



Bulletin: Friday 26th September 2025 (website version)

We would like to start by saying a huge thank you to everyone who came along to our Macmillan Coffee Morning today. It's always such a special event in our school calendar, and it was wonderful to see members of our school community supporting such an important cause.

Last year, thanks to your generosity, we raised over £1,000 – a fantastic total – and with your help today, we're hoping to do just as well, if not better. If you would still like to make a donation, you can do so here: [Macmillan Fundraising Page](#).

I'd like to extend a big thank you to Mrs Pennant for putting so much effort in to organising everything. Those in attendance enjoyed the quiz, though some might say the choice of quiz master was a little dubious!

Earlier this week, ten of our Year 6 Sports Leaders did an amazing job supporting a Key Stage 1 event at Carlton Academy. Not only were they superb school representatives, but they also inspired the younger children by organising exciting activities for them to enjoy. We are very proud of the maturity, kindness and leadership they demonstrated.

Looking ahead, next week our children will have the opportunity to put themselves forward to be Class Ambassadors. Children wishing to take part should prepare a short speech to share with their classmates, explaining why they would make a good class ambassador. A polling station will then be set up on Monday 6th October so that each class can elect their representatives.

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.*](#)

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

Birthdays:

This week we celebrated the birthdays of Harry, Millie, Ella and Gabriel. Happy Birthday!

Stars of the Week:

- 3 Grey – Reggie and Lily for curiosity.
 - 3 White – Eliza and Sam for independence and respect.
 - 4 Orange – Harvey and Naomi for independence.
 - 4 Yellow – Arabella and Emily for independence and respect.
 - 5 Green – Chloe and Molly for kindness.
 - 5 Red – Christy and Michael for curiosity.
 - 6 Blue – Eva for curiosity and Noah F for independence.
 - 6 Purple – Oliver and Joseph for independence and respect.
 - 6 Baker – Isla M for curiosity and Joseph for independence.
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Mr Baker's special mentions for catching people being kind:

Harriet and Edith for using some of their playtime to sort through the play equipment without being asked - thank you for helping us all.

4 Orange earned 5 minutes of reward time as everyone in their class has logged on to play this week.

Out of school achievements:

- Nathaniel showed us medal from his cricket presentation.*
 - Haaniyah told us about a writing competition that she entered.*
 - Ivy was lucky enough to be a mascot for the Forest Ladies match against Crystal Palace.*
 - Jake has earned a swimming medal for coming 3rd out of 20 in his age group.*
 - Oliver was awarded Player of the Game from his latest football match, as well as earning a swimming certificate.*
 - Elliott, Toby and Samuel were very proud to show us their swimming certificates.*
 - Reign shared with us his football trophy, earned for his goalie skills.*
 - Aliyah impressed us with her medals from a karate tournament.*
 - Olive let us watch a video of her gymnastic skills at a recent competition.*
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Well done all of you for your effort and determination.

Class challenge:

The first challenge of the year was linked to transitions around school.

Earning 5 minutes of reward time: 4 Yellow, 4 Orange, 6 Blue and 5 Red

3rd place earning 10 minutes of reward time: 3 White and 6 Purple

2nd place earning 15 minutes of reward time: 3 Grey

1st place earning 20 minutes of reward time: 5 Green

Mr Manchester's Volunteering Squad

It has been another busy week for the team:

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- *Watering, weeding, taking cuttings, litter picking, composting, planting seeds, creating bug hotels and recycling.*
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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



Club Vale - Childcare Vouchers

If you are paying for Breakfast or After-School Club using childcare vouchers, please note the following important information:

Booking deadlines

- *Booking forms must be submitted by **midnight on Thursday** for the following week.*
 - *You are welcome to book in advance for multiple weeks if this is easier.*
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Club times

- ***Breakfast Club:*** *7:30am until the start of the school day.*
 - ***After-School Club:*** *From the end of the school day until **5:30pm**.*
 - *Please be aware that a late collection fee may apply to cover staff overtime costs.*
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Childcare voucher payments

When you make a payment via your childcare voucher provider, there is an unavoidable delay before the funds appear on our system. This is because:

- 1. Voucher companies pay directly into the Trust's bank account.*
 - 2. The Finance Team must process and report the payments.*
 - 3. The school office is notified only after these reports are complete.*
 - 4. The payments then undergo two further audit checks before they can be fully applied to your account.*
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Due to this process, accounts may temporarily show in arrears. Please don't worry—during this period, the school office will continue to make bookings on your behalf until the payment clears.

If you have any questions or need clarification, please contact the school office and we'll be happy to help.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

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:

Please note that three new dates have been added and these can be seen in bold (Individual photo day on 6th October, Bonfire-themed lunch on 5th November and Christmas dinner day on 11th December).

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	Individual photo day 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
Tuesday, 4 th November 25	Return to school
Wednesday 5 th November	Bonfire-themed lunch
Monday, 10 th November 25	Anti-bullying week
Tuesday, 11 th November 25	Parent's consultation meeting – 3.40pm to 6.30pm
Wednesday, 12 th November 25	Parent's consultation meeting – 3.40pm to 6.30pm
Thursday, 13 th November 25	Parent's consultation meeting – 3.40pm to 6.30pm
Friday, 14 th November 25	BBC Children in Need day
Friday, 28 th November TBC	FOAV Christmas Fair
Tuesday, 9 th December 25	Christmas concert at St Marks (times to be confirmed)
Thursday, 11 th December 25	Save the Children Christmas jumper day Christmas dinner day

General messages from the office:

MCAS User Guide

Here is a link to the MCAS user guide. It is a really great bedtime read! The office staff are also on hand to answer any MCAS related questions. <https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/arnovale/UploadedDocument/50133ace-cba9-40df-b9a7-b5ab0caf9535/mcas-parent-guide-july-24-new-ui-version-1.pdf>

School Dinners

A special bonfire-themed lunch will be served on Wednesday 5th November. More information to follow next week.

Our Christmas dinner will be served on Thursday 11th December. More information to follow.

Y4 Dukes Barn residential

The first payment is now due. This can be paid on MCAS.

Y6 Hoodies

Payment can now be made on MCAS.

Request from FOAV

In preparation for our Christmas Fair, the FOAV are asking for donations of cuddly toys, pocket money toys, fidget toys and games. There is a basket in reception for donations.

Thank you!

Individual photos (including siblings)

These will be taken in school on Monday 6th October. Information about how to purchase photos will be shared afterwards.

Reminders from previous bulletins:

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.*

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.

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.

MCAS

A polite reminder to please log in to your MCAS account regularly and clear any outstanding payments at the earliest opportunity.

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...

We are really lucky to be hosting two 'Making Sense of Autism' sessions for family members of autistic children. The sessions will be lead by the Communication and Interaction team from Nottinghamshire County Council, a team with whom we work closely in order to support children in the school. The team will share the most up-to-date thinking around autism, including latest research and support through a strength-based model.

These sessions are open to family members of children with a diagnosis or autism, or those whose families believe may be autistic. The aim of these sessions is to explore your child's strengths and support needs and encourage you to identify your child's individual profile of autism. Throughout the sessions, parents are encouraged to ask questions in the hope that parents learn from and support each other.

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- **Wednesday 5th November 14:30 to 15:30.** Session 1: Social Understanding and Communication, Flexibility and Information Processing
 - **Wednesday 7th January 14:30 to 15:30.** Session 2 : Understanding Sensory Processing
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If you feel these sessions will be helpful for your family, you are more than welcome to attend (tea and biscuits also provide). You can attend both or just one of the sessions. It would be helpful to have an indication of numbers, so if you are attending, please complete the form by clicking on the link

below.https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=cv9N3couG0e0GZGoXr7fEgdhvDLW0Z5Pp4DXP_ZvTfpUQTk2WU5JODVaSVQ3MVRLWThFQjlaRU9EWC4u

*If you have any questions, please contact Miss Oates on Dojo or by email
(loates@arnovale.notts.sch.uk)*
