

Developing deep roots to grow the strongest trees.

Head teacher Mrs. Helen Morrall
Deputy Head teacher Mr Jamie Pell
Business Manager Mrs. Allison Munns
Bursar Mrs Denise Cable

Chair of Governors Mr Stewart Miller
Vice Chair Mrs Emma Russell
Family Support Worker Mrs Nina Fowle

The Avenue, Wellingborough Northamptonshire, NN8 4ET Telephone No 01933 276366

Email address: head@theavenue-inf.northants-ecl.gov.uk

Friday 10th September 2021

NEWSLETTER 1

Dear parents and carers,

WELCOME TO THE AVENUE INFANT SCHOOL!

A very warm welcome to all the new children and parents/carers who have just joined us! We hope that all of you will have a very happy experience at The Avenue. We have been so impressed with how well the children have come into school and enjoyed their first few days. Please remember the staff are always available to talk to you about any worries you may have, particularly in these very early days, so please don't keep your worries to yourself.

Included below is important information for the start of the year so please read it all carefully.

TIMINGS

We have been very impressed with the calm, sensible way the children have entered school for their first few days. They are already becoming independent with the start of session routines, e.g. finding their new classroom and peg. **Thank you for ensuring your children are not using the playground resources and play equipment, including the climbing frame, before and after school.** The playground resources will have been set up for morning play and must not be used before or after school.

Important messages can be passed to staff on the doors but we are asking that, where possible, messages about collection etc... can be rung in to the school office or emailed to admin@theavenue-inf.northants.sch.uk We are trying to avoid the congestion point at the office as much as possible.

Reminders:

Please ensure any medication your child requires is provided to the school with the correct forms completed.

Please also remember **no dogs are allowed on the school site** (with the exception of guidance dogs).

Please **be safe and considerate in driving / parking near school**. We recommend parking slightly away from school and walking the last part of the journey. Please ensure residents paths / drives are not blocked. Thank you.

Next week (week commencing 13th September) sees us continuing the 9.30-11.30am timings then from 20th September the children will also be staying for lunch (until 12.30pm) so **please ensure you have ordered their free lunches on the Kingswood Catering website by Wednesday 15th September.** If you have any questions or problems with this, please contact the school office before next Wednesday.

COMMUNICATION

We have a small number of outstanding forms to be returned to the school office. Please could these be returned as soon as possible. Thank you.

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Newsletters and communication will be sent by email. Please ensure you notify us of your up-to-date email address, as well as phone numbers, and regularly check for **emails from school**. If you have any problems, please see the school office. Newsletters are also posted onto the school website. Please take a look at the **class pages** on our school website.

We recommend following our social media pages on **Facebook** (The Avenue Infant School) and **Twitter** (@TheAvenueInfant) to keep up-to-date on upcoming events and news as well as glimpses into the children's learning at school. We currently have a weekly competition throughout September where new followers have the chance to win a hamper of goodies.

DO YOU HAVE A CHILD WHO IS DUE TO START SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2022?

Applications for Reception school places are now open and close on 15th January via the link below. <https://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/primary-school-places>
Please contact the school if you have any questions about this process.

COVID SYMPTOMS

If your child has any Covid symptoms, however mild, (a high temperature, a persistent cough, or a loss / change in sense of taste / smell) they should not attend school and should get a PCR test. Please note a negative Lateral Flow Test result is NOT SUFFICIENT. If the PCR test comes back negative they may return to school if they are well enough. If the PCR test is positive, they must self-isolate at home for 10 days. We will provide remote learning information for pupils who are having to self-isolate and are well enough to work. Please remain vigilant to Covid symptoms. There is now no requirement for children who have been in contact with a positive case to isolate. The guidance advises regular use of lateral flow tests if someone has been a close contact. Lateral flow test kits can be collected from pharmacies or ordered online. We encourage families to use Lateral flow tests to check for asymptomatic cases. Staff will continue to do this for everyone's safety. Within school we will be maintaining handwashing routines, regular cleaning of surfaces and resources and keeping rooms well ventilated.

As the term goes on and more information and guidance is available, we will be able to make decisions on the arrangements for Parent evenings, Parent Information / Curriculum sessions and other school events. As I am sure you appreciate, schools are taking a cautious approach to the easing of restrictions whilst the national picture is so uncertain. All arrangements will remain under review and be adjusted if needed. We will communicate any changes to you as soon as possible.

We are looking forward to working with you at The Avenue. Please do speak to us if you have any questions, concerns or changes to share with us. Working together, we can provide the very best for your child.

Yours in partnership,

Helen Morrall
Head teacher