



Bulletin: Friday 27th February 2026 (website version)

This week began with an INSET day—a vital opportunity for staff training and development. INSET days allow us to refine our skills, update essential training and ensure we are providing the best possible education for our pupils. On Monday, subject leaders carried out a variety of monitoring activities to evaluate the impact of teaching and learning within their areas of responsibility. It was great to welcome the children back on Tuesday and it has been another really positive week in school.

Next week our attention turns to World Book Day.

World Book Day – Thursday 5th March

On Thursday 5th March, we will be celebrating World Book Day and are delighted to be dedicating the entire day to reading for pleasure.

This year, we are not asking children to dress up. Instead, we would love every child to bring their favourite text to school. This could be anything they enjoy reading — a novel, non-fiction book, comic, graphic novel, magazine, recipe book or even a sporting event programme. We are looking forward to seeing the wonderful variety of texts that inspire our children to read.

The day will begin with a whole-school assembly. Throughout the morning, classes will take part in the National Literacy Trust annual Footy and Booky Quiz, become “book detectives” and spend time sharing and discussing their favourite texts with their classmates.

After lunch, children will explore a range of books in their classrooms and enjoy reading with a buddy from another class. We are especially excited about our whole-school story time: children will be able to choose from a selection of book overviews and sign up to listen to the story that interests them most.

Your child should already have brought home their World Book Day token. The tokens are valid now and can be used until 15th March. Children can exchange their £1 token for one of the special £1 World Book Day books, or use it to get £1 off any full-price book or audiobook (priced at £2.99 or more) at participating booksellers.

Tokens can be redeemed at a range of retailers, including Sainsbury's, Asda, TGJones and many independent bookshops. Books can also be ordered online from Books2Door by entering the token barcode at checkout to receive a free World Book Day book.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to celebrating reading together and seeing the fantastic range of texts our children love to enjoy.

Mother's Day Afternoon Tea

There are a few places left at our upcoming afternoon tea to celebrate Mother's Day. We will be serving a hot drink, scone and a piece of cake for £8.

 **Dates:** Wednesday 11th & Thursday 12th March

 **Time:** 2:30 PM – 3:15 PM

 **Booking:** Available to book on MCAS

 **Spaces:** Limited to 60 mums* per day, allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.
Please note that due to limited space and to be fair to everyone, you can only purchase one ticket per family.

**We understand that Mother's Day can hold different meanings for families based on individual circumstances. Our aim is to create welcoming events where those who wish to participate can do so. If you have any queries regarding these events, please don't hesitate to reach out—we'd be happy to discuss them with you.*

We look forward to welcoming you!

Note: There will also be a Father's Day event later in the year (date TBC).

Parent Consultation Evenings

If you haven't already done so, please book an appointment on MCAS for the upcoming Parent Consultation Evenings, which will take place next week on 3rd, 4th and 5th March. I know that class teachers are looking forward to meeting with you again and as always, they will provide you with a general overview about your child and their academic progress. However, we want to ensure that the discussions are as productive as possible and we'd like to focus more on the areas that matter most to you. In addition to booking an appointment on MCAS, please also take a few minutes to complete this electronic form and let us know if there is anything specific you would like to discuss during your 10-minute appointment.

<https://forms.office.com/e/4xykGywMhe>

Thank you for helping us tailor your meeting to address what's most important to you and your child.

Notes:

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- You will only be able to book one appointment slot per child. If there are exceptional family circumstances, please contact the office.
 - If you have more than one child at the school, please allow a gap between appointments. Please also complete a separate form for each child.

- It is really important that meetings run to time. If, after 10 minutes, you still have more to discuss, you will be asked to book a follow up meeting so that teachers don't overrun.
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School Dinners

We have made a few tweaks to our school dinner menu. Next week, children can look forward to favourites such as locally sourced sausages (or quorn sausage) with buttered mashed potato, Yorkshire pudding and seasonal vegetables as well as Miss Hooper's favourite: Cornflake tart (with or without custard)!

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.

Menu:

[School Meals | Arno Vale Junior School](#)

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.

Café Vale					
Week 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch 12:15-2:25/3:25/3	Traditional Macaroni cheese with crispy garlic bread	Buttered Jacket potato with choice of fillings or American style smoky BBQ Chicken wrap or Quorn wrap with lightly seasoned diced potatoes	Locally sourced Sausage or Quorn sausage with Buttered mashed potatoes, Yorkshire pudding	Cheesy tomato Pasta bake or Buttered Jacket potato with choice of fillings and locally sourced seasonal vegetables	Golden crumbed Fish stars with chips or Buttered Jacket potato with choice of fillings and peas and sweetcorn
	and locally sourced seasonal vegetables	and locally sourced seasonal vegetables	and locally sourced seasonal vegetables		
	Handmade Iced carrot cake	Zesty lemon drizzle cake	Golden crackers with a creamy cheese triangle	Mis Hooper's favourite - Cornflake tart and custard	Iced vanilla cup cakes with sweet butter cream
Available everyday: yogurt and fresh fruit. A limited amount of jacket potatoes will be available daily unless stated as a choice on the main menu. All dietary requirements catered for.					
Allergies	Milk, gluten	Milk, gluten, fish	Gluten, milk,	Milk, gluten, fish	Gluten, fish, milk, egg
			Menu subject to change due to availability		

Celebration assembly

In today's assembly we celebrated the birthdays of Effie, Indie and Patrick.

Stars of the week:

- *3 Grey – Indie for determination and Samuel for independence.*
 - *3 White – Reign and Jonathan for being ready.*
- *4 Orange – Leon for being ready and Molly for curiosity.*
- *4 Yellow – Harriet for curiosity and Izaan for determination.*
 - *5 Green – Maya and Elliott for independence.*
- *5 Red – Sonny for curiosity and Ciaran for determination.*
 - *6 Blue – Ruby and Ivy for curiosity.*
- *6 Purple – Rowan and Phia for independence.*

- *6 Baker – Lewis and Livvy for determination.*
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Mr Baker's special mention for kindness:

Isaac H for congratulating his classmates for getting into the football team and thanking Mr Ward for giving up his time to train them.

Out of school achievements:

- *Oliver shared a medal from his recent skiing achievements.*
 - *Nathaniel was proud to share his Player of the Game award for great work in defence at football.*
 - *Elliott, Sofia and James showed off their hard earned swimming certificates.*
 - *Eva has achieved grade 1 in piano.*
 - *Grayson and Marley told us about a HUGE pike they caught recently.*
 - *Adrian shared 5 certificates from a recent football camp.*
 - *Katy and Bella had the opportunity to play football in front of Mary Earps.*
 - *Livvy worked hard to earn a blue belt in kick boxing.*
 - *Leo shared his basketball certificate and medal from a recent event.*
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Well done all of you for your determination in an exciting range of activities!

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

- *There are still places available at the new Bricks4kidz Lego Club. Please see the letter on ClassDojo for dates, cost and booking information.*
 - *Unfortunately, we are not able to host Mr Ward and Mr Lindley's sports camp at Easter. We know this will be disappointing for some but we are having extensive interior work carried out by contractors during the holiday. This work can only be done when children are not on site. We are currently benefitting from tens of thousands of pounds worth of Trust investment to upgrade our windows, doors and perimeter security fencing.*
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Reminders from previous bulletins:

- *The deposit for the Year 6 Willersley Castle residential is now due (via MCAS).*
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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
