

Avenue Out of School Club Newsletter January-February 2019



Welcome to the 2nd edition of our newsletter for this academic year!



Club changing its charity status to a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

As we have written to you about before, the club made the decision to change its charity status to a CIO. This change is now almost complete and as a result, means that we have both a new charity number and a new Ofsted registration number as below:

Charity number: 1173859

Ofsted number: EY563543

These changes may be particularly relevant to you if you use our Ofsted/charity number in things such as benefit claims. Please do ensure you update this information as we do not exist as the old charity or Ofsted registered setting anymore and it could invalidate your claim if you are using the old details. If you pay by childcare voucher you shouldn't need to make any changes—please see below.



Paying by childcare voucher

In relation to our change of charity status, we have updated our details with all of our registered childcare voucher companies. In reality this means you won't have to do anything and will pay through the schemes as before. However, a couple of parents have mentioned that there seems to be a delay in the voucher companies changing over the details and in this interim period they have not been able to make a payment. If this is the case, club is happy to wait for the issue to be resolved before you make payment. I would however be very grateful if you could inform me, if this is the case for you.



Outside play

We always encourage children to play outside, even in the winter months. We are however delighted that the evenings are getting lighter and sometimes the weather is a little warmer which provides better opportunities for outside play. As the weather gets better we are excited to be able to offer a wider range of activities and group games outside.



What activities have been on offer at club?

This half term the children have enjoyed activities relating to our weekly themes, including: Music, Ice age, Chinese new year and Valentines. As part of these themes children have been able to take part in our performing arts competition, enjoy a spot of prize bingo, lots of cooking, relax at our cinema night, create an ice age junk modelling scene, make cards and gifts for loved ones on Valentine's day and much more!

One of the most popular weeks was our 'around the world' week. Not only did we have activities related to different countries each day, our menu for the week was transformed into an exciting multi-cultural feast! Children enjoyed food and activities from: The USA, Australia, The UK, China and France. On the menu were: Burger and chips, An Aussie BBQ, Afternoon Tea, Chinese banquet and French cheese and bread. The children have already asked when we can do this again!

Please do enjoy looking at some of the photos of what your children have been up to at club on our photo frame in the corridor near the registers.



Fees Increase/Fees policy

After evaluation of our fee structure, including reviewing impact of the increase of the National Living Wage, the club has no alternative to increase fees, effective from 1st April 2019. The new fees are detailed below:

Club	New Fee (effective 1 st April 2019)
Breakfast club	£4.40
After school club	£9.15
Playscheme full day	£25.70
Playscheme half day	£16.30
Playscheme hourly rate	2.90

Please remember that fees are due in advance at the beginning of each half term or playscheme. Where there are outstanding fees from the previous half term, children will not be allowed to access their space at club going into a new half term.

In order to continue with the smooth running of club, fees must be paid on time. If you do have any

questions about this, or wish to make alternative arrangements for payments, please contact me.



September 2019 Breakfast/After school places

For children already at club, current sessions will remain the same in September unless you let us know otherwise.

For children joining the School in September 2019, there is a specific application process. A letter explaining this and all the necessary forms will be available on our website from 1st March 2019. We will not be able to accept any applications for September 2019 places for new children until the 1st March 2019.

Please note children who already attend Avenue Junior School and are on the waiting list for club places will have priority over children starting school in September 2019.

So you are aware- we are heavily oversubscribed and consequently have a long waiting list. The waiting list however does not apply to our holiday playschemes.

Important Dates

February playscheme

We will be open from Monday 18th February to Friday 22nd February for playscheme. Booking form, and activity planner are available on our website.

Staff Names

Below is a list of current staff:

Manager-Jo Westbrook

Deputy Manager-Claire McGhee

Playworkers:

Laura

Nathalie

Supply playworkers:

Tina

Jake

Saeedeh

Eleanor

Nisha

We have current vacancies for a Playleader and supply playworkers. Information about these positions will be on our website very soon!

Reminders

Children walking home alone

Club is happy to allow children to walk to club/home alone-where you have given written permission. However, we are not able to phone you to confirm children have arrived/left the club. I am happy for you to phone us to confirm these details though.

Informing us of any changes

Please inform us if your child will not be at club, if somebody different from those on the registration form will be collecting your child, or if your child will be attending another activity when they are due to be in club.

When we know about these changes it saves us valuable time in the school office or contacting you-
Thank you 😊