



Bulletin: Friday 19th September 2025 (website version)

We started the week with a FOAV meeting, where we discussed lots of exciting events planned for the year ahead, as well as how the money already raised will be spent to benefit the children. Thank you to everyone involved – more information will follow soon.

In assembly today, we also spoke to the children about a fantastic opportunity coming up next week: applying to become a Class Ambassador. Last year's ambassadors did an excellent job and were involved in a range of projects that made a real difference to school life.

The role of a Class Ambassador is an important one:

- *Set high standards of behaviour and have a great attitude to learning*
 - *Lead by example, showing our school values and following our rules*
 - *Support their class teacher in creating a positive learning environment*
 - *Meet and greet visitors to their class*
 - *Represent their class at important meetings to discuss ways we can improve our school*
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Children who would like to put themselves forward will have the opportunity to explain to their class why they think they would be a good ambassador and the qualities they have. We will then hold an election day in a few weeks, where every child will visit our polling station to cast their votes – a great chance to see democracy in action! Further information and dates will be shared with you next week.

Mr Manchester's Volunteer Squad has had another busy week litter picking, tidying the garden, sweeping leaves, watering plants, digging out roots and planting herbs. In a few weeks, they will be selling these herb pots to raise some money to reinvest in to our outdoor environment. If your child wants to get involved but doesn't know how, please just encourage them to talk to their class teacher or Mr Manchester. All children are welcome!

A reminder that next week, you are invited to 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! Raffle tickets can now be purchased on MCAS.

Wishing you all a safe and happy weekend.



Apply for Free School Meals – Important for You and Our School

If your child is eligible for free school meals, we strongly encourage you to apply. Not only will your child benefit, but the school also receives extra funding to enhance our provision for all pupils.

Applying is quick and easy. You will need:

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- *Your National Insurance Number (or National Asylum Support Service Reference Number)*
 - *Your surname*
 - *Your date of birth*
 - *Your child's full details, including their date of birth and school*
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You can apply online via [Nottinghamshire County Council's website](#) or by calling 0300 500 8080.

Who can get free school meals?

Your child may qualify if you receive any of the following:

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- *Universal Credit (with an annual net income of no more than £7,400)*
 - *Income Support*
 - *Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)*
 - *Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)*
 - *Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999*
 - *The guarantee element of Pension Credit*
 - *Child Tax Credit (without Working Tax Credit), with an annual gross income of no more than £16,190*
 - *Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for four weeks after stopping qualifying for Working Tax Credit)*
 - *Families with no recourse to public funds may also qualify under certain income thresholds (please call to apply).*
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If eligible, free school meals usually start within two working days.

Please act quickly – funding allocations for schools are based on the census, which takes place in just a few weeks.

[Click here to see our current menu.](#)

Road Safety

Last year, several of you raised concerns about dangerous and inconsiderate parking around school. We took these very seriously and worked hard with the relevant authorities to address the issue. One of our biggest priorities was to have a school crossing patrol reinstated on Arno Vale Road. We are delighted that this is now in place – a really positive step to help keep our children and families safe.

However, we all need to play our part in making sure the crossing patrol staff can do their job properly. As adults, we must set the right example to the children by using the patrol correctly and showing respect at all times. Unfortunately, we've had several reports this week of children – and in some cases parents – being rude to crossing patrol staff, ignoring their instructions and questioning why they should follow them. On Wednesday, there was also a serious concern when some children crossed in other places, running out from behind parked cars. Thankfully, no one was hurt, but we were told it was a very close call.

Road safety is something we will be talking about in school, and we are booking road safety lessons to reinforce this important message with the children. Please help us by modelling safe and considerate behaviour and by supporting the work of our crossing patrol team. Together, we can make sure every child gets to and from school safely.

Walking Home from School and Collection Arrangements

We know that as children get older, families sometimes make different arrangements for journeys home from school – whether that's walking independently, being collected by an older sibling or going home with another trusted adult.

National guidance advises parents to carefully consider their child's age, maturity and ability to keep themselves safe before allowing them to travel without direct adult supervision.

Things to think about include:

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- *How familiar your child is with the route*
 - *Road safety awareness and confidence in crossing safely*
 - *What they would do if plans change or something goes wrong*

- *Whether they know who is authorised to collect them*
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*At Arno Vale, we usually only agree for children in **Year 6** to walk home alone/without direct adult supervision. If this applies to your child, you must inform the school office of the exact arrangements so that our records are accurate and up to date. Please also let us know straight away if anything changes. Irrespective of age, we do ask that all children are collected by an adult when it is dark (for example, if they stay behind for an after school club).*

We will share further information and more detailed guidance with families later this term.

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

Birthdays:

This week we celebrated the birthdays of Poppy, Maya, Tom, Michael and Grayson. Happy Birthday!

Stars of the Week:

- *3 Grey – Emilia for curiosity and Samuel for independence and respect.*
- *3 White – James and Cressida for independence and respect.*
- *4 Orange – Louis for independence and respect and Amelia M for curiosity.*
 - *4 Yellow – Rio and Devrim for determination.*
 - *5 Green – Finn and Teddy for independence and respect.*
 - *5 Red – Annabelle G for determination and Isaac for curiosity.*
 - *6 Blue – Grace and Lewis for independence and respect.*

- 6 Purple – Phia for respect and Olivia for curiosity.
 - 6 Baker – Katy for determination and going the extra mile to get better and Jasper for curiosity.
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Mr Baker's special mentions for catching people being kind:

Eli and Katy for helping in the dining hall and giving up some of their lunch time for this.

Out of school achievements:

- *Harvey was awarded Player of the Game after his latest football match.*
 - *Naomi has earned a new swimming certificate and shared a reading challenge that she took part in.*
 - *Lydia has earned a new swimming certificate*
 - *Gabriella has earned a new swimming certificate.*
 - *Ivy was awarded Player of the Game after a recent 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



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 from the office:

Lost Property

In order to help us minimise the amount of lost property in school, please ensure all items of uniform are labelled with your child's name.

Club Vale Bookings

A reminder to please make Club Vale bookings by midnight on a Thursday for the following week. If you use tax free childcare vouchers, please submit the booking form by the same deadline.

School Dinners

A reminder that when booking school dinners, you need to do so in one week blocks. Unfortunately, it isn't possible to just book for odd days.

Dukes Barn

Y4 Dukes Barn residential. The first payment is now due. This can be paid on MCAS.

Y6 Hoodies

Y6 hoodies are expected to be delivered straight after half term. Payment will appear on MCAS next week.

Reminders from previous bulletins:

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).

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:

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- *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.

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.

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- *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

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- *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.

We also put important information from other organisations on this page such as a new update from the Healthy Family Team. The Healthy Family Team offer a variety of brief interventions and early support should you need this. They offer advice and support for behaviour, sleep, toileting (day and night), growth, development and healthy lifestyle.

[*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. **There is one week left to enter the league. After this, it will be closed to new entrants.***

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: Ask Mr Baker

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>
