



Bulletin: Friday 13th March 2026
(website version)

It was wonderful to see so many people in school for our Mother's Day Afternoon Tea. A big thank you to our catering team and office staff, whose hard work made the event such a success. The lemon drizzle cake seemed to be particularly popular! We also appreciate that not everyone could attend due to other commitments. Please be assured that we'll always try to consider event timings to make them as accessible as possible.

Next Friday is Red Nose Day and this is how we'll be taking part:

Go Red for Red Nose Day – Friday 20th March!

Get ready to Go Red for Red Nose Day! On Friday 20th March, children can swap their uniform for anything red—whether it's red socks, a red accessory or just their favourite outfit - I'll even allow Forest shirts! Of course, don't forget your Red Nose if you have one! If preferred, children are welcome to wear their uniform as usual.

In return, we'll ask for a donation to Comic Relief (details to follow next week).

We'll also be hosting a joke competition in each class, with prizes for the funniest jokes. Let's have fun and raise money for a great cause!

Wishing you all a lovely weekend!

Sport

Our two school football teams have had a very busy week:

Girls (team photo below)

- Beat Mapperley Plains 7-3*
 - Beat Sacred Heart 1-0*
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Boys (team photo to be taken at the next match)

- Beat Lowdham 2-1*
 - Beat Westdale 16-0*
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Well done to all involved! As always, the children impressed us with their effort, determination, and—above all—the respect they showed throughout.

It was great to see so many people coming along to watch the games this week, but we just have to make a couple of points on safeguarding:

- All mobile phones need to be put away while on site. No filming or photography of sports matches is allowed.*
 - Unfortunately, we aren't able to provide supervision for children that want to stay and watch the matches so if that applies to your child, you will need to make sure they are supervised in order for them to stay.*
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We're genuinely not trying to be difficult - just attempting to reduce the chance of anything going wrong.

School Dinners

This week's menu seems to have been really popular with lots of clean plates and good reviews! Freshly baked baguettes and the return of the salad bar went down well and they feature on next week's menu too.

Full menu:

School Meals | Arno Vale Junior School

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.

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.

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.







Parent Governor Vacancy

We have an exciting opportunity for a parent to join our supportive governing body. The governing body works closely with the senior leadership team to ensure we are providing the best education and opportunities for the children. If you can spare time to attend two meetings per term and to periodically meet with staff members, then please have a look at the documentation by following the link:

<https://arnovale.school/governor-vacancies>

If you'd like to discuss the role, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Celebration assembly

In today's assembly we celebrated the birthdays of Moses and Tilly.

Stars of the week:

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- 3 Grey – Robyn and Lily for independence and respect.
 - 3 White – Cressida and Aliyah for curiosity and respect.
 - 4 Orange – Jasper and Lenny for curiosity.
 - 4 Yellow – Evie and Lyla for independence and respect.
 - 5 Green – Haaniyah for determination and Lucas for curiosity.
 - 5 Red – Michael for respect and curiosity and Louie for curiosity and determination.
 - 6 Blue – Poppy for determination and Samuel for curiosity.
 - 6 Purple – Olivia and Jake for determination.
 - 6 Baker – Poppy and Marley for determination.
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Mr Baker's special mention for kindness:

Leo in year 6 for consistently collecting in equipment that others have left out on the playground.

Out of school achievements:

Elias, Adrian, Reuben and Joanna have all worked hard to earn their next swimming certificates. We also had lots of children who were awarded Player of the Game trophies last weekend. Louie scored a volley, Leo played in lots of different positions, Molly scored a hat-trick and Katy was awarded the trophy in both matches that she played in. 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.

Reminders from previous bulletins

Easter Egg Competition

Once again, we are holding our decorated Easter egg competition this year. The children can decorate an egg or eggs (which should be hard boiled if using real eggs) and be as creative as they like. The standard last year was incredibly high and we are looking forward to seeing what the children can achieve this year. Entries can be brought into school during the week commencing Monday 23rd March and our egg-spert panel will be judging them on Friday 27th March.

Annual Arno Vale Junior School World Book Day Competition

For the last two years we have run a writing competition to tie in with World Book Day. World Book Day is a day when we are inspired to read: why not be inspired to write as well?

Previous themes have included a short story and poetry and it has always been a very popular competition with lots of entries.

This year's theme is 'The Mystery of Arno Vale'. It could be a ghost story, it could be about a mysterious object found on the school field, or even a crime to solve....the choice is yours!

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- *The story should be no more than 2 sides of A4.*
 - *It can be typed or handwritten and will be judged by a selection of school governors.*
 - *There will be a winner from each year group and an overall prize winner.*
 - *Entries should be submitted to Miss Oates by Monday 23rd March.*
 - *Winners will be announced that week.*
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We cannot wait to read your entries!

INSET Days 2026/27

We understand that finding childcare is not easy and also that you might be making plans for next year, so we wanted to give you as much notice as possible. Next academic year, both Arno Vale Junior School and Woodthorpe Infant School will have the following INSET days:

- *Tuesday 1st September 2026*
 - *Wednesday 2nd September 2026*
 - *Monday 22nd February 2027*
 - *Friday 2nd July 2027*
 - *Wednesday 28th July 2027*
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Dates for your calendar:

Here are some important dates for this academic year:

New date to be added:

Class, team and Y6 leavers photos will be taken on Tuesday 19th May.

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 Cresswell Craggs
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
