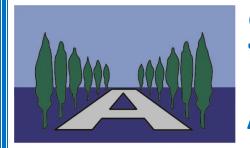
School Year 2019-2020

Term 3



SPECIAL NEEDS ACADEMY

The Avenue School



Happy New Year!

Already this term some pupils have been on a residential trip to Ufton Court and you will be able to see their photographs on their class page.

We were also lucky enough to have two theatre companies visit us in January. The first was M & M Productions, with their version of 'Peter Pan', which was a great success. The second was the Head2Head Multi-Sensory Theatre who performed with five classes during the day to the delight of the pupils involved and the audience.



Wren Class

This term Wren Class have been making sandwiches. The students have been using PECS to request what they need or what filling they would like in their sandwiches. They are gaining more independence each week. Some students are also enjoying eating their sandwiches!









Wren Class (continued)











Barn Owl Class

Barn Owl Class attended a Sensory Theatre production called 'The Chicken Circus', performed by Head2Head Theatre. We had lots of fun participating in the show, exploring circus props and costumes, and coming up to the stage to perform our circus acts!







Barn Owl Class (continued)









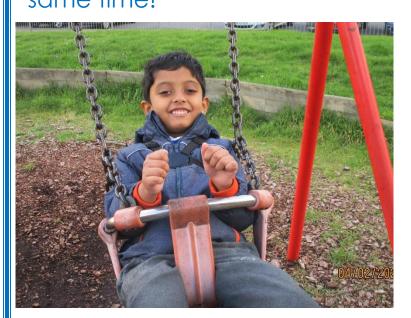


Hatchlings

This term Hatchlings started walking to the park!

It's a great opportunity to practice safety in the local

community and have fun at the same time!











Goldcrest

Goldcrest class have been very busy with lots of different activities designed to explore each of their senses and interests. These include their ongoing music lessons, which have seen a huge improvement in engagement and pupil enjoyment from the beginning of the term. Pupils are recognising the xylophone used to introduce each music session and are keen to take turns in playing, copying adultled beats or independently finding their own musical tunes. All pupils then explore their different sounds and instruments together, making lots of exciting music.





Goldcrest (continued)

Cristian shows the most interest in the xylophone and the guitar, along with Insaf who also loves the guitars. Thanusanth likes the sounds of rainmakers and his own singing the most, along with Wahab who also likes to sing, and Marley enjoys beating loudly and quietly on a drum.











Nuthatch Class

Nuthatch class have been enjoying getting their hands dirty with lots of messy play this term. They have been experiencing different textures and materials with things like; dried chickpeas, bubbles, cornflour, painting and a dinosaur swamp!









Nuthatch Class (continued)











Kestrel Class

Kestrels have been doing a recycling project. It began with looking at the mess left after this year's Reading Festival; they thought it was disgusting! Kestrels learned what can be recycled and how to spot the logo/signs. They recycled waste from our lessons into the recycling bins at school and then had fun building Dog Bots from recycled materials. We are hoping to display the reliefs soon.











Kestrel Class (continued)













Woodpecker Class

The focus of our maths lessons this term is capacity, focusing on the practical understanding of the following terminology: full, empty, and half-full. We are promoting as many opportunities as possible, around capacity, for pupils to develop their independence and confidence. We have experimented with lots of water, oil and food colouring. At the teaching table, we have introduced the new terminology half-full, by filling various sized flower pots to the given mark. Then we planted potatoes and garlic cloves and filled up the remaining half of the pot with soil so that it was full.

Additionally, this term we are introducing the new concept of work area, as we are progressing from the traditional workstations towards a more independent life skills focused work area.

Working area: Activities include

- sorting empty and full containers with dry food,
- sorting picture cards full and empty,
- sorting empty and full liquids.







Woodpecker Class (continued)













Cormorant Class Work Experience at Ufton Court

Despite the winter weather our Friday work experience has continued. Pupils have been clearing leaves from areas used by other schools for their history learning.

In our food technology lessons we have been making vegetable soup that we have eaten to warm us all up after a morning's work!











Cormorant Class (continued)

Numeracy

This term we have been learning about shapes. In the classroom we have looked at circles, triangles and squares. We have learnt their names, how to sign each shape and making shapes. Out in the community we have been finding shapes in Reading Town centre.









Cormorant Class (continued)

World Studies

In our world studies lessons we have used green screen technology to take the class on a virtual tour in a balloon across the world to all countries where we have family from. So far we have flown to Italy and Bangladesh. Next term we will be flying to Pakistan, India, Zimbabwe, Ghana and back to Reading.

In each country we have made flags, tried local food and learnt what each country is famous for.











Cormorant Class (continued)

Literacy

This term Cormorant Class have been working on our phonics skills. We have been learning how to sign letters, sounding letters and writing letter shapes.





ABCDEFG HIJKLMN OPQRSTU VWXYZ



Harrier Class

Harrier Class and 2 members of Kestrel Class are in full swing working towards their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. This term pupils are starting to look at the 'Expedition' section of the award. The focus for their expedition will be 'Wildlife'. They have experienced tent building, making hot chocolate on a trangia stove and took part in the 'Big Garden Bird Watch'.









Harrier Class (continued)











Harrier Class (continued)









Kingfisher Class

Happy New Year!

Kingfisher Class have started off the New Year by being given an exciting opportunity to watch three performances this term. We went to Brookfields School to watch a show led by the company

Bamboozle Theatre Productions.

M & M Productions then came to The Avenue School with the pantomime Peter Pan. We loved the music and dancing and were very excited when cast members came over to give us a 'high five'.











Kingfisher Class (continued)

We watched 'Chicken Circus' by Head2Head Theatre where we were invited to participate in the production by helping the chickens participate in their circus performance. We highly recommend watching these shows, led by these fantastic companies!













Kingfisher Class (continued)







Also in Kingfisher Class, we have been having a great time learning about space. We have been listening to the sensory story 'The Way Back Home', tasting sherbet and popping candy in our Sensology lessons, as well as making our own flags and placing them on the moon. We weren't afraid to get messy while exploring alien slime and moon dust! We are looking forward to visiting the Lookout Discovery Centre and Winchester Science Centre and Planetarium for our school trips this term.









Heron Class

This term, Heron Class had an absolutely incredible and adventurous time on a residential trip to Ufton Court.

We were all really lucky to be able to take part in many unforgettable activities including:

- visiting our animal friends on the farm
- going for a walk to the nearby village
- making a fire to retrieve doughnuts from the only 'Doughnut Tree' in the world
- geocaching in the woods
- experiencing a 'Flintstone Car' style ride
- marshmallow toasting over a fire
- exploring Ufton Court grounds during a night walk with torches
- designing and making rocket cars

All children and staff had a wonderfully marvellous time and lots of happy memories were made...

The photographs on the next page show you just how much fun we had!



Heron Class (continued)















Heron Class (continued)













Finch Class

Our topic for PSHE this term is 'Growing Up' and we have looked at babies and children so far this term. We talked a lot about what a baby's needs and how that changes as we grow into toddlers and children. Some of the class were very brave and tried some baby food which was amusing for all.







Finch Class (continued)

This week we are talking about becoming adults and in particular what kind of jobs people can do when they are grown up. We were very lucky to have a very experienced and highly valued member of staff, Jenny Hood, come and join us for an interview with the children and to tell us about some of the different things she has done in her 37 years at the school. Each child had a question and we found out about the many roles, highlights and history of her time at the Avenue and before, when she worked as a telephone operator!





I wonder what careers Finch Class students will one day achieve. Some of their aspirations are bakers, shop assistants, footballers and being a daddy.



Finch Class Chinese New Year

As well as talking about growing up, Finch class has also celebrated Chinese New Year where the children had a super afternoon watching celebrations on the smartboard, dressing up in traditional clothes, tasting some noodles and rice using chopsticks and even wearing the longstanding Chinese favourite of the school, the Chinese dragon/lion head!











Finch Class

Chinese New Year (continued)











Finch Class

Chinese New Year (continued)







Sparrow Class

This term Sparrows have been exploring different fruits such as berries, pineapple, kiwi, mango, apple and pears. They have been cutting the fruit before putting it into the smoothie maker, pouring some coconut milk in and turning it on to make a delicious smoothie! The children have developed their cutting and pouring skills, their tolerance of new foods and their understanding of instructions.















Raven Class

Raven class have enjoyed being creative this term. In ceramics, we have learned tile making and building techniques and used our imaginations to make planet tiles which we are going to use to create a colourful class decoration. In food tech, we have snacks including fruit smoothies and rainbow pizzas!













Dove Class

Dove Class have been enjoying learning outside with the enthusiastic team at Thrive. We have been learning via the senses, exploring the vegetables that we harvested, making soup, making bird feeders, going on long walks and just generally experiencing being outside, at one with nature. We have found the sessions very calming, beneficial to our physical and emotional health and we look forward to attending each week.











Dove Class (continued)















Starling Class

During this term we started a new ICT lesson. The students from Starling class are working independently on how to use different parts of the laptops and learning about Microsoft Word.











Starling Class (continued)

Starling Class are taking part in community experiences. Every Wednesday they bring a shopping list from home and we go to the supermarket. During the afternoon they identify and sort healthy and unhealthy food.













Starling Class (continued)

Once a week we have a cooking session in Starling Class and we learn about food from around the world. We then cook recipes from different cultures.















Starling Class (continued)

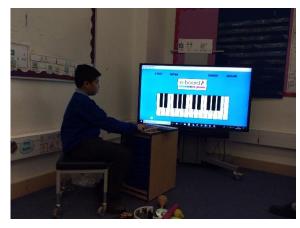
Starling Class had amazing music lessons, following rhythm and making sounds with different instruments.













Linnet Class



This term most of Linnet class took part in a football tournament at the Madejeski stadium (the home of Reading football club). The boys had a fantastic day out playing against different schools across Reading and Berkshire. This is not just an opportunity to show-case their football skills, it also gives the boys the opportunity to meet and socialise with friends from fellow schools. The boys did really well managing to win two and draw two out of five games. We are all looking forward to future tournaments and being given the opportunity represent the school again









Linnet Class continued















Robin Class

Robin class have enjoyed their trips to Thames Valley Adventure Playground every Tuesday morning. They have mainly been exploring soft play, the sensory room, role-play areas and the adventure playground. The children have also been sitting very well on the bus for 40 minutes there and back! Well done Robins!















Reading schools proudly present an Extravaganza of Song, Dance & Drama in aid of Daisy's Dream and Sport in Mind

Tickets Selling Fast — visit whatsonreading.com or 01189 606060



7PM, Tuesday 31st March, 2020

Pupils from

The Avenue School

will be performing!

With grateful thanks to:



















Tesco Playground Grant

The school is on a shortlist of 3 to earn either a £2000, £1000 or £500 Grant from Tescos for a playground renovation project.

We need as many votes as possible in Tesco Main Stores, Tesco Extra or Tesco Express shops by the 31st March 2020 to get the bigger prize.

So if you are in any of the stores below please put in a vote for us.

If you could also share this with your friends and family to boost our chances that would be great. Please feel free to share on social media

CAVERSHAM EXPRESS RG4 8AU

EMMER GREEN EXPRESS RG4 8RZ

READING SHINFIELD EXPRG2 8HA

READINGRG1 8DF.EXTRA

SOUTHCOTE EXPRESSRG30 2EU

READING WHITLEY ST EXRG2 OEG

READING SILVERDALE RD EXPRG6 7NG

TILEHURST READING EXPRG31 6FA

READING WEST RG30 1AW EXTRA

READING CROWN HSE EXPRG1 2SE

READING MARKET PL EXPRG1 2EG

READING OXFORD RD EXPRG1 7LA

BURGHFIELD COMMON EXPRG7 3JB

READING CASTLE EXPRG1 7TN

OXFORD RD READING EXPRG1 7PX

READING LONDON RD EXPRG1 5BA



THERE HAS BEEN A BIRTH IN SCHOOL!! YES, YOU READ IT CORRECTLY A BIRTH IN SCHOOL!

WE NOW HAVE THREE INSECTS THAT WERE BORN ON MONDAY 13TH JANUARY 2020 THE FIRST ONE WAS FOUND BY AN AVENUE SCHOOL PUPIL THEREFORE IT HAS BEEN NAMED LAURA





Laura the stick insect

A.N.other stick insect

I only have photos of two of them but I'd say the third one looks pretty much the same as these two!

Sensory Garden News

Volunteer groups

We have been very fortunate this term to have had two wonderful groups of people supporting us with our outside allotment area.

Path Hill Outdoor, an alternative learning provision, sent a team to support our garden development. They cleared our overgrown woodland of brambles and spiky foliage, as well as building us three raised beds using sleepers. Their help and support was much needed, and the team and young people are an absolute credit to Path Hill.



Field | Seymour | Parkes

1 London Street, Reading, RG1 4PN www.fsp-law.com

We are also very grateful to this firm who worked tirelessly to weed, build & fill raised beds and much more. We are so lucky to have this team in as they have made such a huge difference to our outdoor area.

Television Stars!

You may or may not have seen that a number of our pupils have been appearing on the BBC CBeebies programme 'Something Special' which stars Justin Fletcher aka Mr Tumble.

The pupils were filmed back in May and June last year so have had a long wait to watch their performances!

Two of the students and their teacher spent the day with Justin in the sensory garden. They had a wonderful day filming with birds of prey and had the opportunity to actually have a hawk flying on and off of their gloved hands.

Other students were filmed signing words during the programme and were amazing.

You can still catch the programmes on BBC IPlayer Cheebies 'Something Special'.





Aquatherapy swimming sessions.

We have some wonderful independent swimming skills being developed in the pool so far this term!

Grace from Barn Owl has started to enjoy being on a woggle and kicking her legs, even trying to splash Karen in the process!

Junior has found the best technique to splash people on pool side and in the pool whilst swimming independently on a woggle as well, a skill he is proud of!

Mya has been coming in for her sessions and has been happy to move and dance about even though her hip is in pain. Her laughter is infectious!!

Tomi, this term, has been extremely exuberant in the pool and has moved across the pool independently whilst trying to dunk himself under the water!!

Eniola loves being independent on a woggle and will move herself from her back to her front and return to her back again. Well done Eniola!

Aiden is a new pupil in Kingfisher class and he loves coming down to the pool to play with the toys and splash his feet in the water!

Krystian is also still enjoying his sessions in the pool and loves to splash and relax after his physio!

Amanveer is continuing with his stretches in the pool and is always excited when the batman ball is in reach!

Aquatherapy swimming sessions (continued)









Aquatherapy swimming sessions (continued)









Group Swimming Sessions.

Every Wednesday and Thursday we have group sessions in the pool. This term it is the turn of Wren class and Robin class.

After a few tentative starts we have the children in the pool and appear to be enjoying themselves!

They are all working towards being independent in the water on a shark fin and it is lovely to see each pupil growing in confidence in the water and playing games with their peers.











Careers News Blast



February 2020

What's new this month

- Harrier Class attend their first careers fair
- Official launch of our internal work experience week
- 3 classes collaborate on a café enterprise week
- SEND career benchmarks are launched by the careers and enterprise company
- External work experience at Ufton court
- Thames water as guest speaker
- Coffee morning for Alumni
- Updated local labour market information (LMI)
- Work Experience uniform is sponsored
- Dove class enrol on Thrive

Thinking about our future



Harrier class experience their first

fair this month at the Penta hotel Keah said 'she liked finding out about

all of the jobs there'

Harry spent time with the British

Lucus enjoyed speaking to the

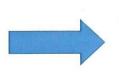
different stall holders about the type of work they had on

Beth, Spencer & Chloe were interested in guide dogs for the blind

Spencer experiences a working week







Full interview on our website

Don't forget you can see all the updated careers and work related learning on our website www.avenue.reading.sch.uk

Café Enterprise





Pots & Petals

Dove Class embark on a year-long experience at Thrive. The programme is run by a Horticultural Therapist using the natural environment to stimulate the faculties of sight, smell, taste, touch and sound. The programme builds on intensive interaction through a relaxed and enjoyable selection of interactive activities.



Welcome back to the Avenue

On the 11th of February we welcome back the class of 2019 to share their experiences of life after the Avenue.



Don't forget you can see all the updated careers and work related learning on our website www.avenue.reading.sch.uk

Chill Out

Mindfulness Meditation sessions for Families with Children from age 5



Learn how to manage distractions, stress and anger

Every Saturday during school term starting 14th April 2018

10.30am - 11.30am at The Avenue School

Conwy Close, Tilehurst, Reading, RG30 4BZ

We suggest a donation of £5 per family

Contact Mike Sarson
mike@east-west.org.uk
www.eastwestkidsconnect.org.uk
Tel: 0118 9623332





The Avenue School School Terms & Holidays 2019 - 2020 October 2019 November 2019 September 2019 December 2019 M T W T F Т Т S T W T F S S T W T F 2 3 4 10 10 11 12 13 3 4 5 6 8 8 9 5 6 8 9 2 3 4 5 6 8 12 13 14 15 16 17 10 11 12 13 9 14 | 15 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 12 13 15 9 14 15 10 11 14 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 21 24 25 26 27 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 16 18 19 20 21 22 23 17 24 25 26 27 28 28 29 30 25 26 27 28 29 30 23 24 25 26 27 28 30 31 April 2020 March 2020 January 2020 February 2020 WTF S Т SS SS Т М T WT F W Т F M T W|T|F 7 2 3 4 5 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 9 10 11 12 | 13 14 15 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 19 20 21 22 22 23 24 25 26 20 21 22 16 17 18 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 17 18 19 28 29 30 31 23 24 25 27 28 29 27 28 29 30 27 28 29 26 25 26 July 2020 August 2020 May 2020 June 2020 F Т TFS Т Т S Т T F s Т W s 5 3 1 2 3 4 1 6 1 4 5 6 8 9 10 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 6 8 9 10 11 12 6 8 9 11 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 16 17 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 18 19 20 21 22 23 22 23 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 17 18 19 20 21 27 28 29 29 24 25 26 27 31 Tuesday 3 September 2019 - Friday 25 October 2019 Term 1 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 Monday 24 February 2020 - Friday 3 April 2020 Term 4 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; 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) 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 2019/2020 25-Dec-19 Christmas Good Friday 10-Apr-20 Spring Bank Holiday 25-May-20 Boxing Day 26-Dec-19 Easter Monday 13-Apr-20 August Bank Holiday 31-Aug-20 New Year 01-Jan-20 May Bank Holiday 08-May-20

School Terms & Holidays 2020 - 2021

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Term 2 2020	Monday 2 November 2020 - Friday 18 December 2020 * Teachers' In Service Training days: Monday 2 November and Tuesday 3 November (school closed for pupils) Total days 35				
Term 3 2020	Monday 4 January 2021 - Friday 12 February 2021 * Teachers' In Service Training day: Monday 4 January (school closed for pupils) Total days: 30				
Term 4 2020	Monday 22 February 2021 - Thursday 1 April 2021 Total days: 29				
Term 5 2020	Monday 19 April 2021 - Friday 28 May 2021 Teachers in Service Training Day; Monday 19 April Total Days; 29				
Term 6 2020	Monday 7 June 2021 - Friday 23 July 20 Total days 35	021			

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 2020/2021

Christmas	25-Dec-20	Good Friday	02-Apr-21	Spring Bank Holiday	31-May-21
Boxing Day	26-Dec-20	Easter Monday	05-Apr-21	August Bank Holiday	30-Aug-21
New Year	01-Jan-21	May Bank Holiday	03-May-21		



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



The Avenue School

Please make a note of these dates

EVENT	DATE
Last day of Term 3	Friday 14 th February 2020 3.15pm finish
First Day of Term 4 for pupils	Monday 24 th February 2020
School Photographer	Thursday 27 th & Friday 28 th Februar y
World Book Day	Thursday 5 th March 2020
' Children Helping Children'	Tuesday 31st March 7.00pm Hexagon
Last day of Term 4	Friday 3 rd April 2020 3.15pm finish
First day of Term 4 for pupils	Tuesday 21st April 2020

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

Telephone: (0118) 9375554

email: admin@avenue.reading.sch.uk

Charity Number 1127969.

Have an enjoyable break

Staff & <u>Pupils</u> return on Monday 24th February 2020

