



South Avenue Primary School

Term 2 Newsletter



Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians,

Wow! What a busy few weeks we have had. Christmas is always a busy time of the year for us, and this year was no exception. It is a truly magical time to be in school and see the excitement and joy on the children's faces as the decorations are made and displayed around the school and rehearsals for the nativities and Carol Concert began in earnest.

The Reception and KS1 children amazed everyone with their outstanding performing skills during their nativities. We are so proud of them all and are certain we have some future actors and actresses in the making! Due to children being poorly we were 30 children short in a couple of performances and those in school learnt new lines and dances on the day to fill the gaps for absent friends. A huge well done to all of the children for being truly in the spirit of Christmas and supporting each other.

Last Thursday, we had a fantastic time enjoying the yummy Christmas dinner that the kitchen staff cooked for us. The staff all made this a wonderful event serving the children with their food, playing Christmas songs and we loved sharing our cracker jokes with one another. It was brilliant getting into the Christmas spirit!

This week, on Wednesday and Thursday, the whole school went to see the Cinderella panto at the Swallows Leisure Centre ... oh no they didn't ... oh yes they did!! It was wonderful to see our pupils thoroughly enthralled and really getting into the spirit of audience participation!

We were praised by a number of people for the way our children behaved both on the walks to and from the panto and whilst at the panto itself. Well done to all of the children and a huge thank you to the staff, some of whom had to walk many times to and fro to ensure the children's safety.

On Wednesday evening, our school choir, as well as some Year 5 and 6 children, were proud to join with Fulston Manor School for their annual Carol Concert. It was fantastic that this event was able to be live this year and we were delighted to see so many of the children's families attending to share this experience with them. Although we may be a little biased we believe that the South Avenue Choir sang far more beautifully than the children from Fulston Manor and we could not be prouder of them. We really need to give a special mention to Emily from 6M who performed a fabulous solo, she sang so beautifully the staff present had tears in their eyes. Well done Emily! What a star!

Do not worry, we have managed to get our learning done as well this term.

Year R have been off round the world with Paddington. Year 1 have spent time looking at different celebrations that we have. Year 2 have looked at Guy Fawkes as well as looked at healthy eating. Year 3 have explored different inventors and their inventions. Year 4 looked at the Romans and how they changed history. Year 5 based their learning on Antarctica and the explorers, whilst Year 6 continued with looking at different natural disasters.

As you know, we were visited by Ofsted back in term 1. They reported that we continue to be a 'Good' school and that we have clear plans for moving forward. I would like to take this opportunity once more to thank all the staff and children for all their hard work, not only on those days but for every single day and for everything they do in supporting each other.

Yesterday, a very special visitor went around the classes with a gift for each of the children, with thanks to our Friends Association who helped Santa to make this possible.

I would like to end 2022 with my thanks to our incredible staff, who continue to work extremely hard through the challenges that have been thrown at them this year. Illness in both staff and children has been extremely high in Term 2 and the team spirit between the staff has been truly amazing.

I would like to thank our Governors for the time and expertise that 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 and most of all, I would like to thank our pupils, whose resilience, individuality and creativity make coming to work each day a joy.

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 Wednesday 4th January 2023.

Happy Christmas,

Miss Cadwallader



Listen, Encourage, Ambitious, Resilient & Respectful, Nurturing

This term as part of our **Zones of Regulation**, we have learnt that there are different types of problems. There are **tiny** problems, problems that can be fixed by the child easily in seconds (i.e. pick your pencil from the floor). **Little** problems that can be fixed by a child or a friend in minutes (i.e. putting a plaster on a scratch). **Medium** problems, problems that can be fixed with the help of an adult (i.e. forgot pack lunch at home). **Big** problem, problems that can be fixed only with adults getting involved (i.e. two people are having a heated argument, or a child receives inappropriate online material on their device). **Huge** problems, such as the school being on fire or the war in Ukraine. With huge problems, professionals like the the police force, the military or the government must get involved. Children across the school from Reception to Year 6 participated in the Size of Problems Competition and we had the following winners:

- Isabelle M
- Max H
- Adam L
- Jacob F



HUGE problem



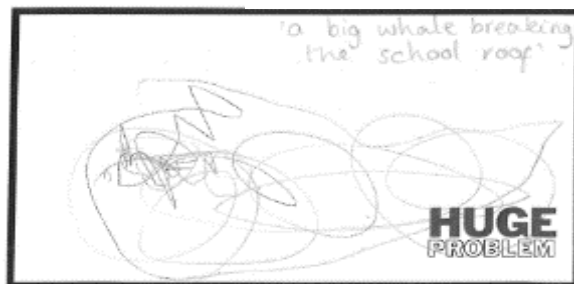
Big problem



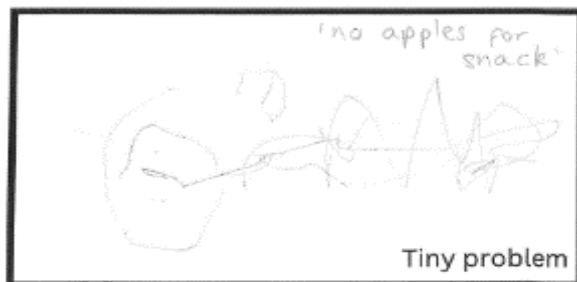
Little problem



Tiny problem



HUGE PROBLEM



Tiny problem

The MIDAS Centre at Meadowfield School has a number of training courses, most of them free for parents and carers. They have a number of interesting courses coming up next term such as Sleep Awareness, Attachment, An Introduction to ASD and An Introduction to ADHD. To book one of their courses, please email midas@meadowfield.kent.sch.uk or call 01795 477788 (option 6). For all workshops available next year, have a look at their brochure available in this

ink. <https://www.meadowfield.kent.sch.uk/midas-and-stls/parent-courses-and-bookings-2/>

MIDAS
Meadowfield Inclusion Development and Support





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National Tree Planting Week

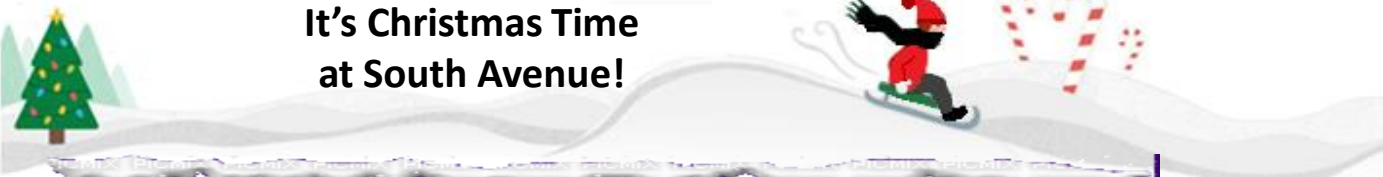
The members of the School Council took part in National Tree Planting week. This was in conjunction with Swale Borough Council. The intention was for 1,000 trees to be planted in the Borough of Swale and in fact 1,300 actually got planted. The School Council made their contribution at King George V playing fields, planting 25 trees. It was a cold day, but everyone got stuck in and really enjoyed themselves. What a wonderful experience - perhaps in future years they can look at those trees and say "I planted them."

Litter Angels Poster Competition



Our Year 5 pupils took part in a competition to design a poster for anti-litter. This was organised by Gordon Henderson MP and his Litter Angels Team and a few weeks ago he attended South Avenue to announce the winner from our school. That lucky person was Gabriela, who received a certificate, along with a bag of goodies. Well done Gabriela.

It's Christmas Time
at South Avenue!



RTA, 1D and 2F
proudly present... *A King is Born*





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RR, 1HG and 2B proudly
present...

Manger Mouse



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Mrs. Young had the pleasure of attending an **Irish Dance Feis** last Saturday, to watch some of our pupils perform and be adjudicated. It was a wonderful experience for our pupils and they all did amazingly well.



BALLET CLUB

After two terms of working really hard on their ballet exercises, the Ballet Club performed for family and friends. Well done everyone, you were all amazing.





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We loved welcoming all the parents in for our Christmas Book Club and we shared lots of magical stories!



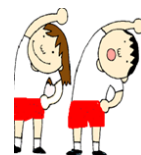
Year 3 have been busy learning about inventors including Alexander Graham Bell, who invented the telephone. We then made our own phones, we learnt that for them to work the string had to be very tight so the sound waves would travel along them!

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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.



Breakfast Club and the Platinum After School Clubs resume on Wednesday, 4th January. Please don't forget to send in booking forms in good time as due to staff/pupil ratios, places cannot always be guaranteed. Booking forms can be found on our school website within the Info section.



On behalf of everyone at Breakfast Club and After School Club we wish you a Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you in the New Year.



Dates for your diary!

Wednesday 4th January
Wednesday 8th February
Thursday 9th February

Start of Term 3
2F Class Assembly
2B Class Assembly

Friday 10th February

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

Monday 20th February

Start of Term 4

Staff Development Days for 2022/23

Tuesday, 3rd January and Friday 21st July 2023

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.

