

AVONDALE PARK & ST ANNE'S FEDERATION OF SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER

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Issue 25

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Dear Parents/ Carers,

I have written our newsletter today in the form of a letter as there is so much to say. Apologies that it is long, but there is a lot of information that I need to give to you.

School Closure

Today has been our last day of school for some time as we follow instructions from central Government to close due to the Coronavirus. I know that a number of parents have been concerned that schools have remained open so long, but hopefully, the decisions made have been the correct ones and that the time is now right.

Right time or not, it feels very strange – especially as we do not know yet when we will return. Year 2 and Y6 SATS are cancelled as are Y4 x table tests and Y1 Phonics screening but we have reminded the children how hard they have worked towards these milestones and how pleased we are of them all.

As there were fewer children in today, we held our assembly all together which was very special. Our stars of the week (included in this newsletter as well as last week's stars) reflect how proud we are of our children during this difficult time. It was an Avondale 'first' as **all** teachers awarded our 'Star certificates' to their whole class. Please take time to read the comments made by teachers as you will be proud – they indicate how thoughtfully children of all ages are trying to make sense of this situation. In true Avondale style, we finished our assembly with some amazing spine-tingling singing led by Nana which left us feeling very moved. Thank you to all of you for your voices and enthusiasm which led to creating (for me at least) such a special memory of today.

Children's anxieties

It is clearly a worrying time for everyone, and children of all ages have expressed some of their anxieties in school. We have encouraged them to discuss their worries in their classes and whilst we have not always had the answers, we have tried to explain what we do know about it and how most children and adults will have a short illness and then get better. We will be adding some resources to our website which give explanations for children about the situation which you might want to use.

Communication

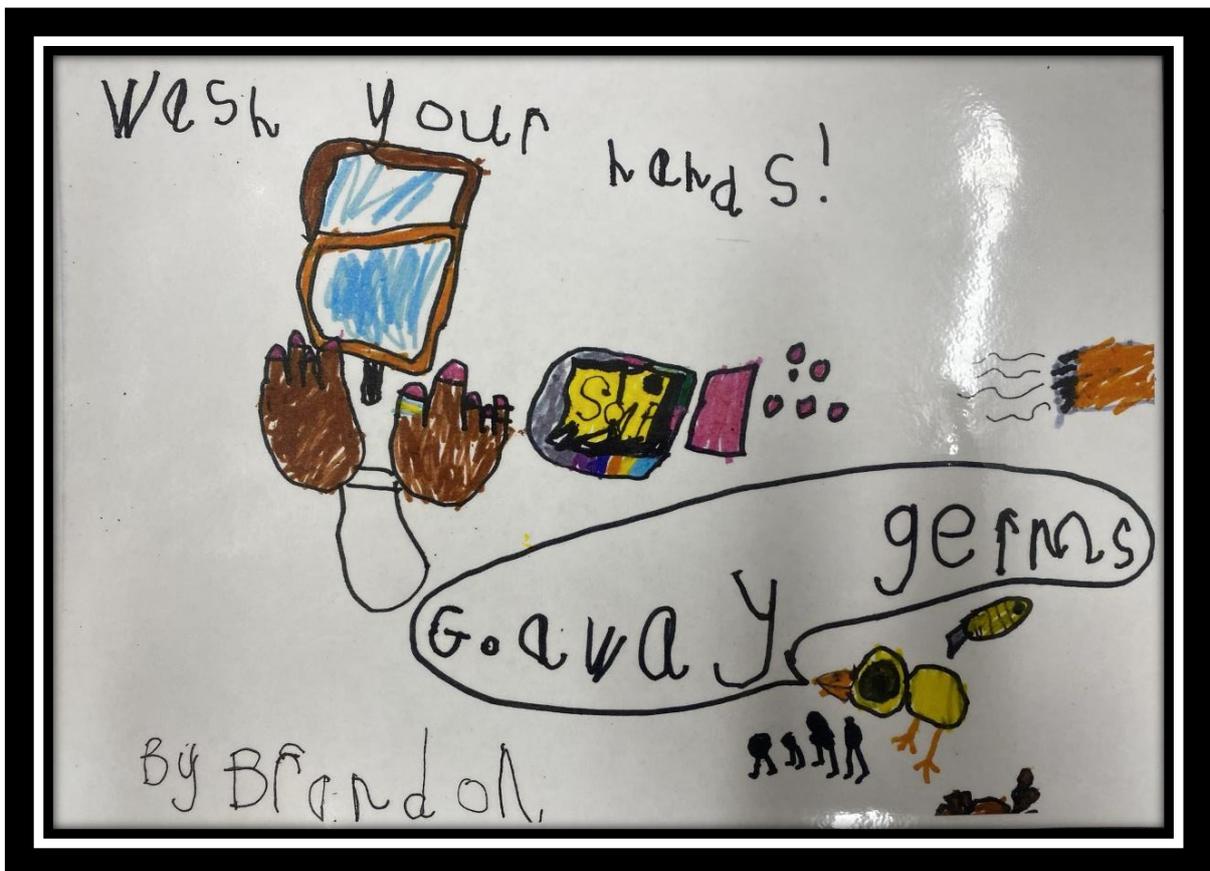
We obviously will be in and out of school and will endeavour to follow up on any enquiries (health of staff permitting). If you need to do so, please contact us through the usual channels – info@apsafederation.com. Please note this email address is not checked every day but we will try to reply as and when possible.

Farewell for now

These truly are strange times as we may not see some of you for some time. I know that there have been lots of stories in the news of people pulling together, but I have definitely seen it here. Staff have worked around the clock to complete so many tasks at short notice and have covered for colleagues who sick or self-isolating without complaint. They have shown a compassion and commitment beyond their roles and for this I am indebted.

I thank all of our Avondale/ St Anne's family (children, parents, staff, governors and friends) for their continued loyalty and belief in us and I ask that you look after yourselves and keep healthy and safe. My very best wishes and looking forward to seeing you all again before too long.

Best wishes,
Katy- sending virtual hugs and 'elbow bumps' to you all



Poster to remind us to wash our hands regularly by Brandon in Stephanie's Reception.

Stars of the Week 9th-13th March

A huge well done to you all!

Nursery	WILLOW CLASS Well done Willow Class for all your wonderful work linked to our World Book day book 'Tidy', you know the story so well and have enjoyed retelling it and talking about Pete's actions. You are becoming confident story tellers. Well done.
Stephanie's Reception	LEA- For an impressive improvement in her reading and writing. You are making so much progress!
Kripali's Reception	KYAN- For improving your listening skills in the classroom. You have also made progress with your reading and writing skills- keep it up!
Alexa's Year 1	OMAMA- For being such a kind and caring friend. You are so helpful!
Laura's Year 1	IDIL- For becoming so much more confident sharing her ideas- we love hearing your voice!
Katie's Year 2	JAHMARI- For your excellent learning attitude. You are speeding up with your writing and showcasing your amazing skills. Well Done!
Phoebe's Year 2	QAIS- For great focus and effort in your lessons. You have shown enthusiasm and excitement for your English learning- Keep it up!
Pippa's Year 3	HUDHAYFA- For your effort and enthusiasm in class, especially in Maths where you have been working so hard to extend your learning. Well done!
Connor's Year 3	YUMNA- For her exceptionally high standard of presentation and effort this week. You consistently strive for the best. Keep it up!
Emma's Year 4	BUKOLA- For his wonderful, respectful behaviour in lessons. You have had a great week showing golden zone behaviour. Well done!
Daisy's Year 4	SUMAYA- For always having a calm and focused demeanor while also being motivated and enthusiastic.
Julia's Year 5	AMELIA- For always being exceptionally polite and respectful, as well as working really hard at our into university workshop!
Francesca's Year 5	FABIAN- For always being such a polite and welcoming member of our class. You will always offer to help adults and children, which is so nice. Thank you Fabian.
Tim/Mary's Year 6	AYA- For your amazing artwork linked to our project 'Island Life'.
Russell's Year 6	THE WHOLE CLASS- For setting the highest possible standards on our trip. You did everyone at our school proud.

"IN IT TO WIN IT" ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY AWARD

Hadi Cody Gotti- Stephanie's Reception; Shukria Dahir- Julia's Year 5

Stars of the Week 16th-20th March

A huge well done to you all!

Nursery	ALL NURSERY CHILDREN for continuing to surprise your teachers every day with your questions and your love of learning
Stephanie's Reception	THE WHOLE CLASS- For staying strong and positive during this time. Keep it up and we will see you very soon!
Kripali's Reception	THE WHOLE CLASS- For being thoughtful, caring and kind and always making the adults smile! We will miss you and see you soon!
Alexa's Year 1	THE WHOLE CLASS- For shining like stars all week!
Laura's Year 1	THE WHOLE CLASS For being such stars all week!
Katie's Year 2	THE WHOLE CLASS- For bringing sunshine into the classroom this week. Your positive, hardworking attitudes have made Year 2 an awesome place to be. Thank you.
Phoebe's Year 2	THE WHOLE CLASS- For being Superstars!
Pippa's Year 3	THE WHOLE CLASS- For your smiles, laughs, kindness, hard work and enthusiasm that shown in your work and in class.
Connor's Year 3	THE WHOLE CLASS- For being so sensible, excellent and resilient during our current situation. You are all amazing pupils and I feel privileged to have you in my class.
Emma's Year 4	THE WHOLE CLASS- My wonderful class for being so positive and kind to each other and staff through this strange + difficult time. Thank you!
Daisy's Year 4	THE WHOLE CLASS- For being auspicious and altruistic. You have acknowledged that small sacrifices can help others a great deal!
Julia's Year 5	THE WHOLE CLASS- For being extremely resilient, mature and hardworking during this difficult time- we are so proud of you all!
Francesca's Year 5	THE WHOLE CLASS- For being mature and sensible during such a different time. We are so proud of your determination and positive spirit.
Tim/Mary's Year 6	THE WHOLE CLASS- For embodying our value of resilience!
Russell's Year 6	THE WHOLE CLASS- For being such positive and enthusiastic students this week. You have been a joy.

"IN IT TO WIN IT" ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY AWARD

Ahmed-Amin Idris- Stephanie's Reception

Jaidon-James Roseweir- Julia's Year 5