



AVALON SCHOOL

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 24th November 2023

Please click on the links below for further news and useful information

Website Home Page	Avalon School Home Page
Latest News & Stories	Latest News Weekly Newsletters
Parents' Area	Letters to Parents/Carers - Letter & Documents Term Dates 2023/24 & 2024/25 - Term Dates
Calendar Dates	Calendar Dates
Before & After School	Fun Activities
PTA News	PTA News & Event

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS



St Andrew



St David



St George



St Patrick

House Points

175

163

188

180

Total House Points for the Year To-Date

1464

1559

1541

1398

Merit Badges

Reception				SW
Year 1		HB		
Year 2			HP	
Year 3		FC		
Year 4				
Year 5	CR			
Year 6				FMc HW

Achievement Certificates



Reception	OQ
Year 1	O P-D
Year 2	ES CL
Year 3	SA
Year 4	EH
Year 5	NL SW
Year 6	LMc-J EW

Headteachers Awards



Year 2 EC
ES

Mathletics Pupil of the Week

Mathletics

Infants HN
Lower Juniors (Y3-Y4) SMc
Upper Juniors (Y5-Y6) SW

Reading Star!



Reception JM
Year 1 IW
Year 2 BMc-J
Year 3 FC
Year 4 SS
Year 5 SG
Year 6 ZD

Golden Table

Rec	JM	Y1	HB	Y2	CL
Y3	SA	Y4	SMcW	Y5	SD'A
		Y6	AL		

NEWS, NOTICES & REMINDERS

Children in Need Spotacular Fundraising Update



Once again, a big thank you to all who were able to attend our Children in Need BIG Breakfast. We have updated our total and raised a fantastic

£488.80

Thank You!
FOR YOUR DONATION

Reception Visit to Caldy Manor Care Home



The Reception class children visited Caldy Manor Care Home this week and had a wonderful time creating Christmas cards and singing songs with the residents.



School Council Reverse Advent Calendar Donations for Foodbank



The School Council are continuing their reverse advent calendar, in aid of our local food bank, to support families during the Christmas period. Donations should be taken to the School Office.

We are asking for donations of the following:

Week Commencing	Items
Monday 27 th November	Coffee, tea, sugar, UHT milk, jam, marmalade, crackers and biscuits
Monday 4 th December	Sweets, mince pies, chocolates, cakes and crisps.

PTA Christmas Raffle Tickets

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES INTO THE RAFFLE – Monday 27th November 2023



A reminder to retain raffle tickets and return completed ticket stubs, payment and any unsold tickets by **Monday 27th November 2023**. Please try to sell as many tickets as possible. All funds raised directly benefit all children at Avalon School.

Cash or cheques payable to "Avalon School Parent Teacher Association".

Christmas Decoration Competition

DEADLINE FOR BAUBLE ENTRIES – Monday 27th November 2023

Winners Announced PTA Christmas Fair on Friday 1st December 2023



Our Christmas trees will soon be arriving at school, ready to be decorated! We will again be running a competition for each child to decorate a Christmas bauble to be placed on the tree in the School Office Foyer. The winning decoration from each class will be announced at the PTA Christmas Fair and winners will each receive a prize. Your child should have received a bauble with a name tag and further information.

All competition entries must be returned to school with a £2 donation by Monday 27th November to be entered into the competition.

HELP NEED PTA Christmas Fair Raffle Prizes

PRIZE DONATIONS – FROM MONDAY 27TH NOVEMBER



The PTA need your help with donations of raffle prizes, these can be bottles of wine, prosecco, spirits, boxes of chocolates or sweets, toiletry sets, stationery sets, selection boxes, vouchers etc.

If you are able to donate a prize, please bring it to the School Office from Monday 27th November.

If you are donating alcohol this must be brought to the School Office by an adult on Friday 1st December only.

Thank you for your support!

PTA Help Needed Bags of Sweets for Lucky Dip Stall



Can you help the PTA? One of the stalls at this year's Children's Christmas Fair is a sweetie lucky dip stall. Please could you help by donating bags of sweets big or small. Any donations can be brought to the school office.

Many thanks for your help and support.

EYFS (Nursery, Pre-School & Reception) Stay & Play Sessions Tuesday 28th Wednesday 29th and Thursday 30th November 2023



Parents are inviting to a "Stay & Play" session during week commencing Monday 27th November. Parents will have the opportunity to stay with their child and join in with learning activities. The EYFS staff will also be on hand to discuss progress and answer any questions you may have.

Stay & Play Sessions are as follows:

- Tuesday 28th November 9am to 10am
- Wednesday 29th November 9am to 10am
- Thursday 30th November 2pm to 3pm

Please return the slip provided, highlighting which session best for you and return it to the school office **by Thursday 23rd November**.

Form more details and return slip please click on the link below:

[EYFS Stay and Play Sessions Letter](#)

Avalon PTA Christmas Wreath Making Class Wednesday 29th & Thursday 30th November 2023



The PTA will be holding their Christmas Wreath Making Class again this year on Wednesday 29th November in the evening and Thursday 30th November in the morning.

If you would like to book a place please complete the booking form and return it together with the payment to the PTA Post Box in the School Office. Please note that only cash payments can be accepted.

Form more information and booking form please click on the link below:

[PTA Christmas Wreath Making Class Letter](#)

PTA Children's Christmas Fair Friday 1st December 2023



At this year's Christmas Fair, the PTA are delighted to announce that amongst the many other stalls and games there will be a face painting and a cake decorating stall for the children to put their creativity to use in a fun and festive way. Provisions have been made to ensure that all children are able to take part including any with allergies.

Children may come to school in their uniform plus their Christmas Jumper!

For more information, please click on the link below:

[PTA Children's Christmas Fair Letter](#)

Reception Walk to the Post Box Friday 1st December 2023



The children in Reception Class have been busy writing letters to Father Christmas. Weather permitted the children will be walking the post box on Friday 1st December in the morning to send their letters off to the north pole. If you have any objections and would rather your child did not take part in this activity, please inform Miss Hardy or the School Office by 9am on Friday 1st December. A first aider will also be accompanying the children on the visit.

Lunch Menu Next Week

Lunch menu for the week commencing 27th November 2023



Click on the following link for our [Lunch Menus](#)

This Week's Favourite Meal	
Main	Sausage roll, Waffles & Salad
Pudding	Chocolate Mousse

Nursery & Pre-School Nativity Tuesday 5th December at 2pm 2023



We would like to invite you to the Nursery and Pre-School nativity on Tuesday 5th December at 2pm in the school hall. Refreshments will be available.

If your child does not normally attend sessions on a Tuesday, we would be most grateful if you could bring them to school at 1.30pm ready for the start of the nativity at 2pm.

Thank you for your support and we do hope that you will be able to join us.

Infant (Reception to Year 2) Christmas Concert Wednesday 6th December at 2pm 2023

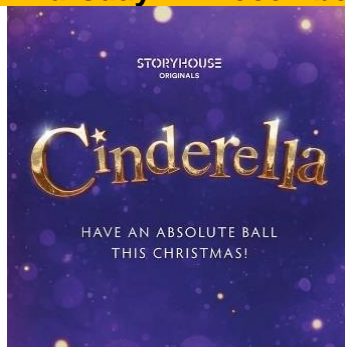


We would like to invite you to the Infant Christmas Concert on Wednesday 6th December at 2pm in the school hall. Refreshments will be available.

Thank you for your support and we do hope that you will be able to join us.

Juniors (Year 3 to Year 6) Storyhouse Theatre Trip - Cinderella

Thursday 7th December 2023



We have booked for all the children in Year 3 to Year 6 to see a stage production of Cinderella at the Storyhouse Theatre, Chester.

The cost of the trip will be £18.00 and this includes the coach and theatre ticket. School will provide the children with a drink and a snack.

The coach will leave school at 9.15am and will return to school in time for lunch. There will be no need for any spending money and children must wear the full school winter uniform including blazers but not school hats.

For more details and consent form please click on the link below:

Please return permission slips by **Monday 4th December.**

[Year 3 to Year 6 Storyhouse Theatre Trip Letter](#)

Christmas Jumper & Whole School Christmas Lunch Day

Friday 8th December 2023

Christmas Jumper Day



We have decided to hold a Christmas Jumper Day again this year to coincide with our Christmas Lunch Day to make the event feel that extra bit more festive. The whole school will be enjoying our Christmas lunch with all the trimmings on Friday 8th December.

We would therefore kindly ask for a small donation of £1.00 to the PTA for each child, to be brought in on the day, if they would like to wear a Christmas jumper and their own clothes (i.e., a non-uniform day). For ease of handling money, we would be most grateful if donations could be brought into school in a named envelope.

Nursery, Pre-School & Infant Christmas Parties

Monday 11th December 2023



The children in Nursery, Pre-School, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be having their Christmas parties on Monday 11th December in the afternoon. The children will be enjoying some festive treats made by our fabulous Catering Team and a visit from Santa himself.

Children should come to school in their party clothes (i.e., a non-uniform day). Please ensure that the children have a suitable winter coat for breaktimes.

For Nursery and Pre-School children who don't normally attend on a Monday, they would be very welcome to join in the fun and we would ask that you bring them to Nursery/Pre-School at 1.30pm and collected at 3.15pm.

Christmas Celebration Service at St Bridget's Church

Wednesday 13th December 2023



We warmly invite you to join us for a Christmas Celebration Service on the last morning of term, Wednesday 13th December at 10am. The service will finish at approximately 11am.

A collection will be made during the Christmas service. We would kindly ask that you send in a small new toy, gift, or sweets, with your child. Gifts should be left unwrapped. The gifts will be placed at the front of church during the service, to support and help underprivileged children have a happier Christmas.

Children may be collected from the church following the service or from school at 12 noon. Please confirm your collection arrangements with the school office by **Tuesday 12th December.**

For more details and collection arrangement confirmation form please click on the link below:

[Christmas Celebration Service at St Bridget's Church Letter](#)

School Finish for Christmas

Wednesday 13th December at 12 noon

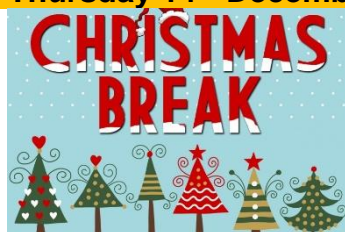


School finishes for the Christmas break on Wednesday 13th December at 12 noon.

Breakfast club will be available as usual from 7.45am

Christmas Break

Thursday 14th December to Monday 8th January



School is closed for the Christmas break from Wednesday 13th December at 12 noon and reopens to children on Tuesday 9th January 2024.

We hope you have a very happy Christmas and peaceful new year.

Spring Term 2024

Tuesday 9th January 2024



The Children return to school on Tuesday 9th January 2024 at the usual time.

Breakfast club will be available from 7.45am

Avalon School PE Kit



We have noticed recently that children, particularly in the Juniors, are coming into school with items that are non-regulation PE kit. Please could we ask that children wear the correct, school regulation kit for PE lessons and extra-curricular clubs including the regulation tracksuit bottoms.

As the weather is turning colder and some PE lessons take place outside on the school field or astroturf we would be grateful if children could bring in a pair of gloves, preferably black sports gloves. Many thanks for your support.

Extra-Curricular Clubs



**ALL CLUBS FINISH FOR THIS TERM ON
FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER**

Extra-curricular clubs are as follows:

LOWER SCHOOL CLUBS
(Reception to Year 2)

Day	Club	Time	Year Group
Monday	Ballet	2.30pm to 3pm	Pre-School
	Ballet	3.05pm to 3.35pm	Rec – Y2

Tuesday	Multi-Skills	3.05pm to 3.35pm	Rec – Y2
Wednesday	Construction	3.05pm to 3.40pm	Rec – Y2
	Yoga/Dance	3.05pm to 3.40pm	Rec – Y2
Thursday	Football	3.05pm to 3.40pm	Rec – Y2
Friday	Jo Jingles	Lunchtime	Rec – Y1
	Drama	3.05pm to 3.40pm	Y1 – Y2

UPPER SCHOOL CLUBS (Year 3 to Year 6)

Day	Club	Time	Year Group
Monday	Acro Dance	3.40pm to 4.40pm	Y3 – Y6
Tuesday	Tag Rugby	3.40pm to 4.40pm	Y3 – Y6
	STEM	3.40pm to 4.30pm	Y3 – Y6
	Christmas Craft Club	3.40pm to 4.30pm	Y3 – Y6
Wednesday	Coding	Lunchtime	Y3 – Y6
	Choir	3.40pm to 4.30pm	Y3 – Y6
Thursday	Netball	3.40pm to 4.30pm	Y3 – Y6
	Sign Language	Lunchtime	Y3 – Y6
	Verbal Reasoning	3.40pm to 4.30pm	Y5
Friday	Drama	3.40pm to 4.30pm	Y3 – Y6

LOWER SCHOOL CLUBS SIGN UP: [Reception to Year 2](#)

UPPER SCHOOL CLUBS SIGN UP: [Year to Year 6](#)

Acro Dance Sign Up: [Louise HSOD](#)

Ballet Sign Up: [Louise HSOD](#)

Football Sign Up: [Football First](#)

Multi-Skills Sign Up: [Activity 4 All](#)

Netball Sign Up: [Activity 4 All](#)

Tag Rugby Sign Up: [Activity 4 All](#)

Jo Jingles Sign Up [Jo Jingles](#)

Please note that children attending sports clubs (including Acro Dance) should come to school wearing their school PE kit.

For ballet the children should wear their ballet kit.

Scooters and Bicycles



It is lovely to see children coming to school on their bicycles and scooters in the morning. However please could we ask that bicycles and scooters are not left on the school grounds during the day for safety reasons.

Many thanks for your understanding and co-operation.

Earrings in School



It has come to our attention that there are a number of children wearing earrings in school. Our uniform policy states that for health and safety reasons no jewellery with the exception of a watch may be worn in school.

Therefore, we would be grateful if you could remind children to remove earrings and any other jewellery before coming to school.

We understand that a number of children have only recently had their ears pierced and although it is not ideal, in this instance could we ask parents/carers to ensure that earrings are covered each morning with plasters.

Once the 6-week healing process is complete the earrings should be removed and not worn during school time.

Kooth – A Handy Guide for Parents and Carers



Parents and carers may be supporting a child or young adult who are experiencing difficulties with mental health, or following a particular trauma. The link below is a resource with strategies to support.

[Parent and Carer Brochure CO2.pdf \(frimley-healthiertogether.nhs.uk\)](https://www.frimley-healthiertogether.nhs.uk/Parent_and_Carer_Brochure_CO2.pdf)

Avalon School Water Bottles



Should any children need a new Avalon School water bottle, please contact the school office via email schooloffice@avalon-school.co.uk. New water bottles are charged at £2.50 each.

Wet Play Bags



As we start a new academic year, if any children need a new wet bag play, please contact the school office via email schooloffice@avalon-school.co.uk. New wet play bags are charged at £3.00 each.

All children in Reception and new children throughout the main school will be provided with a wet play bag and instructions as to what can be included.

Start of the Day Arrangements



Before school club is from 7.45am to 8.30am. Children attending before school club should enter the hall via the main school glass entrance doors.

From 8.30am to 8.45am parents may drop children off at the school gate which will be manned by Avalon staff. Alternatively parents and carers who may wish to bring their child onto the school site and drop their child off at the allocated entrance doors.

For reception, Year 1 and Year 2, this will be at the main glass entrance doors. For all Junior children, Year 3 to Year 6, this will be at the front door of the junior building.

Arriving Late to School



Late attendance (after 8.45am). If your child is late coming into school, we then ask that parents ring the intercom for assistance and bring their child directly into the school office for registrations.

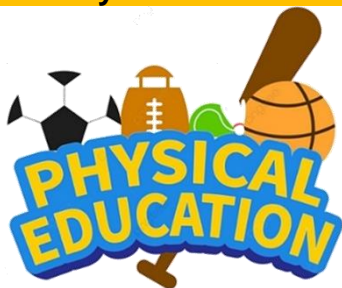
End of the Day Arrangements



Children's collection arrangements will be as follows:

Year Group	Collection Time	Collect From
Nursery & Pre-School	At the end of session	Nursery Entrance
Reception	3.05pm	Nursery Entrance
Year 1	3.05pm	Nursery Entrance
Year 2	3.05pm	Main School Glass Entrance
Year 3	3.40pm	Junior House Front Door
Year 4	3.40pm	Junior House Front Door
Year 5	3.40pm	Main School Glass Entrance
Year 6	3.40pm	Main School Glass Entrance

PE Days



Below are the days that the children will be having their PE Lessons. Children should come into school dressed in their full PE kit on their designated PE days. Please could we also request that children have their School Blazer or Waterproof Coat with them. Hats and Caps will not be required on designated PE kit days

Year Group	PE Day
Reception	Monday
Year 1	Monday
Year 2	Monday
Year 3	Tuesday
Year 4	Wednesday
Year 5	Thursday

IMPORTANT REMINDER Breaktime Snacks



We have a number of children in Avalon School with severe allergies. It is vitally important to ensure the health and safety of all the children that only fruit, and vegetables are brought into school for break time snacks.

Snack which are high in salt, sugar and fat such as salted popcorn, crisps, and other sugary snacks are not appropriate to be brought into school.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Parking & Driving Around School



To help keep all members of our school community and our wider community safe please remember not to park on the zig-zag lines outside school when dropping off or picking up children and to aid visibility please avoid parking on the road directly outside school. We would also ask any parents using Warwick Drive to be extra careful and aware of pedestrians using this route to access school.

It would also be much appreciated if parents consider the through traffic along Caldy Road and avoid attempting U-turns in the road. These sorts of manoeuvres in the road can be particularly dangerous for all road users and pedestrians during these busy times of day.

We thank you for your continued support and understanding as we all adapt to different routines.

Uniform Supplier

UNIFORMITY Schoolwear

Uniform can be purchased from Uniformity Clothing using the link below:
<http://www.uniformityschools.com/>

Pre-Loved Uniform



If you have any requests for uniform please email on uniformpta@gmail.com Whilst we are now in a position to accept donations, please can you make sure that all items donated are wearable and not threadbare, and clean. Also, we can **only** accept the following Avalon specific uniform, given the introduction of the new sports kit:

- Blazers/Black Raincoats
- Caps/Hats/Boaters
- Brown V Neck Jumpers/Cardigans
- Brown PE Sweatshirts/Joggers
- Tunics/Summer Dresses

Please leave with the School Office. Thank you.

Scam Emails Warning



We have been made aware by the Independent Schools Council of recent email scams involving people posing as prospective parents to try to gain access to school details including logo's, email templates etc. This information is then fraudulently used to scam parents into making payments into their accounts. If you do receive an email of this nature or if you are unsure about an email, we would be most grateful if you could contact the school immediately.

Please be assured that our own bank account details have not and will not, for the foreseeable future, change. Avalon School does not send out

emails regarding unsolicited discount rates. Any emails you receive containing invoices or statements will be sent from either accounts@avalon-school.co.uk or annevans@avalon-school.co.uk

Term Dates 2023-2024 & 2024-2025



2023-2024

Autumn Term	
Staff Training Days	Monday 4 th & Tuesday 5 th September 2023
Term Starts	Wednesday 6 th September 2023
Half-Term	Monday 16th October to Friday 27th October 2023
Ends	Wednesday 13 th December 2023 – 12 noon Finish
Spring Term	
Staff Training Day	Monday 8 th January 2024
Term Starts	Tuesday 9 th January 2024
Half-Term	Monday 19th February to Friday 23rd February 2024
Ends	Thursday 28 th March 2024 Normal Finish Time
Summer Term	
Staff Training Day	Monday 15 th April 2024
Term Starts	Tuesday 16 th April 2024
May Day	Monday 6th May 2024
Half-Term	Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May 2024
Ends	Friday 12 th July 2024 – Normal Finish Time

2024-2025

Autumn Term	
Staff Training Days	Monday 2 nd & Tuesday 3 rd September 2024
Term Starts	Wednesday 4 th September 2024
Half-Term	Monday 21st October to Friday 1st November 2024
Ends	Friday 13 th December 2024 12 noon finish
Spring Term	
Staff Training Day	Monday 6 th January 2025
Term Starts	Tuesday 7 th January 2025

Half-Term	Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2025
Ends	Friday 28 th March 2025 Normal finish time
Summer Term	
Staff Training Day	Monday 14 th April 2025
Term Starts	Tuesday 15 th April 2025
Easter Bank Holiday	Friday 18th & Monday 21st April 2025
May Day	Monday 5th May 2025
Half-Term	Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May 2025
Ends	Friday 11 th July 2025 Normal finish time



NOVEMBER

Monday 27 th	Return PTA Raffle tickets to the school office Deadline for Christmas Bauble Entry Donations for the PTA raffle accepted into the school office (from this date). Reverse calendar donations of coffee, tea, sugar, UHT milk, jam, marmalade, crackers and biscuits
Tuesday 28 th	EYFS (Nursery, Pre-School & Reception) Stay and Play Sessions
Wednesday 29 th	EYFS (Nursery, Pre-School & Reception) Stay and Play Sessions Christmas Wreath Making Class 6.30pm - 9pm
Thursday 30 th	EYFS (Nursery, Pre-School & Reception) Stay and Play Sessions Christmas Wreath Making Class 9.30am – 12pm

DECEMBER

Friday 1 st	Announcement of winners of Christmas Bauble Competition PTA Christmas Fair Reception Walk to the Post Box
Monday 4 th	Reverse calendar donations of Sweets, mince pies, chocolates, cakes and crisps
Tuesday 5 th	Nursery and Pre-School Nativity
Wednesday 6 th	Infant (Reception to Year 2) Christmas Concert
Thursday 7 th	Year 3 to Year 6 Storyhouse Theatre Trip
Friday 8 th	Christmas Jumper & Whole School Christmas Lunch
Monday 11 th	Nursery, Pre-School & Infant Christmas Parties
Wednesday 13 th	Christmas Celebration Service at St Bridget's Church 12 NOON FINISH NO AFTER SCHOOL CARE AVAILABLE
Thursday 14 th December to Tuesday 8 th January	Christmas Holidays

JANUARY

Monday 8 th	Staff INSET Day
Tuesday 9 th	Children Return to School

Flute Lessons with Catherine Greenwood

Dear parents and carers,

My name is Catherine Greenwood, I started learning flute and piano at the age of 6. I gained a place at Chetham's School of Music in Manchester and attended the school from when I was 13. After school, I moved to London to do a degree in music performance at Guildhall School of Music and Drama. I graduated in 2001 and went on to perform with some of the country's top orchestras, including the Hallé and BBC Philharmonic, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic and Welsh National Opera. I have over 20 years' teaching experience, delivering flute and piano lessons to pupils of all ages and abilities from brand new beginners to university and conservatoire students. I believe my pupils thrive under a nurturing teaching style where every student is seen as unique and an individual and I adapt my teaching accordingly, following my pupils' leads.

Kind regards
Catherine Greenwood

Lessons will take place during the school day.

Individual Lessons cost £20.00 for a 30 minute lesson.

If you would like your child to undertake flute and for further information lessons please contact me on catherinemayer5@aol.com to check availability.



No need
to book
Just come along

New Price

£5
per child
Cash or Card
Payments
Accepted

From September


AVALON

Avalon School Parent & Toddler Group

Wednesdays
9.30am to 10.30am

Babies to 5 Years

Guest Session Leaders

Avalon School, Caldy Road, West Kirby, Wirral, CH48 2HE
T: 0151 625 6993 / E: schooloffice@avalon-school.co.uk
www.avalon-school.co.uk