



# AVALON SCHOOL

## Weekly Newsletter

### Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023



**School finishes for Christmas break on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 12 noon.**

**School reopens for children on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024.**

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

Website Home Page	<a href="#">Avalon School Home Page</a>
Latest News & Stories	<a href="#">Latest News</a> <a href="#">Weekly Newsletters</a>
Parents' Area	Letters to Parents/Carers - <a href="#">Letter &amp; Documents</a> Term Dates 2023/24 & 2024/25 - <a href="#">Term Dates</a>
Calendar Dates	<a href="#">Calendar Dates</a>
Before & After School	<a href="#">Fun Activities</a>
PTA News	<a href="#">PTA News &amp; Event</a>



## CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS



**St Andrew**

**St David**

**St George**

**St Patrick**

### House Points

**144**

**201**

**163**

**147**

### Total House Points for the Year To-Date

**1608**

**1760**

**1704**

**1545**

### Merit Badges

Reception

LL

Year 1

HB

Year 2

CL

Year 3

EMac

Year 4

EU

Year 5

HL

Year 6

OS

AL

## Achievement Certificates



Reception

AW

Year 1

HB

Year 2

AH

Year 3

BMc-J

Year 4

FS

Year 5

RK

Year 6

CS

LS

SS

MW

## Headteachers Awards



Year 1 DK  
Year 4 SW

## Mathletics Pupil of the Week

Mathletics

Infants MW  
Lower Juniors (Y3-Y4) CS  
Upper Juniors (Y5-Y6) SW

## Reading Star!



Reception HW  
Year 1 DK  
Year 2 OMack  
Year 3 OS  
Year 4 CS  
Year 5 TD  
Year 6 OC

## NEWS, NOTICES & REMINDERS

### Christmas Bauble Competition Winners



We have had some truly amazing, decorated bauble entries in our Christmas bauble competition this year. It was very difficult to choose between the many different designs. Well done everyone!

The winners are:



<b>Nursery</b>	Remi O'Leary-Harbridge
<b>Pre-School</b>	Beatrix Bourne
<b>Reception</b>	Remy Ceesay
<b>Year 1</b>	Isabella Port
<b>Year 2</b>	Eva Sankar
<b>Year 3</b>	Francis Cunningham
<b>Year 4</b>	Emily Harrison
<b>Year 5</b>	Ella Morville
<b>Year 6</b>	Henry Rodway

Come and have a look at all the fabulous baubles on our Christmas tree outside the School Office.

**WELL DONE!**

We have raised a fantastic

**£90.25**

for our PTA.

### Nursery, Pre-School & Reception Stay & Play Sessions



Thank you to the parents who were able to attend our Stay & Play sessions this week. We do hope that you enjoyed spending time with the children and gained a greater understanding of their learning, but most of all had FUN!.

## Winter School Uniform – Blazers & Coats



We have noticed recently that children are coming into school with non-regulation coats. Please could we ask that children wear their school blazer and their black fleece lined waterproof jacket on top for warmth. Any other coats are not part of the school uniform and therefore should not be worn. Avalon woollen hats and scarfs are also available from Uniformity Schoolwear. <http://www.uniformityschools.com/>  
Thank you for your co-operation.

## PTA Christmas Raffle Winners



WOW! You have been fabulous in your support of this year's PTA Christmas Raffle. Mrs Callaway made the draw this afternoon and the winners are:

Raffle Prize	Winner
Lenovo Chrome Book Laptop	Mr & Mrs Scott (Oliver)
£100 Amazon Voucher	T Brady
£75 M&S Voucher	Miss Harvey (Leila)
£40 Hickory's Voucher	Mrs Kyriacou (Rufus & Dottie)
Leather Satchel	Mrs Burgess (Isabella)
Prosecco & Wine Glasses	Mr Williams (Edwards & Henry)
Bramble Food Hamper	Mrs Lambert (Niamh)
Tropic Gift Set	Dr Thorbinson (Henry)
Tropic Gift Set	Mr Cunningham (Francis & Edward)
£10 Gift Voucher donated by World of Bubbles & Sweets	Mrs MacDonald (William)
£10 Gift Voucher donated by World of Bubbles & Bread Making Kit	A Parker
2 Bottles of Gin	Mrs Bienvenu (Elsie)
2 Bottles of Rose Wine	A Shaw
Chocolates & Red Wine	Mrs Caldwell
Spa Gift Set	Mrs Sankar (Nathan & Eva)
Tahiti Island Bag & Toiletries Set	Mrs Clark (Thomas)
Lip Balm and Hand Cream Sets	Mrs Scott (Finley, Cohan & Aoife)
Tahiti Island Toiletries Sets	C Canner
White Jasmine Toiletries Set	Mrs Wylde (Vincent)
Donut Bath Bombs & Hand Wash Set	Mrs Wodeyar (Samarth & Avyaan)

The winners of this year's PTA Christmas Raffle will be contacted by email or telephone. Winner should contact the school office to arrange collection of their prizes.

The PTA would like to thank you all for your continuing support and we wish you all a very Happy Christmas and all the best for 2024.

## PTA Children's Christmas Fair Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023

### Christmas Fair



The children had a wonderful time at our Christmas Fair on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December. Thank you to all the parents and carers who donated prizes for the fair and a big thank you to our PTA who organised the event and of course, to Father Christmas for his very special visit!



## Name the Dentist's Dragon Competition



Following our fascinating and very informative assembly last half by Dr Gibson who explained all about how to keep our teeth and gums healthy, we held a competition to name the "Dentist's Dragon".

Congratulations to Zac Bowles in Year 4 for the winning entry. The Dentist's Dragon is called "Smiles".

## School Council Reverse Advent Calendar Donations for Foodbank

REVERSE  
ADVENT  
CALENDARS

Next week is the final week for the School Council's 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 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Sweets, mince pies, chocolates, cakes and crisps.

## Reception Walk to the Post Box Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023



Weather permitting, the children in Reception Class will now be posting their letters to Father Christmas in the North Pole on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December**. 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 Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December. A first aider will also be accompanying the children on the visit.

## Nursery & Pre-School Nativity Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm 2023



We would like to invite you to the Nursery and Pre-School nativity on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm 2023



We would like to invite you to the Infant Christmas Concert on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> 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.

## School Council Trip to Wirral Foodbank Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023



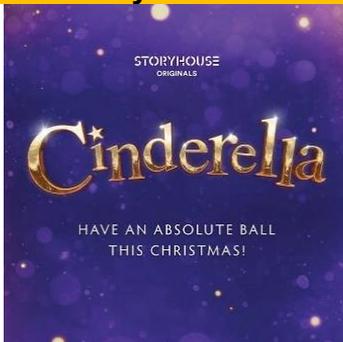
Our School Council will be taking all of the donations you have kindly made as part of their Reverse Advent Calendar to Wirral Foodbank in Wallasey on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December.

Please complete the consent form and return to the school office by Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December. If your child uses a car seat or booster seat, this should be brought to the school office on the morning of the trip.

For further details please click on the link below:

[School Council's Visit to Wirral Foodbank Letter & Consent Form](#)

## Juniors (Year 3 to Year 6) Storyhouse Theatre Trip - Cinderella Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> December**.

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

## Christmas Jumper & Whole School Christmas Lunch Day

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Lunch Menu Next Week

Week Commencing 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023



Lunch menu for the week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023



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

## Nursery, Pre-School & Infant Christmas Parties

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023



The children in Nursery, Pre-School, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be having their Christmas parties on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023



We warmly invite you to join us for a Christmas Celebration Service on the last morning of term, Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> 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.

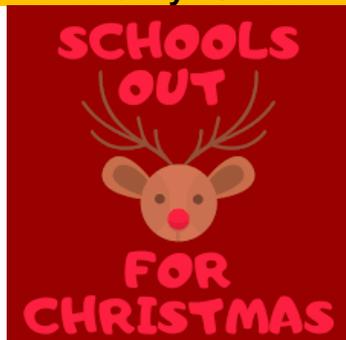
Children maybe collected from the church following the service or from school at 12 noon. Please confirm you collection arrangements with the school office by **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December**.

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 13<sup>th</sup> December at 12 noon



School finishes for the Christmas break on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 12 noon.

Breakfast club will be available as usual from 7.45am

**The After School Club service will not be available on this day, due to the early school closure at 12 Noon.**

### Christmas Break

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December to Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January



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

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

### Spring Term 2024

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024



The Children return to school on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> 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 part of gloves, preferably black sports gloves. Many thanks for your support.

### Extra-Curricular Clubs



**ALL CLUBS FINISH FOR THIS TERM ON FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> 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 5.00pm	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

**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 \(frimley-healthiertogether.nhs.uk\)](#)

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

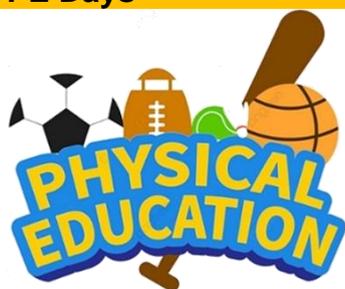
## End of the Day Arrangements



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 designed PE kit days

Year Group	PE Day
Reception	Monday
Year 1	Monday
Year 2	Monday
Year 3	Tuesday
Year 4	Wednesday
Year 5	Thursday
Year 6	Monday

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:accounts@avalon-school.co.uk) or [annevans@avalon-school.co.uk](mailto:annevans@avalon-school.co.uk)

## Term Dates 2023-2024 & 2024-2025



### 2023-2024

Autumn Term	
Staff Training Days	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
Term Starts	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2023

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

## 2024-2025

<b>Autumn Term</b>	
Staff Training Days	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> & Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2024
Term Starts	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2024
<b>Half-Term</b>	<b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024</b>
Ends	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2024 12 noon finish
<b>Spring Term</b>	
Staff Training Day	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025
Term Starts	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2025
<b>Half-Term</b>	<b>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025</b>
Ends	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2025 Normal finish time
<b>Summer Term</b>	
Staff Training Day	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> April 2025
Term Starts	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2025
<b>Easter Bank Holiday</b>	<b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> &amp; Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2025</b>

May Day	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
Half-Term	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May to Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
Ends	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> July 2025 Normal finish time



## DECEMBER

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

## JANUARY

Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Staff INSET Day
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	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](mailto:catherinemayer5@aol.com) to check availability.

