



Bulletin: Friday 14th November 2025 (website version)

It was lovely to bump into so many of you at Parents' Evening this week. We hope you found the meetings informative and useful. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact your child's class teacher. We'll be holding another round of appointments in the spring term.

Following our Harvest Festival, we made a few changes to our lunch arrangements after reflecting on the amount of food waste. We noticed that many children were eating very quickly in order to get outside to play, often not finishing their meals. Our new system

encourages everyone to take a little more time — around 20 minutes — to sit, eat properly and enjoy their lunch before heading out. Children can still sit with their friends, but we now fill the hall two tables at a time so everything runs smoothly. The rota remains the same, giving each year group a turn at first, second, third and fourth sitting over a four-week period.

We've also introduced a new indoor lunch club run by Mrs Bailey. This is a calm space for children who would prefer to spend their lunch break indoors doing an activity such as colouring. It is open to any child on first or second sitting.

Thank you to everyone who completed the lunch survey. We will now analyse the results and see whether any further tweaks are needed.

This week we've also been talking in school about Anti-Bullying Week. Children have been discussing what bullying is, the importance of speaking up, how to support one another and how even small acts of kindness can make a big difference. These conversations play an important part in helping us build a safe, respectful and inclusive school community.

And finally, a word about today's weather...

The rain was relentless and my umbrella has, sadly, suffered irreparable damage in the line of duty. Despite the soggy conditions and extended indoor time, the children coped brilliantly.

Have a lovely weekend!

Fundraising

Thank you all for your amazing kindness and generosity. Last week, we completely filled our Poppy Appeal collection pot, and we're now waiting for confirmation of the final amount raised.

Today, we have been fundraising for Children in Need and, at the time of writing, we've already reached an incredible £309. Our Year 6 children have also taken the initiative to plan a special activity for each class to help raise even more on Monday morning. For this, all children will need their PE kits in school.

If you haven't yet donated and would like to, you can do so here: [Arno Vale is fundraising for BBC Children in Need](#)

On Monday, Mrs Pennant organised a special assembly to help the children understand the devastation in Jamaica caused by Hurricane Melissa. Many of her family members have been directly affected. Children in the worst-hit areas have not only lost their homes but also their schools and access to education. We are hoping to raise funds to help provide essential school supplies for eastern Westmoreland schools, so these children can begin to regain a sense of normality.

If you would like to make a donation, please click here: [Help school children in Jamaica affected by Hurricane Melissa](#)

We know that three charity collections in close succession is a lot to ask. Two of these are national appeals, and one is in response to an unexpected natural disaster. Please know that we are always mindful of the demands on families, and we appreciate every bit of support you are able to give.

Thank you again for your continued kindness and compassion.

Christmas Fair / Non Uniform Day*

There will be another non uniform day on Friday 21st November. In return, the FOAV is asking for a donation for the Christmas Fair (see poster for details).

The Christmas Fair is on Friday 28th November (straight after school). Raffle tickets are now available to purchase on MCAS. More details next week.

**We know that non-uniform days can change the usual routine a little, and it's completely normal for some children to feel a bit out of sorts as they try to decide what to wear (tensions were certainly more fraught in my house this morning!). We also appreciate that we've had two of these days quite close together. Please be assured that we're always mindful of the impact they can have.*



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

Birthdays:

This week we celebrated the birthdays of Ibraheem, Isaac and Seb.

Stars of the Week:

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- *3 Grey – Gabriella for kindness and respect and Bobby for determination and curiosity.*
 - *3 White – Orla for determination and for Amima for independence.*
 - *4 Orange – Jaxon for determination and curiosity and Daisy for independence and respect.*
 - *4 Yellow – Ruben for respect and independence and Teddy E for curiosity.*
 - *5 Green – Raife and Patrick for kindness and determination.*
 - *5 Red – Amelia for curiosity and Jacob for determination.*
 - *6 Blue – Sid and Poppy for independence.*
 - *6 Purple – Oliver and Eliza for independence and kindness.*
 - *6 Baker – Grace and Serwan for determination.*
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Mr Baker's special mentions:

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- *Olivia for helping a younger child when they were feeling unsure of what to do.*
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TTRS

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- *Both Y4 classes earned 5 minutes of reward time for having the most people logging on to play this week.*
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Out of school achievements:

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- *Esme, Nathaniel, Sam and Athvik showed us their hard earned swimming certificates.*
 - *Adrian, Erin and Phoebe shared their sparkling trophies for their Player of the Game awards.*
 - *Imogen, Millie, Annabelle G, Amelia, Edith, Elsie, Ava, Molly and Jessie told us their amazing cup game for Gedling Southbank Wolves that went to penalties. They showed so much resilience and determination to win the match.*
 - *We heard that Reuben was part of a choir singing in a Remembrance Day service at All Hallows church.*
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Well done all of you for your effort and determination.

General messages

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- *Thank you to everyone who been to our book fair. So far, we can now purchase over £650 of books for our school library. If you haven't had chance to come to the book fair yet, it is open tonight after school and on Monday after school. You can also pay online for books on your child's wish list. Simply return the list to school (to Mrs Blakemore) with the purchased books clearly indicated and your child will receive the books.*

- *Please note that dogs are not allowed on the school site. This includes the entire site, which means they can't be tied up on the grass patch near Saville Road or carried on to the playground.*
- *Christmas dinner day is on Thursday 11th December. If you are usually a school dinner please book Monday to Friday in the same way but the deadline for that week is Saturday 29th November. If your child is usually a packed lunch, you can go into the dinners tab and just book the one day, again by the deadline of Saturday 29th November.*

Reminders from previous bulletins:

- *The Making Sense of Autism training has now been reorganised for the 20th November from 14.30 to 15.30. Please contact Miss Oates for more information.*
- *A reminder to regularly check your child's online activity. We've had some reports of inappropriate language and behaviour online, and your vigilance helps us keep everyone safe and respectful.*
- *Payments for the Y5 trip to the Holocaust Centre and Year 4 residential to Dukes Barn (installment 2) are now due.*
- *Payments for guitar and ukulele autumn term lessons are now also due (via MCAS).*
- *We're currently in the process of updating photo consents on our new administration system. This can be done quickly on MCAS by clicking on the 'Parental Consents' tab – it only takes a few seconds. If you haven't already done so, please complete this at your earliest convenience. Thank you.*
- *Because the trust now receive all childcare voucher payments and this results in slight delays in us getting the information, can we request that all parents using the voucher schemes please include on the Arno Vale Club Vale booking form or email to clubvale@arnovale.notts.sch.uk the following information: the voucher company name, reference number, date and amount paid. This will help the office staff enormously.*

- Please remember that the school car park is for staff use only, unless specific permission has been given by the Headteacher. This helps us maintain a safe environment for everyone on site. In exceptional circumstances, where permission has been granted, we ask that you park with the utmost care and consideration.

Dates for your calendar:

Here are some important dates for this academic year:

Arno Vale Junior School Diary Dates 2025 to 2026	
Monday 17 th November	Y6 charity event for Children in Need. All children require PE kit in school.
Friday 21 st November	Non uniform day in return for donations for the Christmas Fair. More information is on the FOAV poster in the bulletin.
Friday 28 th November	FOAV Christmas Fair
Tuesday 9 th December	Christmas concert at St Marks. There will be two performances (one in the morning and one in the afternoon). Full details to follow.
Thursday 11 th December	Save the Children Christmas jumper day Christmas dinner day
Wednesday 17 th December	Y3/4 Christmas party. Details to follow.
Thursday 18 th December	Y5/6 Christmas party. Details to follow.
Monday 22 nd December to Friday 2 nd January	Christmas holiday
2026	
Monday 5 th January	First day of the spring term
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
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
Monday 30 th March to Friday 10 th April	Easter holiday
Monday 13 th April	Return to school
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
Friday 3 rd July	Inset day
Tuesday 14 th July	Y6 performance
Wednesday 15 th July	Y6 performance
TBC	FOAV summer fair
TBC	Y6 leavers' festival
TBC	FOAV film night
TBC	FOAV disco
Friday 24 th July	Last day of term