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Friday 15th April 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back. I hope you all enjoyed a good Easter break. The children all seem to have grown in the two weeks- it must have been the lovely sunshine that we are starting to see!

Once again, there is exciting learning already underway this term. You will receive the Topic newsletter home and Years 1 and 2 will also receive their homework challenges sheet by email and on paper. Reception will also be sending home regular home learning ideas. Please do encourage your child to try some of these, they really do enjoy sharing their homework on a Friday and also get the chance of a raffle prize each week in our homework raffle draw. Obviously home reading is vital in helping your child progress and it has been lovely to see children receiving certificates for completing their reading challenges also. If you are ever unsure about what is expected or would like some further ideas as to how best support your child at home, please speak to your child's teacher at the end of the day, or ring the school if you do not collect them- we are more than happy to help.

Parent / carers survey

Thank you to the parents and carers who completed the survey before the holidays for us. The responses were very positive and always help to steer our next steps to improve the school for your child. Thank you also if you supported your child in completing the Pupil Survey- there is still time to return this if you haven't already done so.

Clubs

As I'm sure you are aware we now have numerous clubs available both before and after school and we are delighted by the uptake. We are hoping we are now offering something for everyone. If your child hasn't attended any so far please keep a look out for the next registration opportunity or any new clubs we will be offering in the future.

Bag 2 school collection

Please keep collecting together items for our Bag 2 School collection day next Tuesday 19th April. Any bag can be used if you have misplaced the official bag. Bags need to be brought to school and placed under the shelter in the playground on Tuesday before 9am as the collection is often made early in the day.

Toys in school

We are finding a small number of children are bring a toy into school from time to time. Please could you remind your child not to bring toys in, unless it is for a specified class treat, as they could get lost or broken. Thank you.



FOTAS Sweet and Savoury stall

Next Tuesday FOTAS will be holding another Sweet and Savoury stall after school. This time it is the turn of Year 1 parents to please provide sweet or savoury items for the stall. These can be brought into school that morning. Thank you in advance.

Reading partners

Reception and Year 2 children are being paired up to enjoy a weekly session where they read to each other on a Wednesday afternoon. Do ask your Reception / Year 2 child about this and we are sure each will enjoy and benefit from this.

Clothes for all weathers

In this variable weather, please ensure your child brings a named coat, ideally waterproof, to school each day. Umbrellas cannot be used in school so please take these home with you once your child has been dropped off. Thank you.

The usual Friday Update is at the end of this letter. Please look closely for the good news on our entries into the Town's art competition.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Morrall

Headteacher

THANK YOU FOR MY LOVELY RETIREMENT GIFTS.....FROM GILL THOMAS

Dear parents, carers, children, governors and staff,
I thought that I would write to say a huge thank you to you all for the lovely gifts I received on the event of my retirement last summer. Some of you presented me with individual gifts and some of you contributed towards the gifts that were presented to me during the end of year concerts in July (my husband Phil and I have enjoyed them all immensely!). I was very touched by your thoughtful gifts and by the personal messages I received from so many of you. I have stored them all away to keep and to treasure for the rest of my life. Thank you all so very much for your generosity, lovely words and kindness.



I always knew that I would miss The Avenue and everyone in it.... and so I have! I have to admit that retirement is lovely but very hard to adjust to. I have gone from not having enough time to even think (on some days) to having so much time that I struggle to fill it. Therefore when a personal friend offered me a chance to do some temporary work at her school in Northampton, I jumped at it! So I am back at work full time for the next few weeks and then hoping to do something similar on a part time basis after that. I have visited The Avenue several times since I left to do some voluntary work and have loved being back. It is wonderful to receive such warm welcomes from the children and staff and from those of you I have seen for a chat. The Avenue remains a warm and friendly place under the leadership of Helen Morrall and I still feel like I am coming home when I visit!
Long may The Avenue continue and be successful!! My love and best wishes go to you all and a part of my heart will ever remain yours. Thank you!

Gill Thomas



The Avenue Infant School



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FRIDAY UPDATE

Friday 15th April 2016

Well done to...

In celebration assembly today we said well done to the following children, who received **Special Awards**:

- Daniel** (Class 6)– for listening carefully and solving the Gruffalo number problems
- Tyler** (Class 6)- for using neat writing with finger spaces when writing about the Easter holiday.
- Ella** (Class 5)- for trying really hard to complete all jobs in the classroom and for her effort in the rhyming challenge.
- Ryan** (Class 5)- for working hard at home and at school on his reading.
- Sasha** (Class 4)- for a beautiful drawn and labelled picture of a lime.
- Toby** (Class 4)- for super maths work on fractions.
- Ben W** (Class 3)- for having a positive attitude to his work and answering lots of questions
- Mahreen** (Class 3)- for trying hard and confidently explaining how to half a shape to the rest of the class.
- Grisha** (Class 2)- for trying exceptionally hard when writing a letter in English.
- Seb** (Class 2)- for concentrating well in all subjects.
- Jessica** (Class 2)- for working extremely hard in phonics and doing some super reading and writing.
- Lily-Mai** (Class1)- for working hard to solve lots of maths problems using different maths skills.
- Leo** (Class 1)- for writing a unique and creative poem about a 'dark, dark tower'.



Well done all of you for super effort and hard work. You should be very proud of yourselves.

Lunchtime awards (for excellent manners, good eating and sensible behaviour)

This week's winners of **Golden tickets** to the Thursday Top Table are:

- Noah (Class 1), Roman (Class 2), Sydney (Class 3), Nabilla (Class 3), Sasha (Class 4), Ben (Class 4), Julia (Class 5), Michelle (Class 6)



Congratulations. We hope you enjoyed eating at the Top Table today.

WHAT'S ON NEXT WEEK:

- Monday 18th April - Cheerleading club 8.00-8.50
 - Reception Children Health screening
- Tuesday 19th
 - Dance club 8.00—8.45am
 - FOTAS Bags2School collection 9am**
 - Reception Children Health screening
 - FOTAS Sweet and Savoury stall 3.15pm**
(Year 1 parents and carers to provide items for this please)
- Wednesday 20th - Multi skills club 3.15—4.30pm
- Thursday 21st
 - Musical theatre Club 8.00-8.50
 - Queen's 90th Birthday celebration afternoon in school
 - Family Reading 2.45– 3.05pm
 - Mad Science club 3.20—4.20
- Friday 22nd
 - Football club 8.00—8.50am
 - Art club 3.30-4.30pm

Well done Toby!

We were delighted to hear this week that Toby's portrait of the Queen has won **second prize** in the age 4-5 category of the Wellingborough Council's Art competition to celebrate the Queen's birthday. He has been invited to attend a Celebration next Thursday with the Mayor and Lord Lieutenant. Fantastic news

Reading Challenge awards:

Congratulations to:

Lily-Mai, Zahir, Joseph -Bronze awards

Nicholas, Eddie – Silver awards



Well done Class 5!



You are **Attendance Champions** for the week ending 24th March.

LETTERS HOME / EMAILS THIS WEEK:

- Reception topic newsletter
- Art club
- Music club
- Resources for Reception