



Bulletin: Friday 10th July 2026 (website version)

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*We recently celebrated the fantastic drumming and guitar performances from our talented pupils who have been taking instrumental lessons this year. These showcase events gave the children a wonderful opportunity to perform in front of an audience, demonstrating the skills and confidence they have developed through their hard work and dedication. Performing live takes courage, and every child should be incredibly proud of what they achieved. Their enthusiasm, determination and progress were evident in every performance, making the concerts a real pleasure to watch. We are extremely proud of all the children for stepping up and sharing their learning so confidently. A huge thank you to all the parents and families*

*who came along to support the performers—your encouragement and applause helped make the events such a special celebration of the children's achievements. Thank you too to the inspirational music teachers Dan, Josh and Paul.*

### **Summer Fair - Reminders**

#### **Summer Fair – Today**

**Time:** Straight after school

*The following measures will be in place to keep people safe, given the forecast for another hot day:*

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- *The fair will finish by 4.30pm (instead of 5.00pm)*
  - *All stalls will be set up in shady areas around school or under a gazebo*
    - *Water stations will be set up*
  - *Activities involving physical activity (e.g. football) will not take place*
  - *Some other planned stalls/activities may not take place*
  - *The raffle will be drawn in assembly on Monday (apart from the draw for the hampers which will take place at about 4.20pm today)*
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*If you are attending, please remember to stay hydrated. Thank you for your understanding and support. We hope everyone enjoys the afternoon while staying safe in the heat.*

**Reminder: Please bring cash.**

 **Raffle Tickets**

*Raffle tickets are now available to purchase on MCAS – just £1 per strip!*

*There are plenty of good prizes on offer, including a family ticket to the Hundred at Trent Bridge, Boots beauty hampers and floral baskets from local garden centres.*

### ***Save the date***

*He doesn't know about this yet (at least, not until he reads this), but immediately after school on **Wednesday 22nd July**, I will be organising a Guard of Honour for Mr Rossington.*

*This will be an opportunity for children, parents, family members, former pupils and members of the school community to come together and say goodbye, thank him and wish him all the very best.*

*Further details will be shared next week.*

### ***Sport - what a week!***

*Last Thursday evening, our Y5/6 girls' football team played in a thrilling final against Lowdham. The two teams couldn't be separated in normal time and the game finished 0-0. Still goalless after extra time, the match went to penalties and we triumphed 4-3 to be crowned Gedling Champions. This is a fantastic achievement and despite reaching several finals in recent years, it marks our first girls' league title since the 2014/15 season. The girls have ended the season unbeaten and have been a pleasure to coach.*

*The following day, our Y5/6 girls' cricket team gave up their Inset Day at home to travel to Grace Road, home of Leicestershire County Cricket Club, to take part in the East Midlands Final. Already the County Champions in Nottinghamshire, they were superb representatives and after winning all but one of their games, finished as runners up. This is one of the highest ever achievements of an Arno Vale sports team.*

*On Wednesday, I had the privilege of attending the Arnold Hill Sports Awards evening as a parent. Amongst the winners were 50 (FIFTY) ex Arno Vale students across years 7-13. One of the most prestigious awards, the Sports Personality of the Year award, had five nominations. Of those, four used to attend Arno Vale, including the joint winners: Maisy and Bethany. A very proud moment!*

### ***FOAV Disco***

*A school disco will be held straight after school on Friday 17th July to raise funds (see poster below). Payment can be made on MCAS. FOAV fundraising is crucial in allowing us to provide even more opportunities for the children. It also allows us to invest in projects that benefit the whole school.*

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### ***Celebration assembly***

#### ***Birthdays:***

*This week we celebrated the birthdays of Lewis, Reggie and Logan.*

#### ***Stars of the week:***

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- *3 Grey – Gabriella and Sophie for determination with times tables.*
- *3 White – Erin and Evelyn for respect.*

- 4 Orange – Sara and Jaxon for respect.
  - 4 Yellow – Max for determination and Eliza for kindness.
  - 5 Green – Teddy and Emily for determination and respect.
  - 5 Red – Ciaran for determination and Sonny for independence.
  - Year 6 – Evan, Luke, Harriet and Iris for determination in rehearsals.
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### ***Out of school achievements:***

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- Charlie told us about his experience of playing against the Manchester United academy team at the official Manchester United training ground.
  - Leon has been busy taking part in more karting races and had a really exciting and successful competition at the weekend.
  - Maya has written to her local MP with her concerns over a campsite being closed to make way for housing. The MP was very impressed by this and wrote a personal reply to her.
  - Chloe, Eva, Christy and Jessica not only gave up lots of time practising but also gave up the morning of last week's INSET day to take part in the White Hills Park Trust choir. They bravely performed with other pupils in front of 500 people at the Trust conference. We were exceptionally proud of them! Thanks also to the staff and parents that supported with this.
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### ***Sports kit - please return to Miss Elliott by the end of term***

*If your child has represented the school in a sports team this year, we would be grateful if you could have a thorough look at home for any kit. It is important that all items are returned so they are available for our teams next year. Thank you for your support.*

### ***Library books - please return***

*Mrs Blakemore has also asked that any books from the library are returned by next Friday so she can get everything tidied, sorted and set up for September.*

### ***Panto***

*A letter has gone on ClassDojo today about our whole school trip to the Panto in December. The item will be set up and appear in your MCAS account in the first week back in September.*

### ***General messages from the office and reminders from previous bulletins***

### ***Nut Free Site***

*To ensure the safety of all our children and staff, please do not send any items containing nuts to school. This includes snacks, packed lunches and birthday treats. Even trace amounts of nuts can cause severe allergic reactions in some children, **so your cooperation is essential in keeping our school a safe environment for everyone.***

### ***Free School Meals (FSM) - changes to eligibility***

*There have been some national changes to Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility, and we wanted to share the key points with you. Some changes affect schools, while others may require action from parents and carers.*

*One of the biggest updates is that families receiving Universal Credit may now qualify for free school meals even if their income is above £7,400 per year.*

### ***Summary of changes:***

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- Families receiving Universal Credit with earnings of £7,400 or below will continue to qualify for free school meals. This is now called Targeted FSM, and it also provides Pupil Premium funding to support your child's school.*

- Families receiving Universal Credit with earnings above £7,400 may also now be eligible. This new category is called Expanded FSM, and it is expected to increase the number of children who can receive a free school meal.

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Applications for Free School Meals can currently be made through Nottinghamshire County Council's Citizen Portal by following Free School Meals. The guidance for parents is likely to be updated as the local authority refine their processes, and we will share any amendments as soon as they are received.

### ***Dates for your calendar:***

A reminder that the Father's Day event has now been rearranged for Monday 20th July at 2.30pm. All original bookings will move over to this new date. If you had booked but are no longer able to attend, please contact the office.

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| Arno Vale Junior School Diary Dates                                |                                         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>2026</b>                                                        |                                         |
| Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July                                       | FOAV summer fair                        |
| Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July                                      | Y6 performance                          |
| Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July                                    | Y6 performance                          |
| Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July                                       | FOAV Disco                              |
| Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July                                       | Rearranged Father's Day coffee and cake |
| Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July                                    | Y6 leavers' foam party                  |
| Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> July                                       | Last day of term                        |
| Tuesday 1st September 2026                                         | Inset Day                               |
| Wednesday 2nd September 2026                                       | Inset Day                               |
| Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2026 | Willersley Castle Y6 Residential        |
| <b>2027</b>                                                        |                                         |
| Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January 2027    | Dukes Barn Y4 Residential               |
| Monday 22nd February 2027                                          | Inset Day                               |
| Friday 2nd July 2027                                               | Inset Day                               |
| Wednesday 28th July 2027                                           | Inset Day                               |

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### ***Community news and events:***

Please see the website for information about holiday clubs, activities, events, messages from other schools, SEND support and family support.

**[Community News / Arno Vale Junior School](#)**

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