



Friday 8th December 2023

BULLETIN

Dear parents and carers,

Mr Rossington continues to recover from his operation but he won't be back at work until January. In the meantime, please continue to contact your child's class teacher regarding any day-to-day issues. General queries can be sent to office@arnovale.notts.sch.uk. I can be contacted at cbaker@arnovale.notts.sch.uk or on Dojo. Whenever possible, I'll also aim to be on the playground before school if you need a quick chat about anything.

Christmas Concert

Thank you so much for such a great turn out at the church on Tuesday afternoon. The children were fantastic and we are very proud of them for their behaviour, attitudes and the show they put on. The singing was really impressive and the children articulated some very important messages about traditions around the world and how people celebrate Christmas in different ways. We hope you enjoyed it!

Christmas Fair

Last Friday was our Christmas Fair, which was very well attended. Thank you for all the donations and a huge thank you to all the FOAV members, who worked so hard to plan, set up and run the event. Their hard work is really appreciated! Here is a message from the FOAV:

Thank you to everybody who attended and donated to the Christmas Fair last Friday. Approximately £1000 has been raised. FOAV are paying for the class Christmas parties and are in the process of booking first aid lessons and VR experiences for the children next year. If parents have any suggestions for new fundraising ideas or spending for FOAV, please do get in touch.

Kitchen

Thank you for your understanding this week regarding the issues we have had in the school kitchen. This left us without gas, hot water and heating in the kitchen / hall areas on Wednesday and Thursday. I am pleased to report that the engineers have now fixed the problem and normal service has resumed. Our phone lines were also down on Thursday morning but this has also now been fixed.

Dodgeball

Yesterday, a group of Y4 children went to a dodgeball festival at Arnold Hill. Miss Fallon reported that the group were a pleasure to take and behaved impeccably. They enjoyed their afternoon playing dodgeball with some other local schools.



British values and protected characteristics

We believe it is important that all children gain an understanding of the world they are growing up in and learn how to live alongside, and show respect for, a diverse range of people. At Arno Vale, children enjoy weekly PSHE lessons and regular assemblies aimed at promoting equality and pupils' understanding of the protected characteristics and Fundamental British Values. Here is one of the video resources we used recently to discuss **mutual respect and tolerance**.

[School Radio](#) | [Assemblies](#) | [KS2](#) | [BBC Teach - YouTube](#)

Clay Creators

A reminder to liaise directly with Clay Creators if your child is unable to attend a session.

Attendance

We are committed to working with parents and carers to provide the best possible opportunities for children to learn. To achieve this, we expect good attendance from all of the pupils. Parents have a responsibility to ensure that their children can access their education by having good attendance and being punctual. Good attendance has been shown to promote successful learning. It sets a foundation for the positive habits needed in the next phases of education and later in the workplace.

If you feel it is necessary for your child to take leave during term time, an application form must be completed (these can be collected from the office or printed from our attendance policy). Unless it is deemed an exceptional circumstance, the absence will be unauthorised. We have a statutory duty to monitor attendance and we will inform you if it falls below 90%. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Note: We absolutely understand that children get genuinely ill from time to time.

Here is a useful table that shows the impact that absence can have on children's outcomes:

Above 97%	Less than 6 days absence a year! Excellent attendance! Pupils with this attendance should achieve the best outcomes they can.
95%	Less than 10 days absence in a year! Pupils with this attendance are likely to achieve the best outcomes they can.
90%	20 days absence over the year! Pupils with this attendance are missing a month of school per year and are very likely to fall behind in maths, English and other subjects; it will be difficult for them to achieve their best.
85%	30 days absence in a year! These pupils are missing 6 weeks of school a year! It will be very difficult for them to keep up and achieve their best.
80%	Pupils with this attendance are missing a day for every week of school! It will be almost impossible to keep up with their work.

Club Vale

Parents that pay using childcare vouchers - if you make any changes or cancellations, please email clubvale@arnovale.notts.sch.uk to notify us of the amendments. Please note, next week we will be sending out booking forms for voucher payment bookings for the Spring term.

Reminders from previous bulletins:

- Children are allowed to bring in a healthy snack to eat at play time (a piece of fruit is ideal). Please note that crisps and chocolate are not allowed at playtimes as these do not constitute a healthy snack. Also, a reminder that we are strictly a nut free site.
- Over the counter medication can be accepted in exceptional circumstances but a medicine form will need to be completed.
- Children are expected to wear the correct school uniform and have the correct kit for PE lessons.
- Christmas dinner will be served on Wednesday 13th December. If your child usually has a school dinner, please book in the usual way. If your child does not usually have a school dinner but they would like to have a Christmas dinner, this can be booked on ParentPay on the school meal item. Just tick the Wednesday school dinner and pay. *Note: The deadline for booking is Sunday evening.*

Have a lovely weekend!

Kind regards,

Chris Baker (Deputy Headteacher)