



The Aylesbury Vale Academy

RESPECT | ASPIRATION | RESILIENCE

PARENT BULLETIN 8 21st October 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our parent consultations this week. It was lovely to hold these in person and see so many of you. We are holding our open classrooms and book look on Tuesday 1st November from 3.30pm - 4.30pm. Please collect your child as normal and then join us (entering through main reception) from 3.30pm.

On Monday our amazing Year 5 teachers and children led our Black History Month Assembly. The pieces that they had written and shared with us were truly beautiful and inspiring. We have been asked to record and share some of these with the older AVA students. What an honour.

On Wednesday we surprised the Year 3,4,5 & 6 children with a visit from John Mousinho and Matty Taylor from Oxford United's first team. They joined us in assembly and on the playground for lots of questions and footballing fun. Not only are they professional footballers but they also run a company called Youth Dreams Project which inspires young people to enjoy sport.

Many of our children have been asking for an after-school football club at the school and we hope to have some football teams to compete locally with other schools. John and Matty have kindly agreed to run sessions for us. These will need to be booked and paid for directly through the Youth Dreams Project, more information to follow. Spaces are limited and are booked on a first come first served basis.

Working with such local talent is amazing and we thank them for spending the time with us this week.



KS1 WOW!

This morning, our KS1 children were very excited to go on their fictitious journey to the Middle East, Flying with Qatar Airways!

They buzzed with excitement as they began their day, checking in with their class airline and having their bags checked and tagged. Once they had dropped off their luggage, they made their way through security, into the departure lounge where they completed their departure activities.

They then boarded their aeroplane and enjoyed their inflight movie, Aladdin.

Once the children had arrived, they enjoyed a range of activities with their class. We hope every child enjoyed their journey and their inflight experience.

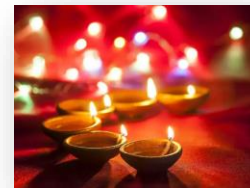


Secondary Applications

For all Year 6 parents please remember the deadline for secondary applications is 31st October. Although all AVA children are guaranteed a space here in the secondary phase you do still need to complete the online application through the Buckinghamshire Council portal.

Diwali

We would like to wish our families a very Happy Diwali as the celebrations start today. Hoping this year's Diwali celebration is full of peace and light for you all.



School Photos

School photo proofs will be with us after half term when you will be able to order directly with the supplier for the individual and sibling photos that were taken. The deadline date will be shared once the proofs arrive and we will be sending out a reminder once received.

Swimming Year 4

Eagles have now had their last swimming lesson for this term and then will recommence swimming lessons after Christmas.

Falcons will now start swimming lessons after half term- Monday 31st October, they will need to bring in a swimming costume/ swimming shorts and a towel and will go by coach to Stoke Mandeville Stadium every Monday afternoon. Please complete the form to give consent for your child to wear goggles.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=vujYj3JiOk-ROacP9_VtsKwwUe3yRCpBpggp12vCPI1URjFURINaFFHMzM5RjhSTEVOSVdMUlo3Ny4u

Parking and drop off

Please can I remind all parents that they need to wait with their children in the mornings until the gates open at 8.30am. This week there have been a number of unsupervised children in the carpark and out the front of the school. We are not responsible for the children until they are with us in school. Staff have reported a couple of near misses with children 'playing' in unsafe areas. We must also be aware of the parking around the school. There have been many complaints about the parking and behaviours around this. Where possible please walk to and from school and if you do drive please be considerate to others.

Early Years Parents and Carers,

Over the next 10 school weeks, we will be sharing a top tip on 'Talky Tuesday' to help your child become the best communicator they can be. This may seem like a simple concept, but it works, and it supports the children with their day-to-day speech and language.

This week:

'Get the child's attention before you talk.' for e.g.

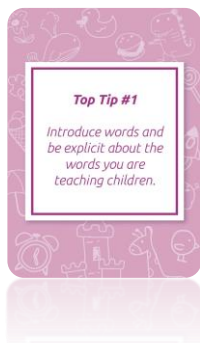
- Say their name.
- Tap them gently on the arm.
- Hold their hand.
- Sing a sentence using a familiar tune



'Wordy Wednesday'

We are starting 10 weeks of top tips to help to improve the children's vocabulary, alongside communication.

'Introduce words and be explicit about the word you are teaching children.'



You can help them by:

- Repeating the word slowly
- Using the new words in everyday talk
- Don't overwhelm them with too many words at once
- Use the word and the object to support connection
- New words 'stick' when children experience them i.e. visiting the park, farm, seaside
- Play word association game Farm- notice the different animals, animal names and sounds, vehicle names and sounds... the list is endless.
- Ensure it is fun and the children will remember over time
- They will remember words that are used often, what words do you use frequently? Are they words that you want them to remember?

Have fun and don't forget to upload your Talky Tuesday and Wordy Wednesday videos onto Evidence me. You will also find the new tips along the preschool fence, each week, as a reminder. Share this with families and friends and start the communication journey for our very important little people.

Mrs Clark and the Early Years Team

Reflection

Here at AVA Black history month activities have continued throughout October.

As we end the week you are invited to reflect with us on the importance of these activities as they help us learn and live together in difference and diversity. Directly confronting the evils of prejudice, silence, ignorance, fear, hypocrisy, and power.

Genesis 1.27 states 'So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them...'

When we apply this simple yet powerful verse to our everyday lives, it means that each one of us is made in God's image. We are all loved by God, who wants us all to grow and flourish. Racism denies our common humanity in creation and our belief that all are made in God's image.



At AVA we are committed to being one community and striving to be an example to others of what is possible when we truly and equally value all God's people.

You are invited to pray with us...

Compassionate God,
you have created the people of the world in your own image:
Give us grace, we pray, to rejoice in the differences of culture,
language, and race by which you have enriched humanity.
Forgive us when we fail to recognise Christ in one another.
Give us strength to pursue justice and peace for all your children.
May we be generous in our love of others as we work towards ending misunderstanding and racism
and creating communities of human flourishing.
Amen.

With every blessing for a restful half term break.

Kind regards,

Mrs C Baughan