



Bulletin: Friday 20th March 2026  
(website version)

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*Today, the school has been a sea of red in support of Red Nose Day! In assembly, the children learned about the positive impact their donations can make and as of 3:45pm, we have raised an amazing £243! There's still time to contribute via our [fundraising page](#):*

*We held a level 1 evacuation drill today and the children responded brilliantly. A reminder that a level 1 response is as follows:*

***Low-Level (Precautionary):** Continuous single blows of whistle*

**Example:** A fox or dog on the field.

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

**Actions:**

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- Continuous whistle sounded
  - Pupils walk quickly and calmly inside
  - Normal classroom routines once inside
  - Doors closed but lessons may continue
  
  - Children to remain inside
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*We'll hold further evacuation (fire) and invacuation drills in the summer term.*

*Wishing a very happy Eid to all those celebrating today. Enjoy the weekend everyone!*

**Sport**

*Congratulations to our Y5/6 athletics team for an amazing achievement, finishing a very close 2nd in the Nottinghamshire County Final yesterday! This represents the school's highest finish in this event since winning it 21 years ago. Competing against the best primary schools in the county, we proudly represented Gedling and delivered excellent performances in both the track and field events. A huge well done to all the children for their dedication and effort and it was lovely to see them proudly showing off their medals in assembly. Also, a big thank you to Mr Ward, Miss Fallon, Mrs Francis and Miss Elliott for their hard work in training and preparing the team.*

*Our school football teams have also had another busy week:*

**Boys**

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- *Beat Good Shepherd 3-0 on Tuesday*
  - *Another boys team lost to Good Shepherd yesterday*
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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. In particular, Evan and Noah stood out for outstanding acts of sportsmanship.*

*A few reminders for after school football matches:*

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- *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.*

***A message from Nottinghamshire County Council Public Health Team***

*To all Nottinghamshire schools,*

*You may have seen news stories about the meningitis cases in Kent. We know this can be worrying but would like to reassure you that this situation is very rare, and we have not seen cases linked to the outbreak here in Nottinghamshire. Meningitis is passed on through close contact with another person and the risk of catching it is low. However, it can be very serious if not treated quickly, so we encourage all parents of children and young people and students to be aware of the signs and symptoms:*

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- *Sudden onset of high temperature (fever)*
    - *Severe and worsening headache*
      - *Stiff neck*
    - *Vomiting and diarrhoea*
    - *Joint and muscle pain*
    - *Dislike of bright lights*
    - *Very cold hands and feet*
      - *Seizures (fits)*
      - *Confusion/delirium*
  - *Extreme sleepiness/difficulty waking*
  - *A rash that doesn't fade when pressed with a glass*
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*MenB vaccines are only available on the NHS to those aged under 2 years, unless you are in the specific groups being offered it in response to the Kent outbreak. Other free vaccines also protect against diseases that can cause meningitis. We encourage families and young people to check whether they have missed any of their routine vaccinations. You can do this by contacting your GP practice online or by phone.*

*The school vaccination service is offering catch-up clinics for secondary school aged children over the Easter holidays. See [SAIS catch-up clinics | Nottinghamshire County Council](#) for further information.*

*For more information, please see:*

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- [Meningitis - NHS](#)
  - [Meningitis: Parents, young people and students urged to check vaccination status - NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB](#)
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*MenACWY vaccination information (offered to young people in Year 9 or 10, catch-up vaccination available free before 25th birthday):*

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- [MenACWY vaccine: information for young people - GOV.UK](#)
  - [Meningitis and septicaemia – information for students in schools and sixth form colleges \(text only\) - GOV.UK](#)
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### ***Celebration assembly***

*In today's assembly we celebrated the birthdays of Oscar, Jonah, Ciaran and Eli.*

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### ***Stars of the week:***

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- *3 Grey – Erin and Charlie for kindness to everyone.*
- *3 White – Orla for independence and being ready to learn and Eliza for kindness.*
  - *4 Orange – Coralie for curiosity and Violet for determination.*
  - *4 Yellow – Logan for determination and Arabella for independence.*
    - *5 Green – Charlie and Isaac for determination.*
    - *5 Red – Mason for determination and Millie for curiosity.*
      - *6 Blue – Jacob and Marley for determination.*

- *6 Purple – Lediana and Leo for determination and curiosity.*
  - *6 Baker – Lewis and Olivia for determination and curiosity.*
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### ***Out of school achievements:***

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- *Jake shared the 5 swimming medals he achieved at a competition last weekend.*
  - *Toby told us about earning Player of the Match for great tackling in a rugby match.*
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*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.*

### ***General messages***

#### ***Nut Free Site***

*To ensure the safety of all our children and staff, please do not send any items containing nuts to school. This includes snacks, packed lunches and birthday treats. Even trace amounts of nuts can cause severe allergic reactions in some children, **so your cooperation is essential in keeping our school a safe environment for everyone.***

#### ***Bikes and scooters***

*To ensure the site is as safe as possible at the start and end of day, please could you remind your children not to ride their bikes and scooters through the grounds. Also a reminder that the climbing equipment is for use under staff supervision only.*

### **Club Vale**

*A reminder to parents that children should be collected from Club Vale by 5.30pm. Please ensure the school office is informed in advance if someone different will be collecting your child. For full details, including terms and conditions, please visit: [Club Vale \(Wrap Around Care Facility\) | Arno Vale Junior School](#)*

### **Summer Term Tuck Shop**

*The Summer Term Tuck Shop is now available to pay for via MCAS. The cost is £14 for the full term (week commencing 13th April until the end of term). The deadline for payment is Sunday 12th April at midnight.*

### **Year 3 – Creswell Craggs Trip**

*Please remember to make payment for the Year 3 trip via MCAS. You will also need to complete and submit the form indicating whether your child will require a packed lunch.*

### **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!*

### ***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.*

### ***Booking and payment procedure for school dinners:***

- *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.***

***Menu: [School Meals | Arno Vale Junior School](#)***

### ***The importance of knowing times tables***

*Being confident with times tables is a key part of children's mathematical development. Quick recall of multiplication facts helps children solve calculations more efficiently, supports their understanding of division, fractions and problem-solving and builds a strong foundation for the maths they will encounter in later years. When children know their times tables well, they can focus their thinking on new concepts rather than getting stuck on basic facts.*

*Parents can play a big role in helping children learn their times tables. Short, regular practice is far more effective than long sessions—just a few minutes a day can make a real difference. You might try using flashcards, chanting together, singing times-table songs or using online games such as Times Table Rock Stars. Practising in real-life situations also helps: counting objects in groups, talking about multiplication in cooking or shopping or asking quick-fire questions on the school run. Most importantly, keep it fun and positive—celebrating small improvements helps build confidence and motivation.*

***Dates for your calendar:***

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Arno Vale Junior School Diary Dates	
	<b>2026</b>
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March to Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter holiday
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	Return to school
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	FOAV disco
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	May Day Bank Holiday
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May to Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Y6 SATs week
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Class, team and Y6 leavers photos
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Y3 trip to Cresswell Craggs
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May to Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Half term
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	School Games afternoon
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	M&M Productions Jungle Book (in school)
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Back up School Games afternoon
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> June and Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Arnold Hill Y6-7 transition days
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Moving up morning (new classes)
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Dukes Barn 2027 meeting (for current Y3 parents)
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	New parent meeting (for current Y2 parents)
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Inset day
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	FOAV summer fair
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 performance
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 performance
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Y6 leavers' foam party
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of term
Date TBC	Y3/4 Minecraft workshops
Tuesday 1st September 2026	Inset Day
Wednesday 2nd September 2026	Inset Day
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2026	Wiltersley Castle Y6 Residential
	<b>2027</b>
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January 2027	Dukes Barn Y4 Residential
Monday 22nd February 2027	Inset Day
Friday 2nd July 2027	Inset Day
Wednesday 28th July 2027	Inset Day

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### **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**

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