



Newsletter

Dear Armfield Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome to this week's newsletter, our first of the academic year.

We are always delighted to share the fantastic achievements of our students and keep you updated with important reminders to ensure everything runs smoothly at Armfield Academy.

Reminders:

Please could I remind all parents that students should be in full school uniform every day, with leather shoes. No trainers, no facial piercings and no false nails please.

Please could I thank all parents for the hugely positive start to the term. Our students have been fantastic. On task and ready to learn.

Please can I remind all parents to ensure their child cycles safely to school, we have had 2 accidents this week and we want our young people to arrive safely at school each day. Please check in with your young person and ensure they are following the bikeability rules that they were taught in primary and if they are cycling to school that they follow the highway code.

Introduction:

I would like to introduce myself as the new Deputy Headteacher for Secondary. After 10 years at Montgomery within the senior leadership team and also time before that teaching at Blackpool Sixth Form College, it is an honour and privilege to now join Armfield Academy. I am confident that I can support the school, its staff and its wonderful students to become the very best they can be.



Dr. Hutchinson
Deputy Headteacher

Place of birth: Blackpool

School: Cardinal Allen R.C. High School

University: Sheffield University & University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB)

Degree: PhD Chemistry, MChem with study in the USA

Personal highlight: Marrying the love of my life and having two beautiful daughters.

Science role model: JJ Thomson & Ernest Rutherford

If I wasn't a science teacher, I would be: An astronaut or a sports presenter/broadcaster



Internet safety:

Please follow the guidance below in order to keep your young people safe while using the internet.



KEEPING KIDS SAFE ONLINE RIGHT NOW

TOP TIPS

- 1. SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS**
Check your settings are up to date and controls are applied on all devices and apps.
- 2. SUPERVISE ONLINE ACTIVITIES**
Ensure online activities are supervised by an adult and in a public space in the house. E.G - Living/Dining Room.
- 3. SET CLEAR EXPECTATIONS**
Talk about expectations for behaviour online, including how and when devices will be used.
- 4. TALK ABOUT IT**
With the schools closed, online activities will increase. Let your children and young people know they can talk to you about anything that happens online.
- 5. GO ONLINE TOGETHER**
See if you can share online experiences by joining in with their favourite app/game.



Trips/Events:

10 year six pupils attended an author event on Tuesday. Pupils met TV host, comedian, voice of Hey Duggee and children's author, Alexander Armstrong who spoke all about his new book. Each pupil received a free copy of his book, 'Evenfall: The Golden Linnet', to take home and enjoy.



Year 1 upcoming trip:

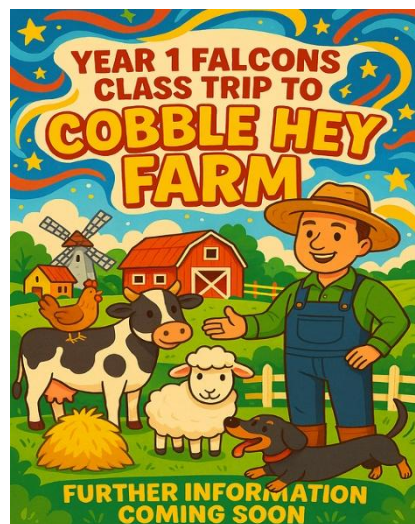
Year 1 are excited to go to Cobble Hey Farm. Owls class will go on **Monday 6th October** and Falcons class will go **Tuesday 7th October**. Please can parents fill out the google form as soon as possible on class dojo and make payment for the trip through the MCAS app.

Please let your class teacher know if you have any questions.

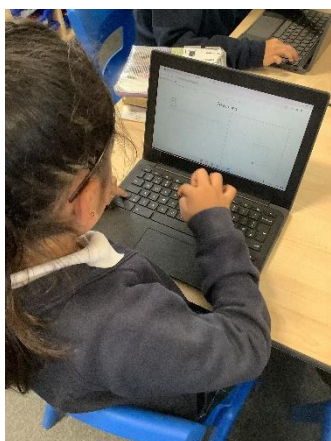
Further details about what to take will be given nearer the time.

Thank you

Year 1 Team

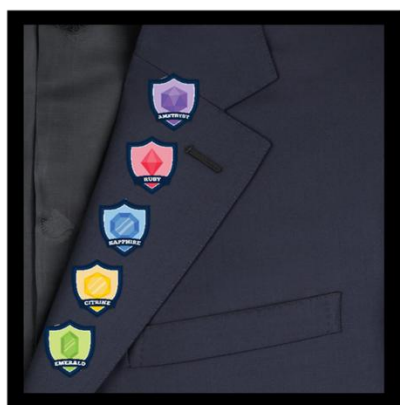


Year 4 coding:



Our Year 4 Eagles have jumped straight into their computing lessons this week, diving into the exciting world of coding! They've loved exploring how to write and test their own code, showing great curiosity and creativity along the way.

House system:



Armfield Academy House System Launch

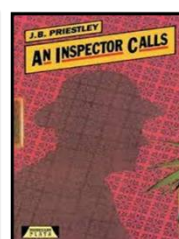
We are in the process of launching our house system for the 2025-26 academic year. Over the next week, your Year 7, 8, 9, 10 or 11 child will be placed into one of five houses – Ruby House, Amethyst House, Emerald House, Sapphire House or Citrine House. Pupils will be handed their house badges in assembly and wearing these badges on their blazers will be the passport into the various challenges and activities we will be running over the course of the year. Therefore, it is important that your child attends the academy wearing an Armfield Academy blazer, as per the uniform policy. Please support the school by relaying this expectation to your child/ren.



Year 10 English:

Year 10 English Literature Books for GCSE Study

The opportunity for parents of Year 10 students to purchase GCSE English literature texts for their children has now gone live. For a £10 contribution, payable on the MCAS app, the academy will purchase annotation-friendly books so that students can make notes as they read and study each story. Please select the 'product' section in the MCAS app. The deadline is Friday 10th October.



Performing Arts:

Please see below the extra-curricula schedule for Performing Arts in Secondary

	<u>Lunch</u>	<u>Afterschool</u>
Monday	Performing Arts spaces free to book for independent rehearsals (priority KS4 classes)	Drama Club Drama studio 3108 3:20-4:20pm For all years
Tuesday	Performing Arts spaces free to book for independent rehearsals (priority KS4 classes)	
Wednesday		
Thursday	Performing Arts spaces free to book for independent rehearsals (priority KS4 classes)	Choir Music classroom 3110 3:20-4:20pm For all years
Friday	Ukulele Group Music classroom 3110	Musical Theatre Drama studio 3108 3:20-4:20pm For all years



Data & Exams:

Year 7 Assessments

All of our year 7 students will complete two assessments over the next fortnight. The results provide us with further information about where our students are starting from as they begin their journey at Armfield Academy. It will also allow us to plan whole school and individual interventions to support students both academically and pastorally.



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The first assessment is the New Group Reading Test (NGRT), which assesses students' current reading age and identifies their reading strengths and weaknesses. This will be held within year 7 English lessons next week and the assessments will take place in our Memorial hall.

The second assessment is the Cognitive Abilities Test (CAT), which measures a pupils' ability in reasoning and thinking abilities. More specifically it looks at how well pupils can reason with words, numbers, shape and space. This assessment will take place in science lessons during the week beginning 22nd September.

Attendance to all assessments is vital as they will provide us with key information to support your son/daughter's learning and development. Due to the nature of these assessments students should not worry about revising any specific material. If you have any further questions about these assessments, please contact me at school s.sherwood@armfield.fcat.org.uk

Important Dates

Please see the additional attached document for our important dates throughout the school year. There are many other events which will keep you informed closer to the time. Please ensure you note the date of your son/daughter's parent evenings, as always, you don't need to wait for a parents evening to contact school to speak with a teacher. If you have any concerns or questions, please get in touch.

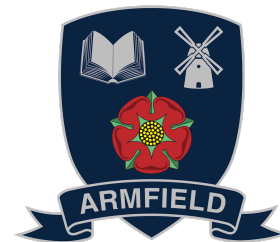
Year 11 Summer Examinations: Monday 11th May - Wednesday 24th June 2026. All year 11 students must attend all of their examinations during these dates. Do not book any holidays. Year 11 Prom will be on Thursday 25th June.

Year 6 SATs: Monday 10th May - Thursday 13th May 2026. All year 6 pupils must attend school between these dates.

Thank you for your continued support—we love celebrating our students' successes with you!

Best wishes,

The Armfield Academy Team



Armfield Academy: Important Dates 2025 - 2026

Event	Date
Year 7 Introduction Evening	Wednesday 1st October 2025 (4-6pm)
Armfield Open Evening*	Thursday 9th October 2025 (5-8pm)*
Year 11 Parents Evening	Thursday 6th November 2025 (5-7pm)
Year 9 Parents Evening	Wednesday 21st January 2026 (5-7pm)
Year 10 Work Experience Launch	Wednesday 11th February 2026 (5-6:30pm)
Year 10 & 11 Progress Evening	Wednesday 4th March 2026 (4-6pm)
Year 9 Options Evening	Wednesday 11th March 2026 (6-7:30pm)
Primary Parents Evening	Wednesday 18th March 2026 (3:30-6:30pm)
Year 8 Parents Evening	Wednesday 25th March 2026 (5-7pm)
Year 7 Parents Evening	Wednesday 29th April 2026 (5-6pm)
Year 11 Prom	Thursday 25th June 2026 (7-10pm)
Year 10 Parents Evening	Wednesday 8th July 2026 (5-7pm)

*Please note that the secondary school will close at 12:15pm on Thursday 9th October.