



THE WEEKLY FLIGHT

This week has seen the weather taken a sudden wetter tone and so pupils will need to remember to bring their coats to school. A reminder that from Monday, all pupils are required to wear their full Winter Uniform.

As you will see, this week's Flight is a very full edition, demonstrating just how busy our school is. From Cycling Proficiency in Year 6 to nature pictures in Puffins and egg drops in Year 5.

It is these extended elements of school life that make Avon House the school it is, one full of extended curriculum opportunities and not one based on just what is listed on the class timetables.

- Mrs Campbell

PREP INTER HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY

The 2024 Avon House Inter-House Prep Cross Country Race was a resounding success on Friday, with pupils from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 participating enthusiastically and with determination to finish their course.

Hosting the event this year at The Woodford Wells Club, and with perfect weather conditions for running, we were delighted to welcome parent spectators whose cheers gave the children an extra boost as they raced down the home stretch.

The Year 6 pupils raced first and became route marshals after their event, motivating the younger pupils to keep going.

Points were scored in order of finishing. Congratulations to Morris House for being the overall winners of the Prep afternoon with their collective effort!

A big thank you to Mr Thornley and Mrs Gleadell for organising the event and the Woodford Wells Club for hosting.

Our Cross Country Captain, Leo, spoke passionately about the event after, "It was a fun event and everyone seemed happy to be there with all the Prep coming together. It didn't matter where you placed, you were supported no matter what. The daily mile definitely makes a difference to our running at Avon House." He added some words of wisdom after the Prep event for the upcoming Pre-Prep Cross Country race, "Just do your best and keep running. You'll be proud just to finish!"

Mr Thornley declared, "It was great to see the children putting into practice on the day what they've been practising in their PE lessons!"

Mrs Gleadell added, "It was wonderful to see so many parents supporting our first sporting event of the academic year and a huge thank you to all of the Year 6 children for assisting with the younger year groups!"



OUTDOOR LEARNING

Foundation 2 have fully immersed themselves in their new story "We're going on a Bear Hunt" by Michael Rosen. The children have been learning the story using the story map and finding out all about characters and settings.

During our outdoor learning we used the bear masks that we made to go on our own bear hunt. In Art we created the story board using different textures and materials.

On Thursday we were excited to hear a story re-enacted in Spanish.

In Maths we have been sorting objects into sets and finding the rule.



SUSTAINABILITY COUNCIL INITIATIVE

Are you tired of those old reading glasses sitting on your dresser, unused and gathering dust?!

Sustainability Council is reaching out to you because we believe your unwanted spectacles could make a world of difference to someone in need.

We would like to collect any unwanted reading glasses. We will take them to a local optician's who will then distribute them to people in developing countries who lack access to affordable eye care. Your donation can help improve their vision and quality of life.

It's easy to donate! All you need to do is pass on any unwanted glasses to your child's class teacher. You can send these in any time throughout the year. Every pair of glasses, no matter their condition, is valuable.

PTA VOLUNTEERS

If you are interested in joining the school's PTA or helping out at PTA events, please can you email Holly and Debbie on the PTA email address:

pta@ahsprep.co.uk

WORKING TOGETHER

This week, Year 3 have been working hard to use all we have learnt about the structure of journey stories to write our own versions. We wrote a plan, thinking carefully about the beginning, middle and end and used adjectives and fronted adverbials to describe the characters and settings in our work.

In Humanities this week, Year 3 have been continuing their learning about Europe. We discussed the different elements of geographical study and learnt how to define human and physical features of our planet.

We then used our teamwork skills, collaborating in groups to sort famous European sites and cities into those that are human (linked to human production and population) and physical (naturally occurring elements of Earth) features of geography. The children enjoyed working together, sharing their opinions and justifying their choices with each other.



WEEKLY AWARD

Foundation 1: **Jaia**
Foundation 2: **Shayan & Amara**
Year 1: **Amayi & Jasper**
Year 2: **Harry & Elina**
Year 3: **Evleen & Amani**
Year 4: **Aubrey & Konstantin**
Year 5: **Tyler & Jumana**
Year 6: **Evie & Imogen**

Next Award - Kindness

WONDERWALL

This week's Wonderwall question was:

Which is worse: failing or never trying?

Nia, 4PH: Failing is worse because if you failed you will not pass your exams

On the other hand, Violet, Herons: Never trying is worse because you might end up liking it

Anaya 5JB: Never trying is worse because if you never try you won't know what could have happened

Seren, 5KI: Never trying because you don't know if you are good at it or not

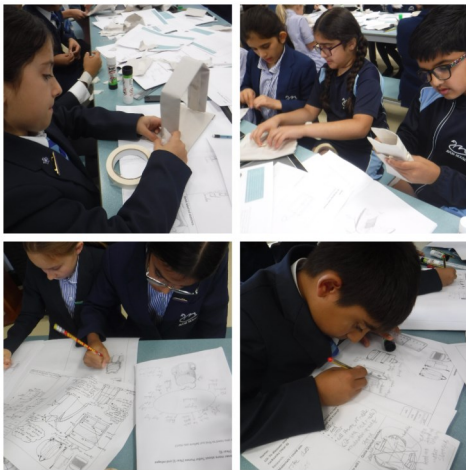
Devina, 5JB: Never trying because if you don't try you will never get anywhere in your life

Finally, Dhilan 4FW simply said: Never give up trying.

PAPER PURSE PROTOTYPES

In DT this week, Year 5 designed and then made prototypes for their Tudor purses from paper. They had to think about how big it would be, how much weight it would hold, how to stop the coins from falling out and whether it would be carried in their hand or worn.

Year 6 were inspired by Mr Thorney's super-duper, all singing, all dancing, rucksack at the start of the lesson. They then had to draw a detailed design of their bag for a refugee from 3 different angles. This had to be labelled with measurements and details of the fabric used. Everyone worked really hard and the work was of an amazingly high standard. Well done!



Q&A WITH MR JOY

The Sports Council were joined by a special guest on Monday, as Chris Joy, the manager of the Woodford Wells Cricket Club met with them for lunch followed by a Q & A session.

The children asked some searching questions such as what Chris enjoys most about his job and even the profit margins of the Woodford Wells Club!

"It was really interesting learning how The Woodford Wells Club is run!" Max (4FW)



AN INVERTEBRATE HUNT

On Wednesday, Year 4 went on an invertebrate hunt! Dodging the rain showers, we headed down to The Wells to search for creepy crawlies. At least 3 slugs were spotted, as well as several woodlice and the odd spider!

Back in the classroom, the children presented their data in pictograms and bar charts.

Great fun was had by all!



ITALIAN CLUB

Martedì il club italiano si è divertito moltissimo imparando fatti sulla Torre di Pisa!

Italian Club for Years 1 and 2 meets on Tuesdays at 3.40pm-4.30pm. There are still spaces available in the club if you would like to learn Italian and more about the wonderful country of Italy! Please email Mr Evans on clubs@ahsprep.co.uk



STAR OF THE WEEK

Foundation 1: **Abhiram**

Foundation 2: **Ilan & Noah**

Year 1: **Dara & Amelie**

Year 2: **Keeran & Jaya**

Year 3: **Rowan & Sammy**

Year 4: **Shayan & Isabelle**

Year 5: **Dinore & Jason**

Year 6: **Kyran & Josephine**

KEY AUTUMN TERM DATES

Monday 30th September	8.40am Harvest Service @ All Saint's Church, led by 5KI (All Parents Welcome) Harvest Foodbank Collection @ All Saint's Church
Thursday 3rd October	Flu Vaccinations in school
Friday 11th October	Pankhurst Charity Day - Book Sale
Thursday 17th October	4.30pm BHM Celebration Night (All Parents Welcome)
21st Oct - 1st November	HALF TERM
Thursday 7th November	5.00pm Year 5 Prep for Secondary School Meeting (Year 5 Parents Welcome)
Monday 11th November	8.40am Remembrance Assembly (5JB) @ All Saint's (All Parents Welcome)
Friday 22nd November	8.40am Performance Assembly (Parents of Performers Welcome)
Wednesday 27th November	3.40pm Parent Consultations (F1-Year 6 Parents, pre-booking required) No Clubs
Thursday 28th November	3.40pm Parent Consultations (F1-Year 6 Parents, pre-booking required) No Clubs
Tuesday 3rd December	9.00am F2 Nativity (F2 Parents Welcome)
Thursday 5th December	5.30pm Carols by Candlelight @ All Saints Church (Prep Parents Welcome)
Friday 6th December	3.30pm EYFS Take a Look At My Celebration Book (F1&F2 Parents Welcome)
Tuesday 10th December	2.00pm EYFS and Pre-Prep Christingle @ All Saint's Church (F1-Y2 Parents)
Friday 13th December	1.30pm Term Ends / NO TEA TIMERS

CYCLING PROFICIENCY

Year 6 have been taking part in their Bikeability training this week. With pupils gaining important and practical cycling skills including how maintain their bikes, to signal and stop safety, how to make observations of other road users and understanding priorities on the road. Thank you to The Woodford Wells for lending their hardstanding area to get them started!



FLOATING IDEAS IN SCIENCE

This week, Year 5 carried out their planned science enquiry. Their enquiry question was:

Does the size of a parachute affect the time it takes for it to fall to the ground?

The children were able to identify the affects of air resistance and make connections related to the surface area of the parachute. The children were able to use scientific vocabulary to describe the investigation. Using the data collected from our investigation, we were able to draw conclusions and make further suggestions on how we could improve or adapt the experiment.

Here are some of their thoughts:

Zachary 5JB: "I loved this activity because the parachutes were amazing and I now know what air resistance is!"

Dhiren 5JB: "I really enjoyed the experiment because we learnt that the size of the parachute creates more air resistance when the surface area is bigger, and will go faster when there is less air resistance."

Tyler 5JB: "I've learnt that to have air resistance you need to have a greater based area (which would be the 30cm parachute) would trap more air under so that it would stay in the air for longer because of the air. The 10cm parachute would be quicker because there would be more gravity pushing the parachute down than the air resistance."

Gabriel 5JB: "I have learnt that the larger the surface area the longer it will take to fall to the ground. My quote is "The Larger The Surface Area, The Slower It Falls, And The Smaller The Surface Area, The Quicker It Falls."

"This parachute test was the best! I really loved watching it fly down from the top and I think it brought out some really good results in our investigation about air resistance! What I wish would have happened was to do the experiment on a windy day." - Jumana 5KI

"The parachute test was exiting, but the making the parachute was the best part because it was fascinating to see what they might have done to make a parachute when they were first invented. It was heart-breaking to see some of our parachutes fall into disappointments and now I know how air resistance works!" - Goldie 5KI



WELL DONE ROWAN!

Well done to Rowan (3KY) who ran his first road race last weekend - The Vitality Westminster Mile.

A great achievement - we're super proud of him!



UNIFORM REMINDER

A reminder that from next week, all pupils must be in full WINTER uniform.

Please ensure all uniform is clearly and correctly labelled with your child's name. This helps return lost property to their homes!

THE WEEKS ARE FLYING BY

No sooner have some of the Year 6 pupils finished their Grammar exams, than the focus switches to the next round of exams in November. To their credit, Mr Manning and Ms Grant continue to be amazed at the effort, application and focus that they are showing in class. Added to that, it has been lovely to see their presence around the school, acting as marshals in the Inter House Cross Country, helping in the playground and cycling around The Wells proficiently in their hi-visibility jackets.

However, the highlight of this week our Spanish workshop on Thursday, where the Year 6 pupils thoroughly enjoyed the interactive story telling of Don Quixote.

Here is a selection of pupils comments about the week:

Lucas (6JM): It was very fun because I went on the road and I have never been on the road before so it unlocked a whole new experience for me.

Kanhaiya (6JM): The workshop was fun and I didn't know spoons could make such good fighting scene noises!

Marriya (6HG): Amazing road safety! I know how to ride on the road now!

Sophie & Eva (6HG): The workshop was brilliant and interesting.



JOURNEY TO THE PREP

Year 2 were treated to a special interview with Mr Manning this week so they could explore with him what it is like in our wonderful Prep Department.

The children were very inquisitive and had a range of questions answered including learning about the roles of responsibility in Year 6, the extensive range of co-curricular activities, using a Chrome Book, having weekly swimming lessons finding out about residential visits and they even wanted to know if the Prep teachers are stricter than the Pre-Prep!



It was also lovely to see so many parents yesterday at our 'Journey to the Prep School' information morning.

If you were unable to attend, please find the slides detailing the key information on your child's Google Classroom account for both Year 1 and Year 2 classes.

PUMPKIN SOUP

This week, Puffins have read 'The Little Red Hen' story and discussed how the flour is made, what it is used for and why it is important to help each other. We have also learnt about Harvest Festival and where our food comes from. All the children enjoyed observational painting of the pumpkin which was planted and grown in our school garden.

During weekly cookery session, children were chopping carrots, potatoes, celery, onions and garlic and enjoying making their own pumpkin soup. It was a lovely experience for all.

In Taste Education session, we have explored and tasted cherry tomatoes.

In Maths, we continued subitising which is extremely important in the early development of number sense. We were concentrating on number 2 and learning about halving.

After our Weekly Walk, we made unique collages by sticking colourful leaves and pine needles into the templates of the hedgehogs.



TOUGH COMPETITION

The U11 Netball & Football season got off to a flying start with Forest School's Netball & Football Festivals which were held as part of their Open Day last Saturday.

Due to the 11 plus exams taking place on the same day, both teams were a mixture of Year 5 and 6 pupils who all put in a great effort against some tough competition from Berkhamsted, WGPS and Daiglen amongst others.

Well done to all the children that took part!



ROUTE PLANNING AND RUNNING

Year 1 Cranes and Pelicans have had a very and active busy week! Working in small groups in Computing, the children have continued to build on their Bee-Bot route planning skills. They were set a challenge of reaching a fixed point on a map, but each route could not be the same way as others, so they needed careful planning and communication with their team.

In Science, Year 1 tested their sense of touch by working out if items were smooth, soft, rough or hard and recording these with labelled drawings. They were challenged to touch with a glove on and work out why the objects might feel different.

Music had a harvest focus and we rehearsed songs ready for our Harvest Festival on Monday. Everyone is looking forward to singing loudly for Mr Reed!

Thursday was the European Day of Languages and Year 1 attended an exciting and very interactive Spanish storytelling workshop, retelling the stories of 'Goldilocks' and 'The Three Little Pigs' entirely in Spanish.

Melissa commented after, "We saw two stories, Little Pigs and Goldilocks. Bear in Spanish is 'oso.' I liked how she fell down in the story and made it funny."

After their workshop, Cranes and Pelicans joined Flamingos and Herons as they took part in their first Cross Country race at The Woodford Wells Club.

The Year 1 team are very proud of how much effort everyone put in during the morning!

Erhan spoke about his experience, "I ran! Mr Thornley said go with his whistle and I ran. I liked it because I like running fast. I want to do it again."



MORRIS INTER HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY WINNERS!

Well done Morris House for being the Avon House Cross Country overall winners! There were only 8 points between first and second place!

Morris 1st

Churchill 2nd

Pankhurst 3rd

Cavell 4th



STEM AWARD

Foundation 1: Asher

Foundation 2: Mia & Rivan

Year 1: Zelda & Letong

Year 2: Eesha & Anastasia

Year 3: Manjot & Benjy

Year 4: Aliyaan & Benicio

Year 5: Zariyan & William

Year 6: Niharan & Jayden

EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

Yesterday was European Day of Languages, an annual celebration set by Council of Europe, for promoting awareness of the importance of language learning. Delivered by Freshwater Theatre and spoken entirely in either Spanish or French, pupils from Foundation 2 to Year 6 took part in exciting and interactive story workshops during the day.

Our Pre-Prep were fascinated with hearing familiar traditional tales energetically told in Spanish, joining in with key words and phrases while learning new words such as 'paja', 'madera' and 'ladrillo.'

Years 3 and 4 had their knowledge of French tested during their storytelling workshop, with everyone taking an active part in the story of 'Goldilocks.' While Years 5 and 6 travelled to La Mancha and became enthralled with the story of Don Quijote and his squire Sancho Panza.

Our Head of Modern Foreign Languages Miss Whitestone commented, "It was wonderful watching the children so immersed in a foreign language. Their enthusiasm for learning was infectious!"

Year 6 were asked to sum up the workshop in one word:

amazing
spoons
cool
interesting
best fun funny
spectacular
adventurous
educational
brilliant
divertido
entertaining
vocabulary
enjoyable
hilarious



LOTS OF PERSERVERANCE

As part of their introduction to cookery skills, the children in Year 2 made some super fruit skewers this week. Their challenge was to safely and carefully cut the fruit and then put the pieces onto the skewers. Lots of perseverance was needed to carefully cut the pieces to a suitable size and they were very proud of their efforts, as well as enjoying eating them!



The children should also be incredibly proud of their participation in the very first Pre-Prep cross country.

The Year 1 and Year 2 classes cheered each other on to race twice around the course and were brilliantly supported by some of the Prep children who encouraged them with their pace and with ensuring every child finished the race!



MILER OF THE WEEK

This week's Daily Miler of the Week is Daniel from Year 2 Herons for his excellent attendance and superb effort every day!"

SECOND HAND UNIFORM

There is a parent Whatsapp Group devote to Swapping / Selling second hand uniform.

Please find the link to join below: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/FNfcHoKaiIJgzKBCCd2RG>

A reminder that parents must arrange to meet directly. No uniform is to be brought into the School Office.



OCTOBER HALF TERM TECH CAMP

We are so excited to be running our October STEM tech camps at Avon House from 28th October - 1st November this half term.

Our STEM camps are a fun and engaging environment to access impressive technology and learn the foundations of coding and engineering for 5-11 year olds.

Our spooky October tech camps will see a host of new activities that you won't want to miss out on:

- Revolting Robotics & Creepy Coding

Learn how to program a robot with crazy functions like dancing or answering questions!

- Crazy Circuits & Animation

Enter the world of circuitry and animation and utilize our tech and your creativity to create wonders of animation.

- Enchanting Engineering & 3D Animation

Learn even more impressive real-world skills like the foundations of engineering with our advanced tech and teaching, and let your imagination run wild with 3D animation!

- Monstrous Media

Become a media whizz this half term and use our equipment to capture the perfect picture and film.

- Thrilling Inventions & Virtual Reality

Explore a virtual reality with our VR headsets and dive into the world of Ocean Rift, the first VR underwater world, or choose Rush, to experience the feeling of jumping out of a plane!

Our October Tech Camps are the perfect opportunity for childcare that does more; enjoy a week of Halloween fun and outstanding education!

Spaces are **LIMITED** so book now to avoid disappointment. This camp is £45 per day, and we have a special offer of £175 for 5 days, which works out as only £35 per day!

Book here:

<https://www.nextthing.education/product/avon-house-preparatory-school-october-camp/>

We look forward to seeing you at camp!

Next Thing Education Camps Ltd.



PRE-PREP INTER HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY

They may be smaller in stature than the Prep Department pupils, but our Pre-Prep Cross Country runners are no less mighty! Taking two laps of the course in their stride, Year 1 and Year 2 gave it their very best as they completed their first Cross Country race yesterday. With some very dedicated Year 6 pupils becoming pacers and encouraging everyone on, the nerves of all children were quickly lost as they sailed past their parent's cheers along the route. Thank you to everyone who came to support, it gave the children a real boost!

As with the Prep event, points were scored in order of finishing. Congratulations to Churchill House for being the overall winners of the morning with their collective effort!

A second big thank you of the week to Mr Thornley and Mrs Gleadell for organising the event and The Woodford Wells Club for hosting.

Mr Babra, Churchill House lead, was excited to hear of how many points Churchill scored and said, "I'm so proud of their achievement and effort, keep being positive and taking part in all house events...participation is as important as winning!"

A video of the morning can be viewed at the following: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QwfD7YK7ysKhSj68acgS9A0XNkogukwF/view?usp=drive_link

SCHOOL CALENDAR DATES

Week 5

Monday 30th Sep	8.40am 5KI Harvest Assembly at All Saint's Church - All Parents Welcome Harvest Foodbank Collection @ All Saint's Church
Tuesday 1st Oct	7.45am All Council Meetings
Wednesday 2nd Oct	1.30pm Departmental Lead Meeting
Thursday 3rd Oct	National Poetry Day Flu Vaccinations (F2 - Year 6) Year 5 and Year 6 Swimming
Friday 4th Oct	Black History Week Launch in Assembly Diversity Council Update in Assembly Whole School Black History Month Workshops

School Calendar - [Calendar | Avon House School](#)

SPORTS FIXTURES

Please note that Sports Fixtures will be communicated via email directly to parents for those children that have been selected to take part. If a fixture/tournament is postponed or cancelled, you will be informed by the school at the earliest opportunity.

Thursday 3rd Oct U11 Netball @ Woodford Green Prep School

AHS Sports Twitter - <https://twitter.com/avonhousesport>

Please do not contact the School Office to check if a fixture/tournament is postponed or cancelled. Also, please check the fixture/tournament details you receive from the School Office as they will state whether support or no support is able to attend.