



Newsletter

Dear Armfield Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome to this week's newsletter! 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.

Important messages:

Upholding Our School's Mobile Phone Policy

This is a firm reminder that all students are **not permitted to use mobile phones** during school hours. Our policy is in place to ensure a focused learning environment and minimize distractions.

We ask for your full cooperation in supporting this rule:

- **Please do not call or text your student** during the school day.
- If your student contacts you, **please remind them of the policy** and refrain from engaging in conversation until school is dismissed.

Student Collection for illness

To ensure the safety of all students, any student who becomes unwell during the school day **will not be permitted to walk home alone**. They **must be collected by an adult** authorized to do so. This is a mandatory safeguarding procedure to ensure every student arrives home safely and receives appropriate care.

Punctuality

Please can we remind all parents that students need to be in school on time each day ready to learn.

E-bikes/Scooters

After half term the storage of E-bike and e scooters will be forbidden on school premises due to insurance reasons and also that these items are a fire risk. **No student will be allowed into school on an e-bike and e-scooter after October half term.**

Thank you to all year 7 parents who attended their welcome evening. It was lovely to meet you all and we look forward to working collaboratively with you.



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Achievements:

Armfield Academy PE Department Named Active Blackpool Secondary School of the Year for Sport 2025

We are delighted to announce that the Armfield Academy PE Department has been awarded the prestigious title of Active Blackpool Secondary School of the Year for Sport 2025. (They do not have an all-through category. Yet!)

At the award ceremony at the Winter Gardens last Friday, we were recognised for the hard work, dedication, and commitment of our staff and students in delivering an inclusive and ambitious PE curriculum that provides opportunities for all. At Armfield Academy, we pride ourselves on offering a broad, engaging programme where every child can thrive, discover new passions, and develop lifelong skills.

We were particularly recognised for:

- Our **inclusive and wide-ranging curriculum ensures** all pupils are able to participate, progress, and achieve.
- **Regular involvement in town and county competitions**, showcasing our students' talent and commitment.
- **Leading the new central venue competition calendar** for schools across Blackpool, which has significantly increased sporting participation among all 8 local high schools.

Active Blackpool commended our department for creating a culture of aspiration and success, one that inspires young people to be active, ambitious, and resilient in both sport and life.

This achievement would not have been possible without the unwavering support of our students, parents, staff, and wider school community. Together, you have helped us build an environment where PE and sport are truly celebrated.

Year 9 girls' football

A big well done to our year 9 girls football team who represented Armfield Academy on Monday at the Blackpool schools' tournament. The girls showed grit and determination in all of our games, our captain Faye made sure everyone was involved and there was great team spirit. We also saw some unbelievable saves from our goalkeeper Poppy! Well done to all of the girls who came with us on Monday



Year 11 MEGA Day Winners

Four of our Year 11 students won an award at the recent MEGA Day at Blackpool and The Fylde College. As part of the “Alpprentices” challenge, the team designed, created and pitched **FootWork**, an innovative AI assistant that analyses football games and provides tailored feedback to help players improve their performance.

Impressively, their concept also included personalised recovery plans and dietary recommendations to support players returning from injury.

They demonstrated strong creativity, teamwork, and confidence while presenting their idea in a fast-paced Dragon's Den-style challenge, earning recognition from the judges. This experience showed their confidence, practical skills and innovative thinking, which will be valuable in their future careers.



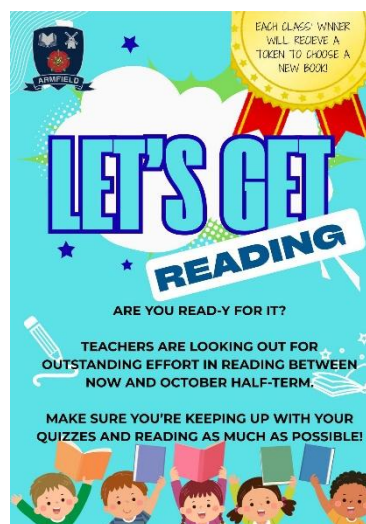
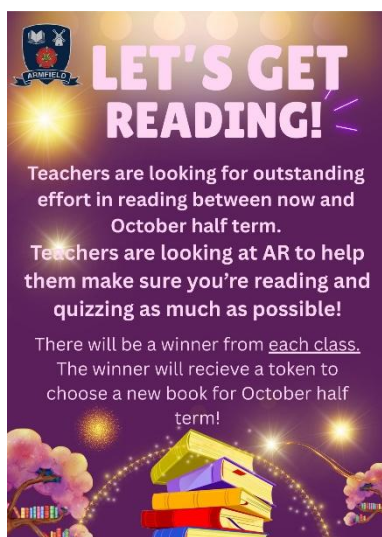
Battle of the bands!



CONDORS vs MERLINS. Year three had a times tables battle this week. They had to practise their times tables as part of the battle to earn points for their class. Condors were the winning class at the end of the week and won an extra breaktime. We were so impressed with all the children who joined in with the battle and improved their times table knowledge. Well done to these pupils in particular who showed excellent effort and determination in the battle.



Ks2 reading competition

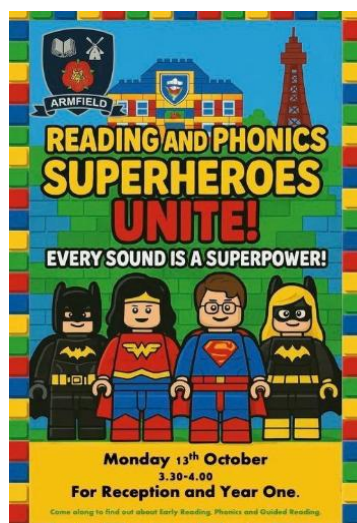


Reading volunteers

Workshop for prospective volunteers on Monday 6th October - 3.30pm in the primary hall. Come along for more information on how to join our wonderful team of volunteers.



Workshop for Reception and Y1 families



Please come along to our workshop on Monday 13th October if your child is in Reception or Year One. We look forward to seeing you there.



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Berlin trip

The history department's residential visit to Berlin (13th-16th February 2026) is fast approaching! Please continue to make payments via the MCAS app, using the deadlines below:

- 8th September (£95).
- 6th October (£95).
- 3rd November (£95).
- 5th December (£95).
- 7th January (£50).

More information and a date for a parental information evening will follow in due course.
Thank you,
Mr Renouf

Ukelele Club

Ukelele club is now on for Secondary students every Tuesday lunchtime in room 3110 – everyone is welcome!

Year 11 careers

It's a busy time at Armfield careers as we come to the end of the first round of year 11 career meetings with the school career advisor Lucy Ross.

All year 11 students will now have had a 45-minute meeting with our L7 career advisor from EBPBW and an action plan for their futures has been drawn up. These will be emailed home by the end of next week so parents are well in the loop about what was agreed in these meetings.

This will give you a chance to discuss with your child things in the action plan, how to achieve these targets and also attend all of the up and coming open events at the colleges and other FE Providers advised in the coming days (see below). All year 11 students will then move on to their second round of careers interviews, these tend to be shorter meetings where the previous plan is reviewed, targets can be adjusted and applications for next steps can be made after students have made those open events visits. These will be done on Thursdays now instead of Fridays in school and any altered action plans will, of course, be emailed home so parents can review what has been discussed. If any student requires a third meeting to assist their next steps, these can be made from February half term onwards. We advise students to make as many open events visits as possible as well as applying for all courses of interest to keep options open to them. Students will gain college interview assistance post Christmas during PSHE slots in form. They will then have a mock college/job interview with a guest employer in Memorial Hall on Wednesday 11th February.



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We also have our year 11 Assemblies being taken by all the local FE providers every Monday in school up until Christmas. Myerscough kicked us off on September 22nd, whilst this week we welcomed Ellyce from Preston College. Next week we have Blackpool Sixth Form in and Cardinal Newman before half term with Blackpool and Fylde College in during the first week back to tell us about all they offer post-Armfield.

We also have our exciting Careers fair coming up on Wednesday November 19th in school, which this year we have rebranded a Futures Fair. This year we are looking to combine our traditional careers fair with a more 'freshers fair' type approach with all the usual Further Education providers in to talk to all students about what courses they offer, apprenticeship schemes and local employers in to talk about how they can offer students progression routes as well as local businesses, community groups and charities looking to spread their message about what they do in the local area and how our young people can get involved. If you know of anyone who wishes to have a stall for the day at this event or wishes to speak to the young people at Armfield or require any information on careers, futures or progress for next steps please email me: a.hill@armfield.fcat.org.uk

Next open events for our partner colleges:

Blackpool & Fylde College: Wednesday 8th October 4:30pm-7pm

Blackpool Sixth Form: Wednesday 15th October: 5:30pm-8pm

Preston College: Saturday 8th November 10am-2pm

Cardinal Newman College: Saturday 11th October 10am-1pm

Myerscough College: Saturday 4th October 10am-1pm

Harvest Gifts

We would like to say a heartfelt **thank you** for the generous harvest gifts that have been shared with us this year in Primary. Your kindness and thoughtfulness will make a real difference to those in need within our local Blackpool community. Harvest is a time to reflect on the importance of sharing and caring for one another, and your donations are a wonderful example of this spirit in action. We are truly grateful for your support and generosity.

The harvest food will be delivered next week to the local food bank operating in our area on Lytham Rd.



House Challenge



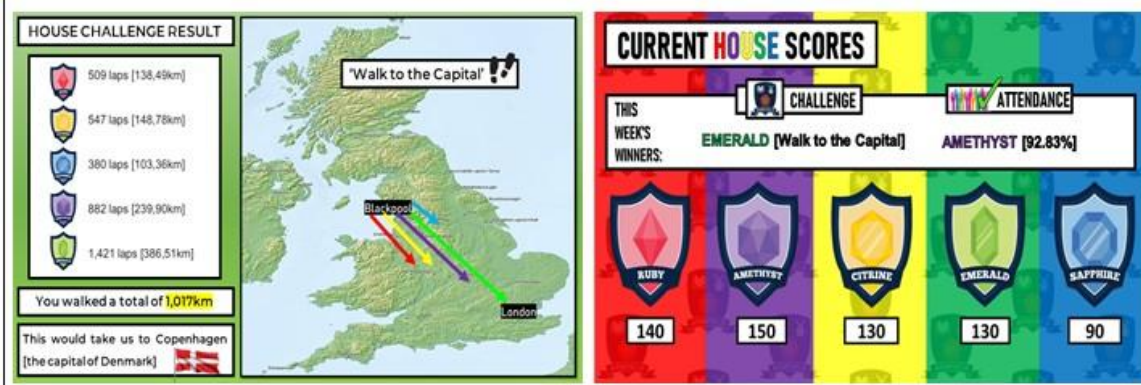
House System Update

This week's house competition took place on a very autumnal Wednesday afternoon. Meandering around the fallen leaves and murky puddles, the students in the secondary school embarked on a 'Walk to the Capital' challenge. A 272m walking route was mapped out on the yard and the students were invite to walk, jog or run one lap or more, dropping a ticket into their house bucket upon completion of a circuit. The tickets were counted and distances were calculated. The results were:



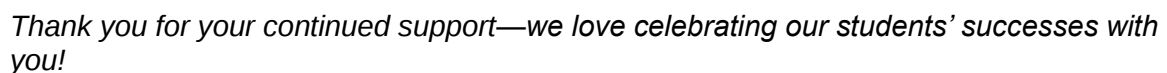
This challenge was the best-attended event since the system's launch at the beginning of September. Over 600 staff and pupils took part, with some of our children completing more than 30 laps. The pupils covered an impressive distance of 1,017km – the equivalent of walking to Copenhagen in Denmark. In addition to this week's challenge, the Duolingo competition, run by the Modern Foreign Languages Department, and the biology 'Spelling Bee' continue into next week. Please encourage your child to take part.

After three weeks and four challenges, the current secondary school standings are:





Our English department are promoting their love of reading with some fantastic displays on their door for Halloween. Here are Mr Moons favourite spooky reads!



The Armfield Academy Team