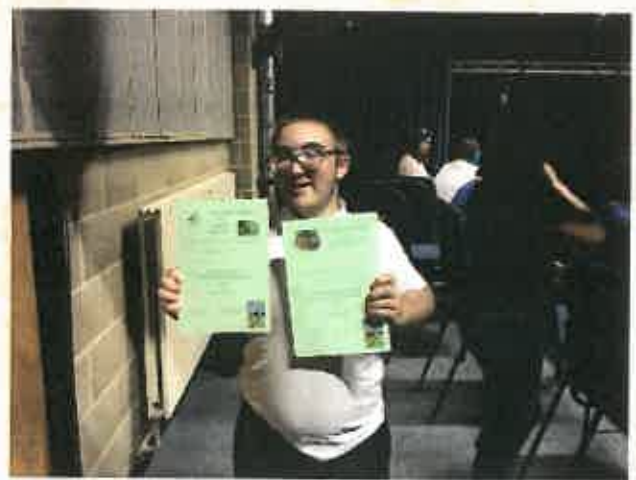
On 2nd May 2019 Heron Class entered an Agricultural Challenge at Arlington Arts Centre. Heron class worked very hard on this outdoor themed project for many weeks during Environment & Gardening sessions with Eleanor. On the day we displayed our mini projects, which included woodland necklaces, leaf print coasters, a large woodland collage, decorated flower pots and hand decorated cakes with an environmental theme.

We were awarded 1st place for our cake decorations and we received Certificates as well as a money prize.

The staff and children all had an amazing time and hope to do it all again next year. Well done Herons!



Heron Class



Eagles Class

This term has been an exciting one for us and we have enjoyed a range of learning experiences in and out of school.

We resumed our travel training and community access after finishing our work experience at Ufton Court.

We have enjoyed a range of shops and cafes in Reading town Centre and many of our young people are now able to order and pay for their snack with minimum prompts.



Eagles Class



Our shopping experience was also enriching



Eagles Class

Ryan has also started work experience at Ridgeline Trust



The rest of the class have also been learning about gardening



Although the term has been short we have had a great time and learned a lot of new experiences



Swan Class

Everyone in Swan Class is growing in confidence at Camp Mohawk during our weekly visits. We are all trying new things and exploring with increased independence.



Finch Class

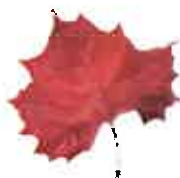
Finch Class have had a busy and interesting term. We have been attending swimming lessons at the Meadway Sports Centre and the whole class have enjoyed developing our swimming skills while keeping cool in the warmer weather.

Back in class we are keeping up our healthy lifestyles by doing our exercise programmes and brushing our teeth every afternoon.



Finch Class

We have also been exploring our new topic 'Insects and Flowers' this term. We have enjoyed making beehive prints and 3D bugs and Investigating insects with magnifying glasses in our Sensory Garden



Charlotte's Web

On Wednesday 15th May M & M Production Theatre Company visited during the afternoon to perform E. B. White's book Charlotte's Web.

The pupils and staff were treated to a wonderful show and fully embraced it, as the photos below show!



Starling Class love Attention Autism Time

Gina Davies created Attention Autism, a fun and motivating intervention which encourages children to give joint attention.

Stage 1 – Bucket Time

Students sit in a circle and focus their attention on the exciting toys which are in The Bucket.



Stage 2 – The Attention Builder

The students focus their attention on a motivating activity which is modelled by the adult leading the group.



Stage 3 – The Interactive Game

Starling Class students take a turn with an activity, then go back to the circle and refocus whilst watching another pupil.





Stage 4 – Independent Work

The students in Starling Class take a box with equipment and carry out a task as independently as possible. The students then return to Group Time, refocus and review the activity. They talk about their task plus celebrate the achievements of others.



Barn Owl Class

Our topic this term is 'Treasure'

We've had lots of fun pretending to be pirates in our Sensory Theatre Sessions, digging for treasure in sand, singing pirate songs, and going on a Treasure hunt around school.



Barn Owl Class

More Treasure Hunters!



Robin Class



In Robin class we have been making treasure necklaces as part of our topic 'Treasure'. During Art and Topic sessions we rolled clay into balls and different shapes, we then pierced holes into the clay shapes with straws and when they were dry we decorated the clay beads with glitter and paint. We then threaded the beads on to ribbons to make Necklaces.



Kingfisher Class

We have had a fun, busy term in Kingfishers class. As part of the topic 'Treasure' this term we have been exploring in the water and sand, discovering what treasures we have discovered.

We have been participating in a sensory story about a boat trip. Experiencing the choppy waves, building sand castles and enjoying a bit of buttery toast.

As part of our music sessions we have been learning to copy actions whilst singing simple nursery rhymes and listening to some sea shanties.

We are currently enjoying participating aerial yoga every Friday, where we have been working on some of our physio targets, balance and co-ordination skills and have even learnt how to swing ourselves in different directions.



Kingfisher Class



Woodpecker Class

Woodpecker is a life skills classroom and this term we have been consolidating the life skills of cooking.

Previously in our cooking sessions we have made vegetable wraps, spaghetti bolognaise and pizza. We have been making pasta salad this term for our lunch. We have been using knives to chop ingredients such as tomatoes, cucumber, peppers and coriander. We have also been practising our skills of using a grater by grating carrots.

After we have successfully cooked our meal we are taking responsibility to clean our classroom. This includes wiping our tables, sweeping the floor, washing and drying up as well as putting kitchen items back in the correct place.

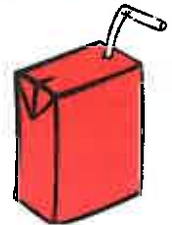
We have really enjoyed making our pasta salad and look forward to more cooking next term.



Wren class have been exploring different techniques on the Rebound Trampoline with Dawn, these are therapeutic exercises. The children have had lots of fun with this.



**TUCK
SHOP**



Eagle class are going to be running a Tuck shop from 10am – 11am each day.

They will be selling a selection of biscuits, cookies, flapjacks and drinks. Prices from only 20p!

Tuck shop items are all school compliant so remember to treat yourself next term!

sQuid

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

sQuid is an online payment system that can be used to make a variety of school payments. Parents can use sQuid to pay for school payments such as: Dinner Money top ups, Cashless Catering top ups, and payments for School Trips & Offers.

Benefits

- More convenient; no need to worry about sending cash or cheques
- View your child's transactions anywhere, at any time
- Ensure money is being spent on healthy school meals
- Auto top up payments for peace of mind that your account will never run out of funds

The Avenue School

School Terms & Holidays 2018 - 2019

September 2018							October 2018							November 2018							December 2018						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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January 2019							February 2019							March 2019							April 2019						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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May 2019							June 2019							July 2019							August 2019							
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Term 1 2018

Monday 3 September 2018 - Friday 19 October 2018

* Teachers' In Service Training days: Monday 3 and Tuesday 4 September (school closed for pupils)

Total days: 35

Term 2 2018

Monday 29 October 2018 - Thursday 20 December 2018

* Teachers' In Service Training days: Monday 29 October and Tuesday 30 October (school closed for pupils)

Total days 39

Term 3 2019

Monday 7 January 2019 - Friday 15 February 2019

* Teachers' In Service Training day: Monday 7 January (school closed for pupils)

Total days: 30

Term 4 2019

Monday 25 February 2019 - Friday 5 April 2019

Total days: 30

Term 5 2019

Tuesday 23 April 2019 - Friday 24 May 2019

Total days: 23

Term 6 2019

Monday 3 June 2019 - Wednesday 24 July 2019

* Teachers' In Service Training day: Monday 3 June (school closed for pupils)

Total days 38

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 5 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 2018/2019

Christmas	25-Dec-18	Good Friday	19-Apr-19	Spring Bank Holiday	27-May-19
Boxing Day	26-Dec-18	Easter Monday	22-Apr-19	August Bank Holiday	26-Aug-19
New Year	01-Jan-19	May Bank Holiday	06-May-19		

The Avenue School

School Terms & Holidays 2019 - 2020

September 2019

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October 2019

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November 2019

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December 2019

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January 2020

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February 2020

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March 2020

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30	31					

April 2020

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May 2020

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June 2020

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July 2020

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27	28	29	30	31		

August 2020

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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Term 1 2019

Tuesday 3 September 2019 - Friday 25 October 2019

* Teachers' In Service Training days: Tuesday 3 September and Wednesday 4 September (school closed for pupils)
Total days: 39

Term 2 2019

Monday 4 November 2019 - Friday 20 December 2019

* Teachers' In Service Training days: Monday 4 November and Tuesday 5 November (school closed for pupils)
Total days: 35

Term 3 2020

Monday 6 January 2020 - Friday 14 February 2020

* Teachers' In Service Training day: Monday 6 January (school closed for pupils)
Total days: 30

Term 4 2020

Monday 24 February 2020 - Friday 3 April 2020

Total days: 30

Term 5 2020

Monday 20 April 2020 - Friday 22 May 2020

Teachers in Service Training Day; Monday 20th April
Total Days: 24

Term 6 2020

Monday 1 June 2020 - Tuesday 21 July 2020

Total days: 37

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

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New Year 01-Jan-20

Good Friday 10-Apr-19
Easter Monday 13-Apr-19
May Bank Holiday 04-May-19

Spring Bank Holiday 25-May-19
August Bank Holiday 25-Aug-19



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

EVENT	DATE
Last day of Term 5	Friday 24 th May 2019
First Day of Term 6 for pupils	Tuesday 4 th June 2019
Enrichment Week	Monday 10 th – Friday 14 th June 2019
Parents Evening	Thursday 4 th July 2019
Sports Day	To be confirmed
School Prom	Friday 12 th July 2019
Awards Ceremony	Tuesday 23 rd July 2019
Last day of Term 6	Wednesday 24 th July 2019

The Avenue School Special Needs Academy, Conwy Close, Tilehurst, Reading. RG30 4BZ

Telephone: (0118) 9375554

email: admin@avenue.reading.sch.uk

Charity Number 1127969.