



South Avenue Primary School

Term 2 Newsletter



Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians,

Christmas is absolutely the best time to work in a school; with carols, nativities, tinsel and excited children, there is no better place to get into the spirit of Christmas! This term has whizzed by and has been packed full with fun events. The children have continued to work incredibly hard, they have thoroughly enjoyed their class topics and I have been so impressed with the amazing learning that has taken place.

The term started with the excitement of the Halloween discos which were great fun. In our Remembrance Day Assembly, we had the moving story of Jack and George two young friends who fought in World War 1. I was so touched with how intently the children listened and how moved they were. We took part in a Litter Bugs poster competition; Shangith Arunan and Leo Ward received highly commended certificates and Skye Garwood was one of the overall winners receiving a certificate and prize.



Key Stage 2 Carol Service

We have thoroughly enjoyed getting into the swing of Christmas. The Infant Nativity plays were really lovely. The children performed with such confidence and had great fun. It was a joy to watch them and to share their performances with all the families and friends. A very big thank you for all the fabulous costumes that you provided, the children looked amazing. The Junior Carol Service took part in St. Michael's Church. We were delighted that so many families and friends were able to join us. It was lovely, with all the hustle and bustle of preparing for Christmas, to have a relaxed time listening to our children sing such gorgeous carols. The whole service was really beautiful – well done to all the children.

We have some new Teaching Assistants who have joined us. Miss Edwards has joined Topaz class and Miss Milner has joined Quartz Class. In January, Miss Darling will be in the Reception staff team and Mrs Rose will be in Amber class. Mrs Byrne, TA in Topaz class will also be working as our Attendance Officer in the mornings. This means that she will be contacting parents regarding attendance issues and will be monitoring absence and lateness for me.

This has been a tricky term in the school office; Mrs McAvoy retired and we have had some staff absence. Thank you to the Office Team and Mrs Friday who have managed to keep everything going. I think the only thing we kept forgetting to do was change the notice board – we will sort that next term!

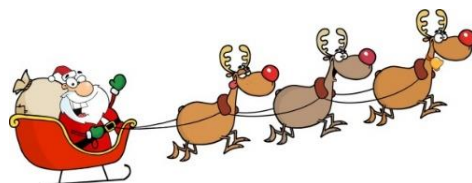
I am so grateful to our fabulous staff team, they work extremely hard to provide amazing learning opportunities and are so committed to the children. I would like to thank our Governors, who provide such excellent support, for the time and energy they give our school. I would also like to thank all our parents and carers for your continued support in ensuring that the children enjoy their education at South Avenue Primary School.

Finally, on behalf of everyone at South Avenue, I would like to wish you a very happy and peaceful Christmas and all the very best for the New Year.

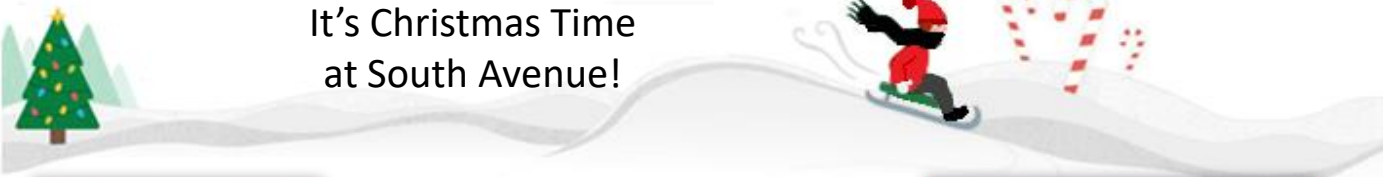
We look forward to seeing you all when we return on Monday 6th January.

Samantha Fenn

Miss Fenn
Headteacher



It's Christmas Time
at South Avenue!



*Shine Star Shine Christmas Production
Peridot, Topaz and Sapphire Classes*



Creativity, Commitment, Courage, Collaboration, Community & Challenge



*A King is Born Christmas
Production
Emerald, Garnet and
Quartz Classes*



Our Year 5 readers, who gave a fantastic performance, along with our School Choir at the Key Stage 2 Church Service on Monday.

Collaboration, Commitment, Creativity, Courage, Community, Challenge

On Wednesday 20th November Reception classes visited Sittingbourne Library. The children absolutely loved the visit and many have gone back again. They got to choose their own book to take home with them and learnt all about the library.

Also on Friday 6th December Year 6 visited Reception to read them their festive stories. Reception were very excited to find out what their story was about and what their favourite part of the story was. The stories were brilliant and Year 6 confidently shared them.



On Friday 29th November, Year 6 visited The Natural History Museum in London.

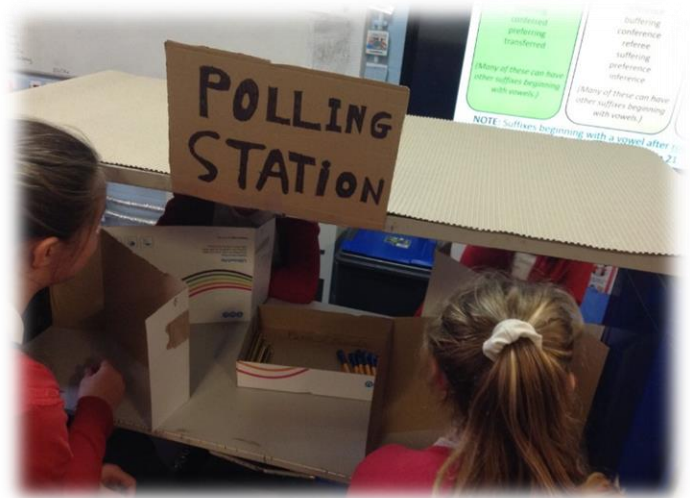
We journeyed through the centre of the earth to explore exhibits on different natural disasters which has been our topic in terms 1 and 2. Our favourite part was experiencing a simulation of an earthquake in Japan.

Additionally, we were also able to explore exhibits which linked to our science topic of evolution. Experts were on hand to show us real skulls of animals from around the world.

Creativity, Commitment, Courage, Collaboration, Community & Challenge



During the week of the General Election, all children learned about how the election process works in the United Kingdom. Each year group ran their own election to vote for a Year group leader; they developed different party names and manifestos to campaign about the things they would change if they were in charge of the country. On Monday 9th December, the whole school came together to hear each Year Group Leader deliver their manifesto. We all then went to our polling stations and made our vote. After all the votes were counted, our elected leader was announced as Diana-Rose S. Congratulations to all of our Year Group Leaders!



Ballet Club finished last week after a very successful two terms. The girls all worked very hard and it was lovely for them to be able to put on a show for family and friends. Mrs. Young and Mrs. Calver were very proud of them all.



South Avenue Facebook page

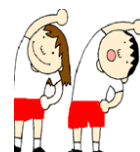
Don't forget to sign up for our Facebook page if you haven't already done so. Permission forms are available in the school office or can be downloaded from the school's website at <http://www.southavenue.kent.sch.uk/Letters-Home>



Lost Property



Please can you ensure that all items coming into school are clearly named, so that any misplaced items can be quickly returned to your child. This includes coats, hats, gloves, lunch boxes, water bottles, etc. as well as school uniform and PE kit.



Term 3 clubs will start back week commencing 13th January, 2020. You will receive a text if your child has a place at a club in Term 3. A letter regarding Term 3 clubs has gone out to all children in Years 1 to 6. Please note Cheerleading will take place in the Junior Hall and Skipping in the Infant Hall - both clubs running on Mondays.

If, at any time, your child no longer wishes to keep their club place, please let the office know, so that we can reallocate the place.



Platinum After School Club will be open on 19th and 20th December 2019 from 8am to 6pm, at a cost of £22.00 per pupil, per day (sibling discount £17.60 per day). Please note that the ASC will NOT be open on the 2nd and 3rd January.

There are limited spaces so please book early. Enquiries and bookings can be made by emailing asc@southavenue.kent.sch.uk.

Books for school tokens

Please look out for the books for schools tokens in The Sun & The Sun on Sunday between 23rd November and 18th January. We need to collect a whopping 3500 tokens by 18th January to be in for a chance at receiving £600 worth of books. Thank you



Just click on the Think U know link for more information on supporting parents with parental controls on new items that your children might receive from Santa.





Collaboration, Commitment, Creativity, Courage, Community, Challenge

Headteacher Awards

Lots of children have received 'green slips' this term. These are awarded for exceptional effort, behaviour or work, and if a child receives one a postcard is sent home to let parents know.

Well done to: Coby R, Ruby P, Archie E, Rose B, Joey H, Alfie H and Caydon B.

Term 2 Star of the Week

Congratulations to:



Levi F, Samiha R, Poppy W, Olayemi U, Summer G, Isabella T, Aiden L, Ben S, Preston P, Charlie H, Connor W, Ruby-Rose G, Frankie S, Maisie D, Raphael D-P, Oliver D, Keira B, Ken N, Clayton L, Bexley N, Logan H, Maisy H, Bethany J, Zak B, Isla A, Skye D, Alexandru I and Kayleb M, Oliver G, Annabelle S, Ellie E, Reggie P, Sienna B, Penelope C, Logan F & Ruby O, Theo E, Ethan N, Alfie G & Shangith A, Rosie N, Diana S, Sainabou C and Caydon B.

Last week, a group of Year 4 children took part in an indoor athletics tournament at Oasis Academy. The children took part in both field and track events against seven other schools. South Avenue came fifth out of eight and everyone had an enjoyable time.



Last week, Ruby and Pearl class also represented South Avenue at the indoor athletics event held at Oasis Academy. The group took part in many events including speed bounce, standing long jump and relay events. The Year 6's came 4th in the competition overall and gave it their absolute all. Well done to the Year 6's.

This term, Year 6 took part in a cardboard 'Make Do' STEM challenge. They worked as aspiring architects by designing an interesting building and then using cardboard, plastic screws, hinges and saws to create it. We were so proud of their creativity and teamwork throughout the workshop. Jayden H, Dylan M and Levi F were announced the winners which meant that on Friday 6th December, Jayden, Dylan and Levi attended the Make Do County Finals in Chatham. They competed against winning groups from other schools to build a dinosaur from cardboard.

We are extremely proud to say that the boys won the competition with their outstanding creation and teamwork. They each received £10 and a box of chocolates as their prize. Well done!



Collaboration, Commitment, Community & Challenge

Attendance Honour Roll:

Congratulations to the 193 children who have achieved perfect attendance in Term 2. There are too many to list individually, however we are very proud of their commitment, with the support of their families, for achieving this fantastic 100% record. They all enjoyed wearing non-school uniform on the last day of term.

Sadly, many children have suffered significant illness during Term 2, as have a number of staff. We ask you to bare in mind that whilst unavoidable, this means your child has lost crucial learning time. We ask that you consider very carefully, booking holiday in term time as this will only exacerbate lost learning for your children.

We currently have 122 children who have not as yet had a day absent from school since September. An extra special well done to these children for not only being in school, but for dodging the very nasty illnesses that have been around over the last term. Keep it up!

We hope that everyone can return from the Christmas Break happy and healthy.

With your support, we are confident we can do even better in Term 3 and we continue to aim for our whole school attendance target of 97%!

Perfect Attendance!

Attendance at the end of Term 2 stands at **96%**

Remember, we are aiming for whole school attendance of 97%

Dates for your diary!

Monday 6th January

Wednesday 8th January

Friday 24th January

Thursday 30th January

Tuesday 4th February

Wednesday 5th February

Thursday 6th February

Tuesday 11th February

Wednesday 12th February

Thursday 13th February

Friday 14th February

Start of Term 3

Open Day for new YR parents (September 2020)

Y5 Ancient Greek Day

Team Teeth Dental screening in school

Y3 Stone Age workshop

Y4 Rainforest workshop

Family Trust Assembly for Infant pupils (pm)

Diamond Class Assembly to parents (2.45pm)

Festival of Vision Y5

Family Trust Assembly for Junior pupils (am)

Amber Class Assembly to parents (2.45pm)

Safer Internet Day

Tanzanite Class Assembly to parents (2.45pm)

Onyx Class Assembly to parents (2.45pm)

Spring Disco

100% Attendance reward

LAST DAY OF TERM 3 (School finishes at 3.15pm)

Monday 24th February

Thursday 26th February

Start of Term 4

Y4 Swimming (1/5)

Staff Development Days for 2019/20

Thursday 16th April, Friday 17th April and Monday 1st June



Charity Fundraising in Term 2

A massive thank you to all our families who have supported South Avenue in all its fundraising endeavours this term. The Sittingbourne Foodbank were very grateful for all the Harvest Festival donations received at the start of term. With your fantastic support we raised £488.43 for The Royal British Legion through the sale of poppies and other merchandise. With £250 raised for Children in Need. Our School disco raised £600 and our Christmas Fair a fabulous £1200! In collaboration with Baiswick Photographic Company, we were able to make a donation of £58 to Cancer Research UK as a result of your photographic purchases.

A special thank you to Santa & his elves, who even with their busy schedule, made a visit overnight with a special gift for all the children!

Thank You!

As a result of your unwavering generosity and continued support we have raised over £2500 this term for good causes and the School, which is truly awesome!