



I would like to thank all the pupils, parents and carers who have made the return back to school out of lockdown so positive. It has been a challenging time for all and the staff team at AVESC have worked tirelessly to ensure a smooth transition back into academy life. I know you would agree and support me when I say a huge thank you to them for their hard work and efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic. I would like to urge all KS4 pupils to continue their efforts and continue to study for their outcomes by participating in mock papers and formal exams and qualifications. I would also like to ask all pupils to continue their positive approach to learning and maintaining positive relationships with their peers and staff. Enjoy your Easter break, Mr T. England— Headteacher AVESC

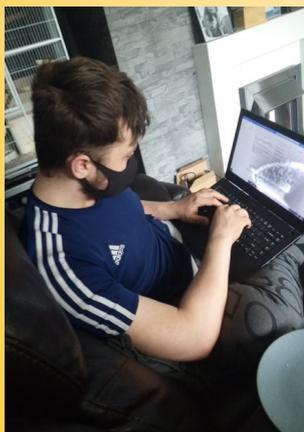
APT

APT pupils enjoy attending a variety of alternative provision programmes which include Construction, Digital- media, Music, Sport, Animal Care and Fishing to name but a few.



Exam success

It has been, undoubtedly, a very difficult year and we are extremely proud of our pupils for their hardwork and commitment. Many pupils have now achieved their Maths and English Functional Skills qualifications which are thoroughly deserved.



Careers & Post 16 preparations

Year 11s are now busy making preparations for their Post 16 destinations. Pupils are in the process of completing application forms for college placements and/ or apprenticeships as well as preparing themselves for future interviews. Pupils are being supported through this

process by their Keyworkers and they will also attend an interview with a qualified Careers Advisor. A number of pupils have met with the Careers Advisor and there has been positive feedback so far. Well done Year 11.

The Budding Scientists of Bennerley

Magnesium and Hydrochloric Acid Practical

Bennerley pupils have been practising their practical science skills and health and safety routines in the lab. In Chemistry this half-term pupils have investigated a number of reactions involving acids, bases, metals and heating with Bunsen burners. Pupils have worked in pairs to react magnesium ribbon with hydrochloric acid, observing the gas bubbles produced and the changes in the metal as it forms magnesium chloride. To test the gas produced by the reaction, in pairs pupils collected the gas in a test tube and placed a lit splint inside. As the flame was extinguished and a squeaky pop noise was produced, it was evident that hydrogen, a flammable gas was produced.



PH Practical

Pupils have also been experimenting in the kitchen, testing a variety of liquids to identify how acidic or basic they are. Using litmus paper and a PH scale colour key, the budding chemists were able to ascertain the PH value of vinegar, tap water, salt water, hydrochloric acid, washing up liquid and other household substances. The pupils then helped Mr Lee to decide which water would be the safest to use for his fish tank, based on the PH level of each water sample – too acidic or too alkali and the fish will not survive! The chemistry lesson was rounded off by two pupils demonstrating how to neutralise an acid with baking soda. It was a success as the PH increased to become neutral. Well done!



Spring Newsletter

Physical Activity Sessions at Sawley

Pupils at Sawley have thoroughly enjoyed being out and about in the sunshine after what feels like a very long winter, using our current sports equipment as well as trying out new. A lovely sense of team building as well as a healthy competitive streak (and that's not just from the staff) created with a suggestion of a league table.

A fantastic way for team building .



Participating in football, swing ball, hockey and basketball, pupils have eagerly awaited sport sessions and have fiercely practiced during break and lunch!



Comic Relief

This was a very eventful and fun filled day! Wearing red or red accessories, all pupils were involved including the staff who looked superb.

Pupils gave a donation towards homemade cookies, which were available, as well as the option to donate for a cup of tea anytime throughout the day! Bacon and sausage sandwiches were on offer at break time, ideal for the extra donations and energy needed later in the day, as pupils voted for an afternoon dedicated to a sports instead of the regular timetable.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed being involved in hockey, basketball as well as pool and Jenga. All pupils and staff participated, allowing two teams and were red faced for Comic Relief by the end of it! A fabulous amount of money was raised for charity and pupils said what a great day it had been! Roll on next year's events.



Spring Newsletter

KS2 Kirk Hallam: Meet the Author

On Tuesday 9th February, the Key Stage 2 class at our Kirk Hallam site were virtually visited by local author and Patron of Reading, Gareth Baker. Gareth is a well published author from Nottingham his most popular books are the Brackenbilly book series and Time Guardians books.

Reading for pleasure and enjoyment was at the very centre of the workshop he led with the pupils.

The workshop started by getting ideas for stories with the pupils coming up with some great answers. The pupils then watched a short video that showed what one of Gareth's stories was about. Gareth then showed us videos of his holidays and places he has visited, Gareth told us that these are the main inspiration for his stories.

Gareth then worked with the pupils to create a story together. Gareth asked questions about where the story would be set (a museum), who the characters would be (Ellie and McKenzie). The pupils then created an adventure story that involved Ellie and McKenzie being chased through the museum by mummies!

The workshop concluded with a question and answer session with pupils wanting to know what made Gareth become an author and does he make any mistakes!

Author Workshop Reviews

"He made it interesting" Hunter

"I learnt a lot about books!" Malakie

"I enjoyed it because it was about a story that we all created so I am feeling happy. The other thing I enjoyed was when he showed us the sword and coins and lantern which was cool." Cairon

"I enjoyed it because I got to talk to an author. I learnt how to write a book". Lillie

Kirk Hallam: Red Nose Day

On Friday 19th March, Kirk Hallam Site went red for Comic Relief. Lillie even had a red packed lunch! Pupils learnt about Comic Relief and found out some interesting facts! They then investigated charity and what it means, thinking about the big question: Should charity begin at home? Archie said: *'it doesn't matter which charity it is, it doesn't have to be in the UK, it's a choice as to which charity you think is important. If you think it is important, it is your choice to support it. And that is why there are lots of charities because everyone cares about different things.'*

It was a very eventful day developing an understanding of why and how we support people in need and considering how we can do it from our classrooms. No matter how small the gesture, it was great to see that pupils know that a simple act of kindness can make such a big difference.

