Avondale Primary School

# Weekly News

6TH NOVEMBER 2026

## We Will Remember Them

Today, Mrs Brown, Mrs Followell and some of our Year 6 children attended the Friends of Darwen Cemetery School Remembrance Service.

As part of the service, the children showed their respect by laying poppy crosses on the war graves, remembering those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

We are very proud of our children for representing Avondale and taking part in this important act of remembrance.

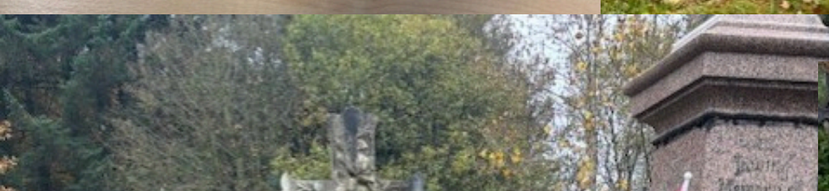
Lest We Forget. ❤️




We will remember them. Thank-you for all you did for us from Avondale Primary School















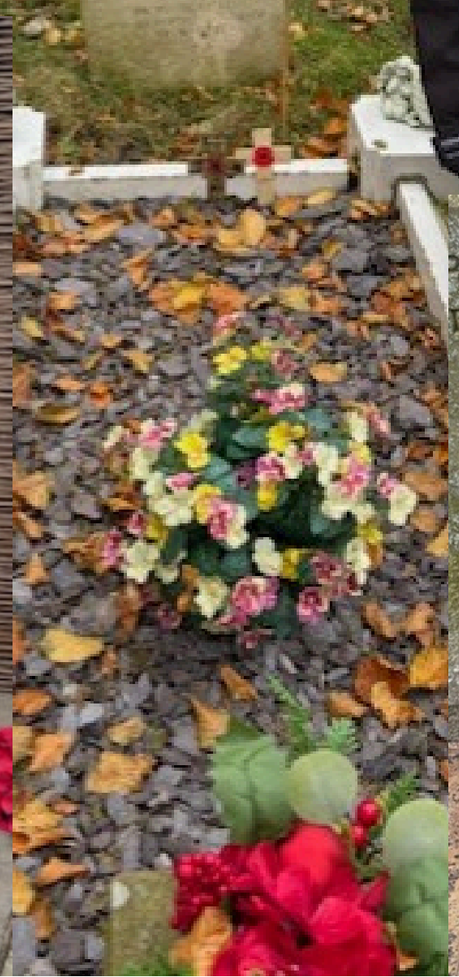









Uniform and Armoury
Prisoners of War




RIST DIED FOR ALL MEN
E DIED FOR OUR COUNTR



# THANK YOU

Thank You for Supporting Our ‘Wear It Pink’ Day!

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Pink Day. Whether you donated, wore pink, bought cakes or cones, took part in activities, or simply helped spread the word; your generosity and enthusiasm made the day a tremendous success.

**We are delighted to share that, together, we raised an incredible £850 for Breast Cancer Awareness and support services.**

This wonderful total will help make a real difference to those affected by breast cancer and contribute towards vital research and care.

Thank you for helping us turn a fun and colourful day into such a meaningful fundraising event. Your kindness and support are greatly appreciated, and we are incredibly proud of what we have achieved together.





Avondale Primary School

For learning, smiling & remembering

Do Your Best · Make The Right Choice · Kindness · Respect · Resilience · Learning

# Mobile Phones and Smart Devices

Working together to keep Avondale safe!

Following the **Department for Education's** updated guidance on mobile phone use in schools, we are introducing new expectations for **everyone** who comes into school.

## For Parents and Carers

We kindly ask that all parents and carers support our new expectations whenever you are on school premises – **this includes the playground, the school building, and during assemblies.**



**Please keep mobile phones away** when on school grounds, including when you come into school or attend an assembly.



**Please do not use mobile phones to take photographs or videos of children or staff, unless this is at an authorised school event or you have permission from the Headteacher.**



**If you need to take an important phone call, please step off the school grounds before doing so.**

*Thank you for your support in helping us keep Avondale a calm, safe and happy place.*

## For Children

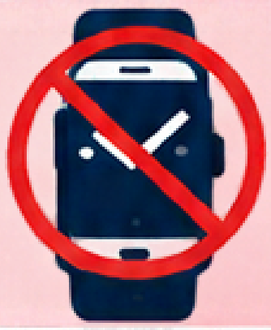
**We ask that children do not bring mobile phones into school. We understand that there may be exceptional circumstances, but this must be discussed and agreed with the Headteacher beforehand.**



**Examples of circumstances where permission may be considered:**

- Year 5 and Year 6 children who travel to and from school independently.
- Children who need a phone for medical reasons, such as monitoring their blood glucose levels.
- Children who are going to another family member's home after school.

If permission is agreed, phones must be **switched off completely** before entering the school grounds and handed to your teacher on arrival. They will be stored safely in the school office and returned at the end of the school day. Phones must **not be used at any time while children are on school premises.**



**Please also remember that children must not wear smart watches in school.**

We know these changes may take a little getting used to, but by working together, we can ensure that Avondale remains a safe, happy and positive place for everyone.

Thank you for your continued support!

You can find our full Mobile Phone and Smart Device Policy here:

CLICK HERE

# A note to our neighbours

We would like to offer our sincere apologies to our neighbours and local residents for the disturbance caused by the fire alarm activation during the early hours of Sunday morning.

As part of Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council's continued investment in our lovely school, we are currently having a new state-of-the-art fire alarm and lockdown system installed. During this transition period, both the existing and the new systems are operating simultaneously while the new installation is thoroughly tested and any faults are identified and resolved.

Unfortunately, a fault occurred on the new system during the early hours of Sunday morning, causing the alarm to sound. We appreciate that this may have disturbed your sleep and that of your neighbours, and we are very sorry for the inconvenience caused. The alarm monitoring company did attend; however, they were dealing with issues at other sites and their response was delayed. In addition, some lights were inadvertently left on following work carried out during the week. We apologise if this caused any further disturbance or concern.

The company installing the new system has also apologised for the incident and is working closely with us to ensure any future faults are recorded without causing unnecessary disruption. As an immediate measure, the sounders on the new system have now been turned off while testing continues. Please be assured that our existing fire alarm system remains fully operational, so the safety of the school is not compromised.

We hope these measures will allow everyone to enjoy an undisturbed night's sleep while the final checks are completed and the new system is made fully operational and fault-free.

Thank you for your patience, understanding and continued support.
Once again, we are very sorry for the inconvenience caused.

# GIRL'S FOOTBALL

Words can't describe just how immensely proud we are of these girls for how amazing they have played in the DPSSA football league . The girls have remained unbeaten all season and the winner of tonight's final tie in the 1st Vs 2nd showdown would be crowned the champions . After a tense game which saw the girls demonstrate unbelievable grit and determination, we finished 0-0 which meant we were just pipped to the post by St Barnabas and finished in 2nd place  out of 11 schools. Well done to both teams on brilliant campaigns.  All of the Team Avondale girls have been absolute superstars every single week and they should be incredibly proud of their achievements - as we certainly are!



# - NEW PE UNIFORM -

As shared before the holiday, we have looked at refreshing our school PE uniform given that the children are now coming to school wearing it.

Below is a photo of our new PE ¼ zip top that will be available from Lancashire PE Services, Darwen by October half term. You can visit their website to order or visit the shop, which is near the M65 junction in Darwen. Online orders can be delivered to school for free. There are also some samples in the office to check for sizes. The top will be priced at £17.00.

In addition to the school logo, you are able to have your child's initials put on, which may help with lost property.



Whilst we have a new PE ¼ zip children, the previous PE hoodie will also remain part of our school uniform until summer 2027 when it will be phased out.

Please note that sizes do run slightly small.

# A huge well done to this weeks...

## Stars of the Week

Gruffalo
**Arthur**

Elmer
**Jacob**

Class 1F
**Daisy**

Class 1N
**Aiken**

Class 2L
**George**

Class 2W
**Milani**

Class 3B
**Kobe**

Class 3L
**Elsie**

Class 4F
**Autumn**

Class 4W
**Spencer**

Class 5M
**Ava**

Class 5S
**Quinn**

Class 6C
**Leo**

Class 6J
**Eva**

Your paragraph text

Avondale Primary School

For Learning, smiling & remembering

Do Your Best · Make Mistakes, Boost Change · Learning · Respect · Resilience

# A Strong Start to Every Day at Avondale!

## Every Day Matters – Every Minute Counts!

At **Avondale Primary School**, we want every child to have the very best start to their day. Being in school **every day** and arriving **on time** makes a huge difference to children's learning, confidence and happiness.



### Arriving promptly means children can:

- Be warmly welcomed and greeted by their teacher.
- Settle into the classroom and be ready to learn from the very start.
- Make the most of every learning opportunity and achieve their academic potential.
- Build positive relationships and develop strong friendships.
- Feel happy, confident and part of our school community.

**School doors open at 8:35am.**

**The official school bell rings at 8:45am.**

When children arrive late, they can miss important morning routines, instructions and learning opportunities. Regular attendance and good punctuality help children **feel settled, secure and ready to succeed.**

We ask all parents and carers to support us by ensuring children attend school every day and arrive on time, ready for a positive day of learning.

***Together, we can give every child the strongest start!***

*Learning, Smiling & Remembering*

# Breakfast & After School Club Bookings

## Bookings are now open on SchoolMoney!

**Breakfast Club**

**After School Club**

**Book places for:**
**Monday 4th January to Thursday 25th March (Easter)**

**We have had a lot of children attending the clubs who have not been booked in advance.**

- Please make sure you book your child in **every time** bookings go live.
- Bookings do not automatically roll over to the next half term.
- Even if your child has attended this half term, you **must still book them in** for next half term.

**Bookings close on Thursday 25th March**

**It is the responsibility of parents/carers to ensure their children are booked in before attending.**

# HOW MUCH TOOTHPASTE FOR YOUR CHILD?

AP Smilestars **Get the right amount for their age!**

Did you know that using the right amount of toothpaste is just as important as brushing itself? For the best protection, we always recommend using a fluoride toothpaste to keep those adventurous smiles strong and cavity-free! 💪🦷

To make it easy, here is our simple guide to getting the perfect portion for your child's age:

**1 0 to 3 years**
**Smear / grain of rice**




**2 3 to 6 years**
**Small pea-sized**




**3 Over 6 years**
**Larger pea-sized**




well done

**4 Full strip**
**Never**



## ★ Top Tip from AP Smilestars: Spit, Don't Rinse! ★

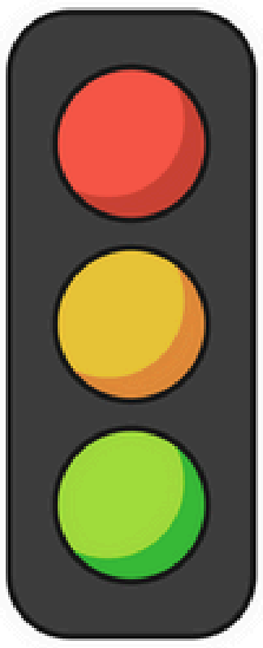
After brushing for two full minutes morning and night, encourage your child to spit out the excess paste, but avoid rinsing with water. Rinsing immediately washes away the active fluoride layer before it has a chance to coat and strengthen the enamel. Leaving that light protective shield on their teeth keeps them guarded against acids and decay throughout the day and overnight!

For more tips on supporting healthy routines and cavity-free smiles at home follow us @apsmilestars

ap smilestars

# Attendance

Good school attendance is vital to enable all children to achieve their full potential, develop socially, forge good friendships and have a sense of belonging within their school community. Our school attendance target is 97%. Thank you to all those families who are working with us to achieve the best outcomes for your child.



89% & Below

Drastic effect on academic achievement

95% - 90%

Cause for concern

100% - 96%

Excellent

| Attendance | Days Absent | Weeks Absent | Lessons Missed |
|---|---|---|---|
| 95% | 9 Days | 2 Weeks | 50 Lessons |
| 90% | 19 Days | 4 Weeks | 100 Lessons |
| 85% | 29 Days | 6 Weeks | 150 Lessons |
| 80% | 38 Days | 8 Weeks | 200 Lessons |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Elmer | 2L | 6C |
| 100% | 100% | 99.5% |




Well done to Elmer & 2L who had the best attendance this week.

# KEY DATES

**11th Nov** - Remembrance Day

**27th Nov -** Christmas Craft Day

**3rd Dec** - Christmas Panto: Robin Hood

**4th Dec** - Christmas Fair Donation Day (Non-uniform)

**5th Dec** - Christmas Fair

**14th Dec** - Christmas Plays: EYFS (14:15pm) & Y1/2 (18:00pm)

**15th Dec** - Christmas Plays: Y4/5 (14:15pm) & EYFS (18:00pm)

**16th Dec** - Christmas Plays: Y1/2 (14:15pm) & Y4/5 (18:00pm)

**17th Dec:** Y3 Carols Around the Christmas Tree (14:15pm)

**17th Dec** - Christmas Jumper Day

**18th Dec** - School Breaks up at 13:30pm

**4th Jan** - School reopens for Spring Term 1

**Please ensure you check this page regularly as dates may change or be added.**

# AVONDALE FOOD MENU

## MONDAY

A Sausage Roll
B Cheese Roll
C High Five
D Jacket Potato

## TUESDAY

A Chicken Curry
B Veg Curry
C High Five
D Jacket Potato

## WEDNESDAY

A BBQ Chicken Pizza
B Cheese Pizza
C High Five
D Jacket Potato

## THURSDAY

A Mince Meat
B Cheese Pie
C High Five
D Jacket Potato



## FRIDAY

A Chicken Nuggets
B Veg Nuggets
C High Five
D Jacket Potato

