



Bulletin: Friday 12th September 2025 (web version)

We've had a really positive first full week back in school, and it's been wonderful to see the children settling so well into routines. One of the best parts of my job is visiting classrooms, and today's walk through school gave me the chance to see children working hard, showing excellent behaviour and enjoying their learning in calm, purposeful classrooms. Everywhere I went, I was greeted with smiling faces and enthusiastic attitudes.

In just one snapshot of the day, I saw:

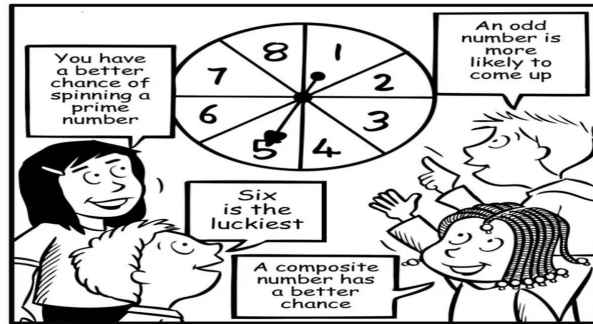
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- 3 White representing numbers up to 1000
 - 3 Grey learning the rules to some fun playground games
 - 4 Orange rounding numbers to the nearest 10 and 100
 - 4 Yellow exploring the place value of 4-digit numbers
 - 5 Red and 5 Green learning spelling patterns with the -ible/-able suffix
 - 6 Purple preparing written pieces linked to their Egyptian topic
 - 6 Blue developing their sports leadership skills
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In addition, our Friday afternoons now include an extra 15 minute maths session, designed to strengthen children's mathematical thinking. We're using concept cartoons for this—simple illustrations that present a problem or question alongside a range of characters giving different viewpoints. These are a great tool for sparking discussion, challenging misconceptions and encouraging children to explain their reasoning. An example of a concept cartoon can be seen below.

Another big thank you goes to Mr Manchester's volunteering squad for their continued support at lunchtimes. In the coming weeks, Mr Manchester will also be leading some outdoor learning activities for all children to enjoy. To help with this, he would be very grateful for donations of wool, string, rope, pine cones and plant pots. If you are able to contribute, please leave items on one of the picnic benches in the playground and he will collect them from there.

Looking ahead, we're excited for another busy week of learning. As the weather is due to turn cooler, with rain forecast, please ensure your child brings a coat to school each day.

Wishing you all a safe and happy weekend.



Friends of Arno Vale – First Meeting of the Year

We'd love you to join us for our first Friends of Arno Vale (FOAV) meeting of the year on Monday 15th September, straight after school. The meeting will last around 30–45 minutes, and provision will be made for any children you need to bring along.

In recent years, FOAV has raised thousands of pounds to support enrichment activities for our children—and we'd love your help to make this year just as successful. Whether you can spare a little time or a lot, every contribution makes a difference.

We hope to see you there!

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Join us on Friday 26th September for our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning. Come along for a cuppa, cake and a chat—all while raising money for a great cause.

Last year we raised over £1,000—incredible! Let's see if we can do it again this year. We'd love to see you there!



As always, we had lots to celebrate in our assembly today.

Birthdays:

This week we celebrated the birthdays of Shanzay, Leo, Ates, Evan, Alex, Rio and Zac. Happy Birthday!

Stars of the Week:

Lots of stars for being ready this week which shows people are working hard on our current class challenge.

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- 3 Grey – Charlie for being ready and Erin for curiosity.

- 3 White – Alfie and Effie for being ready.
 - 4 Orange – Olive and Jasper for being ready.
 - 4 Yellow – Lydia for independence and Phoebe for respect.
 - 5 Green – Ella for being ready and Oliver for independence.
 - 5 Red – Stanley and Ava for being ready.
 - 6 Blue – Isla and Luke for being ready.
 - 6 Purple – Evan and Katy for being ready.
 - 6 Baker – Alex and Dylan for independence and determination.
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Mr Baker's special mentions for catching people being kind:

Olive and Molly F for being friendly and welcoming.

Emily K and Haaniyah for holding doors open for others.

Out of school achievements:

- *Nathaniel has passed his current stage in swimming.*
 - *Joanna was awarded Player of the Game in her last football match.*
 - *Christy showed us a medal she won in a competition from a recent camping trip.*
 - *Leon has qualified for the British karting championships.*
 - *Charlie was also awarded Player of the Game in his last football match.*
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Well done all of you for your effort and determination.

October Sports Camp with Mr Ward & Mr Lindley

Looking for some half-term fun? Join Mr Ward and Mr Lindley for an action-packed October Sports Camp!

- ***Dates:*** Tuesday 21st, Wednesday 22nd, Tuesday 28th and Wednesday 29th October 2025
 - ***Time:*** 9:00am – 3:00pm
 - ***Activities:*** Cricket, Dodgeball, Tag Rugby, Tennis
 - ***Ages:*** 5–11
 - ***Cost:*** £18 per day
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🔗 Sign up here: [Register Online](#)

Don't miss out—spaces are limited!

October Sports camp



Author of the Term

Each half term we will focus on a different author. Our author this half term is Pamela Butchart. Pamela Butchart is an award winning author who writes books for children aged 5-12 (depending on the series). Her stories are funny with plenty of adventures and often set in schools. Pamela lives in Dundee with her baby boy and two awesome cats: Bear & Carlos. If she wasn't a writer, she would open a luxury hotel for stray cats!

Pamela began writing children's books after her fiancé gave her a book on how to write for children. She has said that Judith Kerr is one of her biggest influences. Pamela was lucky enough to grow up in a house full of pets and go to a primary school where lots of spooky and weird things happened (well, in her imagination at least).

Why not give one of her books a try?



Important Dates:

Some important dates for this academic year have now been set and can be viewed on our website by clicking [here](#).

This is what is coming up in the next few weeks:

Arno Vale Junior School Diary Dates 2025 to 2026	
Monday, 8 th September 25	Year 5 welcome meeting – 3.45pm
Tuesday, 9 th September 25	Year 4 welcome meeting – 3.45pm (Inc Dukes Barn)
Wednesday, 10 th September 25	Year 3 welcome meeting – 3.45pm
Thursday, 18 th September 25	Year 6 welcome meeting – 3.45pm
Friday, 26 th September 25	MacMillan Coffee Morning
Monday, 6 th October 25	Y2 Prospective parents look around – 2.15pm
Tuesday, 7 th October 25	Y2 Prospective parents look around – 9.15am
Tuesday, 7 th October 25	Y2 Prospective parents look around – 4.00pm
Wednesday 8 th October 25	Harvest Festival 9.15am and 2.45pm
Friday, 10 th October 25	World Mental Health Day
Weds, 15 th Oct to Fri, 17 th Oct 25	Year 6 at Willersley Castle
Mon, 20 th Oct to Fri, 31 st Oct 25	Half term holiday
Monday, 3 rd November 25	Inset Day

General Messages:

MCAS

A polite reminder to please log in to your MCAS account regularly and clear any outstanding payments at the earliest opportunity.

Clay Creators Club

If your child has been allocated a place, please collect them from the main entrance at 4.35pm and inform the organisers if there are any specific collection instructions (e.g. if they are going home with someone else or going to Club Vale afterwards).

Reminders from previous bulletins:

INSET Days 2025/26

A reminder that this academic year, both Arno Vale Junior School and Woodthorpe Infant School will have the following INSET days:

- *Monday 3rd November 2025*

- *Monday 23rd February 2026*

- *Friday 3rd July 2026*

- *Monday 27th July 2026*
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Club Vale

For all parents wishing to use our wraparound care (Club Vale) please read the terms and conditions by following the link below. [club-valeparentinformationbooklet-sept-24-mcas.pdf](#)

When enrolling for Club Vale in MCAS you will need to agree that you have read these T's and C's. For those using tax free child care or childcare vouchers please email clubvale@arnovale.notts.sch.uk for more information.

Routines

- *A member of staff will be on the playground from 8.45am. All children should gather on the playground before school.*
- *The morning bell will ring at 8.50am and class teachers will collect their classes from the playground.*
- *Children are not allowed to use the climbing/play equipment before school and shouldn't ride bikes or scooters on the site. Please keep all mobile phones away too.*
- *Doors will be locked at 8.55am so any late arrivals will need to go to reception to be signed in.*
- *Gates will then be locked to secure the site.*
- *The gates will then be unlocked at 3.25pm so you can make your way to your child's classroom exit to collect them at 3.35pm.*

- *Please could you also ensure that children aren't climbing the trees and playing in and around areas such as the bin collection area at the end of the day. This is just to keep everyone safe and avoid accidents.*
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Uniform and PE kit Reminders

We expect all children to wear the correct school uniform. This helps create a sense of belonging, supports equality and ensures pupils are dressed appropriately for learning.

School Uniform

- *Light blue polo shirt or shirt*
 - *Navy blue sweatshirt, cardigan or fleece (these must be either Arno Vale branded or completely plain)*
 - *Grey trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore dress (or a blue and white checked summer dress in warmer weather)*
 - *Plain black school shoes*
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Uniform branded with the school logo can be purchased from Just Schoolwear:

<https://just-schoolwear.co.uk/school/arno-vale-junior-school/>

However, please note that items do not have to have the school logo as long as they are completely plain.

PE Kit

All children are expected to have the correct kit in school for PE lessons. This should be named and kept in a PE bag with a hanging loop so it can be placed on their peg.

- *Plain white t-shirt*
 - *Plain black or navy-blue bottoms (either shorts, skorts, leggings or joggers).*
 - *Trainers. Ideally children should have an indoor pair and an outdoor pair. If this isn't possible, dirty trainers should be cleaned before being used for indoor PE.*
 - *Spare socks*
 - *For outdoor PE, we also ask that they have a plain black or navy-blue zip up/hoodie (this must be different to the jumper they wear for school).*
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PE reminders

- *Make sure you have your PE kit in school*
 - *Get changed quietly in 5 minutes or less*
 - *Long hair should be tied back*
 - *Jewellery (including watches) should be removed*
 - *Tights must not be worn under PE kit*
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Please ensure all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name in order to minimise the amount of lost property around school.

A Little Request from School

As well as your support with uniform and PE kit, another way that you can really help us is by ensuring children don't bring "extras" into school. This includes bracelets and jewellery (an inexpensive watch is fine), teddy bears, fiddle toys, mini figures, plastic toys, sentimental or valuable items and similar things.

We promise this isn't us being grumpy — we simply want to avoid anything going missing and to keep classrooms free from unnecessary distractions. Please be assured that we will provide all the equipment your child needs for learning during the school day.

The only exception is on Mondays and Fridays, when children are welcome to bring in their trading cards for Trading Card Club.

Thank you so much for your support and understanding.

Community Links

Please check out our website for details about lots of things taking place in our community.

[Community News | Arno Vale Junior School](#)



And finally...

If you play the Premier League Fantasy Football game, we now have an Arno Vale league set up which you are welcome to join. This is open to parents, staff, children, grandparents and anyone else in the Arno Vale family.

Disclaimer

This is a free public game, in no way part of or affiliated to Arno Vale Junior School or White Hills Park Trust. It is intended as a fun and completely optional activity. Terms and conditions from the Premier League do apply, including around the processing of personal data which you must agree to when signing up.

What is it, and how do I play?

It's totally free to play and can make Saturday afternoons a little bit more interesting! You pick a squad of 15 players who score points for your team based on their performances for their clubs in weekly matches. You have a fictional budget of £100 million and can make transfers during the season (as long as you stick within your budget).

Read more: [Fantasy Football Game Rules and Help | Fantasy Premier League](#)

Arno Vale League

Once you've got a team, find the button to join a league and put our code in:

League Code: **yi7c4q**

Is there a prize?

Yes, pride and bragging rights!

Can the children join in too?

Yes, but for anyone under the age of 13 the system will request the permission of their parent/guardian first. Without that, they won't be able to register to play. T&C can be read here: [Fantasy Premier League, Official Fantasy Football Game of the Premier League](#)

Link?

Here: <https://fantasy.premierleague.com/>

FAQs:

<https://fantasy.premierleague.com/help>
