



2nd September 2026

Dear Parents,

I am delighted to wish you a warm welcome to Year 1 and 2 and hope you have had a fun and restful summer.

This letter sets out some helpful information and guidance for the coming term as your child.

Arriving to school and home time

Children should be dropped off in the mornings at the blue gate at the side entrance to school. They will then use the main school stairs to access the cloakroom (beside the Year 1/2 classroom). The daily routine consists of:

- Hanging up their blazers and hats on their peg,
- Placing their reading books and reading diary in the allocated box,
- Placing their book bag in the allocated box,
- Return to playground to play until registration at 0830.

Collection is from the same blue side gate.

For the first day back only, parents may accompany children to the classroom to see the room and to clarify any matters or ask questions. From Friday morning and thereafter, children are to be dropped off at the blue gate, and from there come by themselves into the school playground unaccompanied.

Promoting and Encouraging Independence

Save for the first day back on Thursday, children will come into school themselves and organise and be responsible for their own belongings. This is a super way to support children in becoming more independent. There will always be a member of staff in the classroom area if you have any concerns or if your child needs help with anything.

PE Kit

PE bags live in the cloakroom beside the Year 1/2 classroom on the children's pegs. Please could all PE kit be brought into school on the first day back. It should be **clearly named**, and **will remain in school until the end of the half term** unless it gets very dirty during outside PE. Please ensure that in the PE bag your child has;

- Joggers

- Jumper
- House top
- Skort/shorts
- Pair of white socks (children must change out of school uniform socks to maintain good hygiene)
- Trainers

Swimming Kit

Swimming will take place on a Monday afternoon throughout the year. All children will need their swimming costume or shorts, towel, swimming hat, goggles, and an extra smaller towel to stand on whilst they change. Swimming kit will be sent home on Monday to be washed.

Although children may be capable of dressing and changing themselves, we would suggest that before swimming commences this term, that children have the opportunity at home, to practise changing from their school uniform into their swimwear and then back to their uniforms, as they will be changing themselves at the pool, and this practise at home will help them to be more confident with changing.

Reading books

Children will read to an adult in school on a daily basis (accept for Fridays and in the event of a timetable change due to an event) and their book will be changed as soon as it is finished. They will take their book home each day to read with an adult. It is very important that children read at home **every day** please. They do not have to read the whole book in the evening; just 10 - 15 minutes of reading is the goal if possible, although 5 minutes is always better than no reading. It is also important that the pages read are then recorded at home each evening so that we know where to begin in school the next day. We are also very grateful for any feedback in the comments section. Time spent discussing what the child has read is just as important as how many pages they read, as it develops their understanding of the text and illustrations. Frequent reading is the best way for children's word recognition, vocabulary and decoding skills to flourish. Thank you.

Home Learning

Children will receive their compulsory, weekly spellings and home learning on **Mondays and it must be returned completed on Fridays**. The weekly spelling test will take place on Fridays. There will also be a project that is linked to school learning, and this is half termly.

Communications

Throughout Early Years (Reception and Nursery), school utilises Tapestry to inform parents of daily or weekly activities, however in Pre-Prep please direct all communications to the office for general school enquiries. We also hold regular parent/teacher meetings in the school year, however, if there is anything else at all that you would like to discuss or if you have a concern, please do email me directly: emma@avondaleschool.org . If the matter requires an in-person chat, we can then arrange a suitable appointment.

Many thanks and I am very much looking forward to an exciting year and to welcoming the children to school this week.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Emma Adair
Year 1/2 Class Teacher

LITERACY

In Phonics we will be consolidating the letters and sounds the children have already covered, then progressing at each child's own phase level as a whole school. In the first half of the term, the children will be looking at stories with fantasy settings and traditional tales from around the world. There will be a sustained strong focus on sentence structure and letter formation, whilst also introducing adjectives and conjunctions to make writing more interesting to a reader.

MATHS

Maths lessons this term will be consolidating and extending the children's prior learning. Lessons will be based around place value, the number system, adding and subtracting. We will also be learning more about 2D and 3D shapes as well as measurement and introducing standard units of measurement into our learning.

SCIENCE

What makes different types of animals unique? In the first half of the term the children will learn about five of the groups that scientists use to classify animals. They will learn to identify and classify animals according to their group. They will also learn about the different diets animals eat. Children will learn about the parts of the human body and have the opportunity to explore the five senses through a simple investigation. After half term the children will look at seasonal changes between Autumn and Winter.

HISTORY

What has been the most significant change in the recent past?

In the first half of the Autumn Term topic lessons will be history based. The children will be learning about historical changes in living memory and slightly beyond with the topic of toys. This will teach them about how they have changed over time. This topic allows children to start to understand time lines and how to order chronologically as well as sort artefacts and pictures into past and present. We will focus on using the correct historical language.

Year 1

Autumn Term 2026

PSHCE

Along with celebrated national events, Year 1 will be learning about keeping safe and looking for potential hazards in daily life during our PSHCE sessions. After half term PSCE will be all about healthy bodies and what constitutes a healthy lifestyle.

ART

This term in art, the children will revisit primary colours and explore how to create secondary colours. They will learn about the artist Kandinsky, eventually producing work in his style using chalk and oil pastels and use their new skills in colour mixing to create aliens in line with their English topic, Beegu.

ICT

In ICT this term the children will spend some time learning how to navigate Purple Mash they will soon be able to create their pour paint projects, save and retrieve their work. They will also be introduced to the idea of coding.

PE

During outside lessons Year 1 will develop their understanding of different ways of travelling and different types of jumps. They will learn to travel at different speeds and develop an understanding of when these speeds are most useful. Inside, children will continue to think about the speed, weight and size of their movements in the context of dancing in the style of toys from the past and present.

GEOGRAPHY

Where is our school?

In the second half of the Autumn Term, our topic will be Geography based. The children will begin to learn about the world, starting with their immediate environment and building on their prior knowledge from 'Understanding the World' in Reception. Children will explore their school environment using first-hand observation and experience to enhance their awareness along with essential map skills and fieldwork.

RE

Why are rules and routines so important? Year 1 will learn why we have rules and routines and how they help us in our everyday lives. The children then will learn about rules and routines from the viewpoint of different religions: Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Sikhism. Towards the end of the unit, children are introduced to humanism.

LITERACY

During phonics sessions the children will continue to progress at their own phase level as a whole school. If ready, we will start to introduce more complex spelling rules in order to encourage the children to spell more accurately rather than phonetically. In English lessons, the children will be looking at stories with fantasy settings and traditional tales from around the world. There will be a continued focus letter formation, whilst starting to introduce cursive writing. The children will be encouraged to write at greater length using more ambitious language, grammar and sentence structure.

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PE

During outside lessons Year 2 will develop their understanding of different ways of travelling and different types of jumps. They will learn to travel at different speeds and develop an understanding of when these speeds are most useful. Inside, children will continue to think about the speed, weight and size of their movements in the context of dancing in the style of toys from the past and present.

MATHS

Maths lessons this term will be consolidating and extending the children's prior learning. Lessons will be based around place value, the number system, adding and subtracting to 100 - including counting in 3s and adding 2 two-digit numbers. The children will continue to self-assess and progress at their own pace, whilst being encouraged to solve deeper thinking and problem-solving questions.

Year 2

Autumn Term 2026

PSHCE

Along with celebrated national events, Year 2 will be learning about keeping safe and looking for potential hazards in daily life during our PSHCE sessions. After half term PSCE will be all about healthy bodies and what constitutes a healthy lifestyle.

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RE

Why are rules and routines so important? Year 2 will learn why we have rules and routines and how they help us in our everyday lives. The children then will learn about rules and routines from the viewpoint of different religions: Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Sikhism. Towards the end of the unit, children are introduced to humanism.

Year 1 and 2 Autumn Term 2026

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8.30-8.35	Registration				
8.35-9.00	Assembly	Reading 	Hymn Practice	 Handwriting	
9.00-9.20	Phonics 	Phonics 	Phonics 	Phonics 	Spelling test 
9.20-9.40	Reading 	 Spanish	Reading 	Reading 	 Handwriting
9.40-10.20					 PSHE
10.20-10.50	Morning Break				
10.50-11.20				Art 	
11.20-11.55					
11.55-13.00	Lunch Break				
13.00-1335	 Handwriting	Purple Polish 			Computing 
13.35-1415	Swimming 				 RE
1415-1520					
1520	Home/Club				
Notes:					