



Bulletin: Friday 13th February 2026
(website version)

This week, Mr Rossington shared the news that he will be leaving Arno Vale at the end of this academic year to enjoy a well-deserved early retirement. On a personal note, he has been pivotal in helping to develop my career. Not only is he a trusted colleague but he has also become a close friend over the years. As a leader, his family-first approach has always been valued and appreciated by staff, and I know how much the children respect and admire him. He will be greatly missed when the time comes, although we are fortunate to still have plenty of time before his departure. In the meantime, the Trust has begun the recruitment

process to appoint a new Headteacher for September, and we will keep you updated as this progresses.

It has been a really positive start to 2026 in school. Thank you for your ongoing support. On behalf of everyone at Arno Vale, I wish you a safe and happy half-term break. A reminder that Monday 23rd February is an Inset Day, so the children will return on Tuesday 24th February.

Mother's Day Afternoon Tea

Join us for a special afternoon tea to celebrate Mother's Day. We will be serving a hot drink, scone and a piece of cake for £8.

 **Dates:** Wednesday 11th & Thursday 12th March

 **Time:** 2:30 PM – 3:15 PM

 **Booking:** Available to book on MCAS from approximately 9am on Saturday morning (14th February)

 **Spaces:** Limited to 60 mums per day, allocated on a first-come, first-served basis (one ticket per family*).

**We understand that Mother's Day can hold different meanings for families based on individual circumstances. Our aim is to create welcoming events where all who wish to participate can do so. If you have any queries regarding these events, please don't hesitate to reach out—we'd be happy to discuss them with you.*

We look forward to welcoming you!

Note: There will also be a Father's Day event later in the year (date TBC).

Parent Consultation Evenings

From approximately 6.30pm tonight, you'll be able to book an appointment on MCAS for the upcoming Parent Consultation Evenings, which will take place on 3rd, 4th and 5th March. I know that class teachers are looking forward to meeting with you again and as always, they will provide you with a general overview about your child and their academic progress.

However, we want to ensure that the discussions are as productive as possible and we'd like to focus more on the areas that matter most to you. In addition to booking an appointment on MCAS, please also take a few minutes to complete this electronic form and let us know if there is anything specific you would like to discuss during your 10-minute appointment.

<https://forms.office.com/e/4xykGywMhe>

Thank you for helping us tailor your meeting to address what's most important to you and your child.

Notes:

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- You will only be able to book one appointment slot per child. If there are exceptional family circumstances, please contact the office.
 - If you have more than one child at the school, please allow a gap between appointments. Please also complete a separate form for each child.
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Celebration assembly

In today's assembly we celebrated the birthdays of: Sonny, Poyraz, Zach, Coby, Phia, Emaan, Anaya and Erin.

Stars of the week:

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- *3 Grey – Phoebe P and Louis for determination in their writing.*
 - *3 White – Leo and James for honesty and determination.*
 - *4 Orange – Meredith for independence and Naomi for respect.*
 - *4 Yellow – Zachary for curiosity and Ela for determination.*
 - *5 Green – Emily and Jessica for determination.*

- *5 Red – Lakai for independence and Charlotte for determination.*
 - *6 Blue – Robyn and Sid for respect.*
 - *6 Purple – Evan for independence and Alex for determination.*
 - *6 Baker – Dylan for independence.*
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TTRS

The top 3 highest scorers on TTRS for 2026 so far:

3rd place : Athvik

2nd place: Harrison

1st place: Theo HH

Out of school achievements:

Once again, there were lots of swimming achievements to share this week. These children have worked exceptionally hard to reach their next swimming milestone: Leo, Maya, Edith, Lydia, Naomi, Adrian and Meredith.

Finn was awarded Player of the Game from his rugby team for his high level of energy.

Indie was very proud to share her gymnastics award.

Well done all of you for your determination.

If your child has an out of school achievement they would like to share, all they need to do is come to the front in a celebration assembly. They will then be featured in the bulletin.

Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday, we marked Safer Internet Day, an important annual event that aims to promote safe, responsible and positive use of the internet. To support this, we welcomed a guest speaker from Minecraft Education, who delivered an engaging and informative session on online safety. She highlighted potential dangers such as malware, phishing and the importance of strong password security. The children learned valuable strategies to help keep themselves safe in the digital world.

We strongly encourage parents and carers to keep a close eye on their children's online activity and to talk regularly with them about staying safe online. Our school website also offers a wide range of useful resources and information sheets about platforms such as Roblox and WhatsApp, which we highly recommend exploring.

Online Safety | Arno Vale Junior School

A message from the Y5 staff

On Monday, Year 5 went on a trip to the National Holocaust museum to learn more about life for Jewish people in Germany in the 1930s. This helped them to further understand the persecution Jewish people faced at this time and how many faced the difficult decision to send their children on Kindertransport to other countries to keep them safe. The children represented the school in an excellent manner, we were really impressed with their behaviour, the respect they showed and their listening throughout the day. This fantastic behaviour was noticed and commented on by all of the staff at the centre and they have proved to be great representatives for Arno Vale. Well done Year 5, we are very proud of you!

FOAV Film Night

Date: Friday 27th February

Film: Migration

Time: Straight after school until 5.10pm. Please collect from the main entrance at 5.10pm

Cost: £5 (includes a drink and snack).

All proceeds will be reinvested in to projects and events that benefit the children.

School Dinners

Our school dinners are freshly cooked on site each day and include a tasty main and a dessert, offering really good value for money. The menu is carefully balanced and runs on a three-week cycle, which is updated every term based on pupil and parent feedback. Families can choose to book meals for individual days or for the whole week at a time, as long as the booking steps are followed.

On Wednesday, the children enjoyed a special Valentine meal of spaghetti bolognese, garlic bread and salad or vegetables, followed by a homemade heart-shaped jam cookie. There were lots of empty plates! Staying for school dinners helps children enjoy healthy, nutritious meals, develop good eating habits, spend quality time with friends and stay focused and energised for afternoon lessons.

Menu:

[School Meals | Arno Vale Junior School](#)

Booking and payment procedure:

- Log into MCAS.
- Navigate to the dinner menu.
- Select add dinner money (£3.00 per day) if needed.
- From the main menu, click on the day you require, select main menu and press submit. This will turn the day green.
- Repeat the previous step for all other days that you require.

Note: Meal bookings must be completed by midnight on Saturday for the following week.



Invacuation procedures

After half term, we will be talking to the children about our revised invacuation procedures and what they should do in different situations. These discussions will be delivered in a very age-appropriate way, and we will be mindful of the sensitivity of this topic at all times.

It is a requirement for schools to have these plans in place, and they are linked to Martyn's Law. Our procedures have been approved by the Trust and our governing body. Our focus is on helping children feel safe, calm and reassured, using clear and child-friendly language.

We will share three simple scenarios with the children as part of our plan:

Low-Level Response (Precautionary)

Example: A fox or dog on the field

Message: "We're going inside quickly just to be sensible."

Children walk calmly inside and continue normal routines.

Medium-Level Response (Local Area Incident)

Example: Police dealing with something nearby

Message: "We are staying inside for a little while so everyone stays safe."

Children remain in classrooms with calm, quiet activities.

High-Level Response (Immediate Site Concern)

Example: An unidentified person on site

Message: "We are staying together quietly so the adults can keep everyone safe."

Children stay together quietly while adults manage the situation.

After half term, we will practise the low level response and all children will be told in advance. We will practise the other responses later in the year and will keep you informed. This will all be done in a similar way to how we manage a fire drill.

Please be assured that our priority is always the wellbeing and safety of our pupils, and these procedures are in place to help keep everyone safe.

General messages

Earlier in the week, I posted the details of a new Bricks4kidz Lego Club on ClassDojo. Please see the letter for dates, cost and booking information.

Reminders from previous bulletins:

- Unfortunately, there will be no sports camp at February half term due to work taking place on the school site. Thanks to Trust investment, our hall windows will be replaced and there will also be upgrades to our green perimeter security fencing. More work is planned for later in the year.*
- The deposit for the Year 6 Willersley Castle residential is now due (via MCAS).*

- *Music lessons are now available for you to make payment (guitar and ukulele only) via MCAS.*

Dates for your calendar:

Here are some important dates for this academic year:

Arno Vale Junior School Diary Dates 2025 to 2026	
2026	
Friday 30 th January	Whole school Drumba workshops as part of our health and wellbeing day.
Tuesday 3 rd and Wednesday 4 th February	Road safety workshops for all children
Monday 9 th February	Y5 trip to National Holocaust Museum
Monday 16 th February to Friday 20 th February	Half term holiday
Monday 23 rd February	Inset day
Tuesday 24 th February	Return to school
Friday 27 th February	FOAV film night
Tuesday 3 rd March	Parent's consultation meeting – 3.40pm to 6.30pm
Wednesday 4 th March	Parent's consultation meeting – 3.40pm to 6.30pm
Thursday 5 th March	Parent's consultation meeting – 3.40pm to 6.30pm
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day
Thursday 19 th March	Y3/4 Minecraft workshops
Monday 30 th March to Friday 10 th April	Easter holiday
Monday 13 th April	Return to school
Friday 24 th April	FOAV disco
Monday 4 th May	May Day Bank Holiday
Monday 11 th May to Thursday 14 th May	Y6 SATs week
Thursday 21 st May	Y3 trip to Creswell Crags
Monday 25 th May to Friday 29 th May	Half term
Thursday 18 th June	School Games afternoon
Monday 22 nd June	M&M Productions Jungle Book (in school)
Tuesday 23 rd June	Back up School Games afternoon
Thursday 25 th June and Friday 26 th June	Arnold Hill Y6-7 transition days
Friday 26 th June	Moving up morning (new classes)
Wednesday 1 st July	Dukes Barn 2027 meeting (for current Y3 parents)
Wednesday 1 st July	New parent meeting (for current Y2 parents)
Friday 3 rd July	Inset day
Friday 10 th July	FOAV summer fair
Tuesday 14 th July	Y6 performance
Wednesday 15 th July	Y6 performance
Wednesday 22 nd July	Y6 leavers' foam party
Friday 24 th July	Last day of term

Community 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](#)