

Newsletter

Spring 1 2018



Avalon School
Learning for Life

Tel: 01458 443081

Email: sch.610@educ.somerset.gov.uk

Website: www.avalonschool.net

Spring 1 News Round-Up

We have had a busy half term with a lot of learning in the community and increasing Enterprise projects across the school, some of which you can see in the following pages of our latest newsletter.

Ofsted

We were delighted with the report which acknowledges our strengths and the achievements of our pupils. It also confirms that what we are continuing to develop are the right things to focus on.

Parent feedback comments about how good Avalon has been for their young person, the support as part of our Avalon family and young people's progress towards a safer and independent life are highly valued by all of the staff. These comments highlight what we believe should be at the heart of our school.

Hydrotherapy Pool Fundraising

Friends of Avalon PTA have now raised 77% of the total amount to fund the cost of our Hydrotherapy Pool. We now need the final **£249,000** to reach our goal allowing us to begin building the pool in the Summer. See '**How you can help**' on our website.

Thank you for all your support with fundraising to date. I know our PTA is planning more fundraising events and pupils continue with their own activities too. Check out the art work on display in a local gallery through which Key stage 4 pupils are supporting our efforts selling prints of their amazing work.

Have a good half term holiday.

Whole School Charity Project

We've had water walks and danceathons, coffee mornings and car washes, food bank donations and sandwich sales, all in aid of the seven different charities that classes chose to support at the beginning of the autumn term.

The project has been led by seven KS4 pupils, each of whom linked with a class to help organise fund-raising. The work they have done has contributed towards their Level 1 English accreditation, with pupils talking to their link teacher, reporting back to the leadership team on the phone, contacting their charities, producing PowerPoint presentations and writing letters and fliers. They have all embraced their responsibilities with enthusiasm and maturity and are to be congratulated for their hard work: so well done Travis, Luke T, Eve, Jasmine, George, Ciaran and Dylan!

Many thanks as well to parents, friends and family for supporting these worthy causes. You will be receiving letters shortly from KS4 pupils giving details of how much money was raised and telling you about the charity that has been picked for the whole school to support, following a tightly contested vote in assembly on January 31st!

Whole School Charity Project Photos



Wrapping gifts for the Salvation Army in 3A



3H taking part in danceathon to raise money for the British Red Cross



Staff and pupils enjoying 4EM's coffee morning in aid of Child.org



4L working hard washing staff cars in aid of Shelter



Sixth Form delivering food bank donations to the Trussell Trust



4K taking a brief rest on their sponsored walk for WaterAid



3G making sandwiches to sell to staff in aid of Oxfam

Conservation at Westhay Moor with 4EM

Class 4EM have begun a term of conservation tasks at Westhay Moor in collaboration with Somerset Wildlife Trust. Pupils have been getting to know this new outdoor environment and have reacted extremely positively. Our leader, Amy Stone, has been getting to know the students and has identified their strengths and been able to set challenges suitable for them; she also very quickly established they enjoy hot chocolate after an afternoon of hard work!



So far the students have taken part in activities including; pond dipping, nature trails, treasure hunting and bird watching. Amy has been able to cater for all abilities and differentiate the activities accordingly so that they are accessible and engaging for all. It has been wonderful to see how much they have enjoyed being out in the fresh air and how after just 3 weeks they are so much more confident to walk further and explore more. Two highlights of our visits have included Ben in the bird hide using binoculars together with an information board to identify a bird and Hayley putting a net into the pond independently and catching a leech!



3 Purple China Topic

On Monday 5th February, 3 purple visited Wai Yee Hong Chinese Supermarket in Bristol. The pupils had a shopping list of items they wanted to buy and they also had a good look around and chose some unusual foods to taste.

The supermarket was decorated ready for the Chinese New Year celebrations which was really interesting. We also picked some decorations to put up in the classroom.

Throughout the week, we have been trying some of the new foods that we bought and have been deciding which we like the most. This was a great way to end our China topic and was a really successful day out.

Letter to Michael Eavis

3 green visited Worthy Farm to hand in a letter they wrote to Michael Eavis, inviting him to visit our school to help give us some ideas for fundraising for the hydrotherapy pool.

Unfortunately, Michael wasn't home, but he has since contacted the school to thank the class for their letter and to confirm that he will be visiting us next half-term. We very much look forward to his visit!



4L Catering Course at Strode College

This term, pupils in 4L have been completing a cooking and catering course at Strode College. Pupils have been working on a range of personalised independence targets within sessions as well as developing key skills needed to prepare food in an industrial style kitchen.



So far, they have cooked and prepared a variety of dishes including omelette, cheesecake and a delicious lemon drizzle cake. Pupils have been developing their independence skills, watching a demonstration and then preparing their dishes independently as well as working on following visual instructions. Pupils have also been developing health and safety skills including food hygiene and using kitchen appliances and utensils safely.



Pupils have shown great enthusiasm during and following the sessions and many pupils are keen to put their skills and recipes learned to good use to home!

KS4 Art Enterprise Club

Pupils in KS4 Art Enterprise Club have been busy creating Yvonne Coomber inspired artwork. They have had the opportunity to display their work in an Art gallery open to the public. They took their paintings to the gallery and took the opportunity whilst there to have a good look around. Pupils, enthused and inspired by the range of artwork on display came back to school keen to try out some new techniques.

Pupils also took the opportunity to talk to other artists working in the space and to the gallery organiser, Dylan Thomas. The artists they met have expressed how much they enjoyed meeting our pupils and have commented on how enthusiastic and polite they were throughout the visit.



The artwork is for sale and they have decided to donate 50% of the proceeds to our hydrotherapy pool appeal. We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of other local artists who have donated proceeds from their own sales to the appeal.

The artwork that KS4 Enterprise club have exhibited is for sale and will be on display until 22nd February.

The pop-up Art gallery, named 'Create: Space' is situated in the old Tesco store at the Crispin Centre, Street and is open from 11am-4pm every day of the week.

Do pop along and have a look at the wonderful work on display.

4K create story 'The Lonely Fox'

On hearing the wonderful news of the birth of their teacher's new baby, 4K wrote and illustrated a wonderful story called 'The Lonely Fox' as a gift for baby Quinn.



The pupils covered multiple learning outcomes across the curriculum including;

- Creative thinking on how to plan and write a story
- Consideration for the age and ability of the reader
- Collaborate with others to produce a final outcome
- Use ICT to improve and accelerate work and record video in an appropriate digital format
- Link pictures to text to help tell a story

Mr Cook was really impressed by the quality of the work his class presented to him and Quinn seemed to really enjoy having the story read to him.

Boxercise Lessons

'On Mondays we go to Tor Leisure to do Boxercise. We are taught by Kyle, he teaches us the moves. We have done six different moves, one is called uppercut. We are there for about an hour. I really enjoyed it and I would like to do it outside of school'



**Supplied by Sixth Form
guest reporter - Josh**

Enterprise Artwork Prints – ON SALE NOW!



Limited edition prints have now been made of the students amazing artwork with only 25 of each design. These are very high quality prints on canvas (51 X 77cm) and are available to purchase for £45. These can be ordered via the school office. 100% of the profit made for these will go towards the hydrotherapy appeal.

Glastonbury Carnival Collection 2017

Avalon School would like to thank you very much for your valued support with Collections at Glastonbury's annual carnival event. Despite it being another very wet year a few brave souls battled the weather and were successful in collecting £154.75. The Glastonbury Carnival Committee have shared this money with Avalon school, returning £70.00 of the money collected for the Hydrotherapy pool fund. Thank you very much for all your hard work and support.





Friends of Avalon
Hydrotherapy Appeal

Raise FREE funds for us every time you shop online!

www.giveasyoulive.com/join/friends-of-avalon-pta

Simply visit the above link and raise FREE funds for us every time you shop online via Give as you Live!

Raise FREE funds through Give as you Live at over 4,000 top online stores

Shop at 4,000+ stores



Christmas Raffle and Cake Competition

Thank you to everyone who came along to support Avalon's 2017 Christmas show. This year our show was all about supporting and helping others through raising awareness and funds for very worthy charities. Avalon's Christmas raffle and Christmas cake competition raised an amazing £106.00 for Avalon's Hydrotherapy pool fund. The cake was made for Avalon School by Kathryn Vickers, a very talented and generous supporter of Avalon events, so a massive thank you to her, and was won by parent Nik Taylor who correctly guessed the weight of the cake.



Tesco 'Bags of Help' scheme ends Wednesday 28th February



If you've visited **Tesco in Glastonbury** during January, you may have seen the voting box for the **Friends of Avalon PTA Hydrotherapy Pool appeal**. To give us a chance of receiving funds from Tesco fundraising, just ask for a voting token to vote for us every time you shop before the campaign closing date. Please remind all your family and friends too.

Wednesday Walking Club

keeping active in the sunshine



Key Dates for next term

February Half Term	Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th February 2018
Return to school for pupils	Monday 19 th February 2018
INSET Day – School closed to pupils	Friday 2 nd March 2018
INSET Day – School closed to pupils	Monday 5 th March 2018
Parent/Carer group	Thursday 8 th March 2018 7.00 – 8.30pm
Coffee Morning with Angela [PFSA]	Wednesday 21 st March 2018 10.30 – 12.00 noon
Wear blue for WaterAid Day	Thursday 22 nd March 2018
Easter Holidays	Monday 26 th March – Friday 6 th April 2018
Return to school for pupils	Monday 9 th April 2018
Parents' Evening	Wednesday 11 th April 2018
Parent/Carer group	Thursday 12 th April 2018 7.00 – 8.30pm
May Day Holiday	Monday 7 th May 2018
Parent/Carer group	Thursday 10 th May 2018 7.00 – 8.30pm
Spring Half Term	Monday 28 th May – Friday 1 st June 2018