



Bulletin: Friday 4th September 2026

Headteacher's Welcome Back Message

It has been a real pleasure to welcome all of our children back to school this week. As my first week as Headteacher, I have been delighted by the positive start we have made together and it has been wonderful to see the children returning with such enthusiasm, energy and excitement for the year ahead.

The first few days have been filled with happy faces, busy classrooms and lots of opportunities for children to reconnect with their friends, settle into their new routines and begin their learning. I have been particularly impressed by the children's kindness,

confidence and readiness to learn, and it has been lovely to see them making the most of every opportunity.

I have really enjoyed being around school, starting to get to know the children and beginning to meet more of our families. These first few days have given me a real sense of the warmth and positivity that runs through our school, and I feel very fortunate to be starting this journey with such a wonderful school community.

I would also like to thank all our parents and carers for your support in helping the children make such a positive start. Starting a new school year is an exciting time for everyone, and your encouragement makes such a difference. I am incredibly excited about the year ahead and all that we will achieve together.

I am very much looking forward to getting to know our children, families and wider school community even better over the coming weeks, and to sharing what promises to be a fantastic year together.

Mrs Nikki Glover

Attendance



Last year the overall attendance figure was 97%.

Attendance for the first two days back at school is 96%.

Good attendance plays a vital role in helping children achieve their potential. The Department for Education (DfE) is clear that every day in school matters, supporting learning, progress, friendships, and a sense of belonging within the school community. Attendance at Arno Vale continues to be excellent and above the national average for Primary Schools —thank you for your ongoing support and shared commitment to making

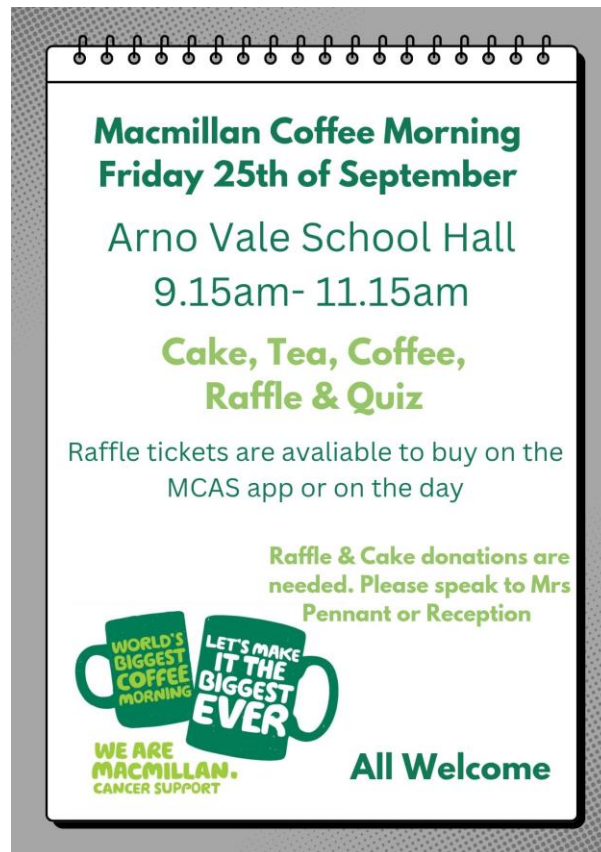
school a priority. We aim for 97% attendance for all students. Attendance below 90% is classed by the DfE as Persistent Absence and is a cause for concern. When attendance drops, staff will work closely with families to understand any barriers and put support in place where needed. Attendance is monitored closely. We understand that absences due to illness or medical appointments are sometimes unavoidable. Where possible, please arrange appointments outside of school hours or later in the day. Appointment letters must be shared with reception in advance for safeguarding and record-keeping purposes. Non-medical appointments should be made outside of school time. Holidays during term time are not classed as exceptional circumstances and will result in fines —please use designated school holiday periods. For further information, please see the DfE guidance on school attendance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance>

If you have concerns or need support, please do make contact. Thank you for your continued support in helping every child make the most of their time at school.

Punctuality

We would like to remind everyone of the importance of children arriving at school on time each day (by 8.55am). Even arriving just 5 minutes late may not seem much, but if this happens every day it adds up to over 900 minutes of missed learning time over the school year. Arriving late can also have other impacts on children. It can be unsettling to enter the classroom once learning has started, may cause them to miss important instructions and can affect their confidence and focus for the rest of the lesson/day. It can also disrupt learning for other children. We really appreciate your support in helping children arrive on time so they can start the day calmly, confidently and ready to learn. Thank you for your continued support.



We are delighted to be hosting our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 25th September, from 9:15am–11:15am in the school hall.

We would love for our families to join us for a morning of coffee, cake, conversation, a raffle and a fun quiz, whilst helping us raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. Whether you can stay for the whole morning or simply pop in for a cuppa and a chat, we would be delighted to see you.

These events are always a lovely opportunity for our school community to come together, and we hope you will join us in supporting such a worthwhile cause. We are very grateful for your continued generosity and support.

We look forward to seeing you there! ☕ 🍰

Sporting Event



Next Tuesday, our first sporting event of the year will take place. The Year 5 boys' cricket team from last year will be representing Arno Vale in the County Cricket Final. We wish them the very best of luck and look forward to hearing about how they get on in next week's bulletin!

Important Dates for the Autumn Term



Please make a note of the important dates below. Information will be shared with you regarding these events throughout the term. When additional events are added to the calendar, they will be communicated to you in the weekly bulletin.

14.9.26 - Year 5 Welcome Meetings 3:45pm - 4:15pm - information will be shared via Class Dojo

15.9.26 - Year 6 Welcome Meeting and Willersley Castle Information Evening 3:45pm - 4:15pm - information will be shared via Class Dojo

16.9.26 - Year 4 Welcome Meetings 3:45pm - 4:15pm - information will be shared via Class Dojo

17.9.26 - Year 3 Welcome Meetings 3:45pm - 4:15pm - information will be shared via Class Dojo

25.9.26 - MacMillan Coffee morning 9:15am - 11:15am

5.10.26 - School Photographer

6.10.26 - Harvest Festival Dress Rehearsal for pupils at St Marks Church

8.10.26 - Harvest Festival 10:00am - 10:45am (parents to arrive at 9:30am) and 2:00pm - 2:45pm (parents to arrive at 1:40pm)

9.10.26 - FOAV Disco - 3:35pm - 5:15pm

14.10.26 - 16.10.26 - Year 6 Residential

16.10.26 - Break up for half term

2.11.26 - Children return to school

10.11.26 - Scholastic Book Fayre

13.11.26 - Non - Uniform Day and Christmas Fair donations

27.11.26 - Christmas Fair - 3:45pm - 5pm

7.12.26 - Christmas Concert Rehearsal at St Marks Church

8.12.26 - Christmas Concert at St Marks Church - 10:00 am - 11:30am and 2:00pm - 3:30pm

10.12.26 - Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner

11.12.26 - FOAV Christmas Movie Night 3:35pm - 5:15pm

17.12.26 - Whole school trip to the Christmas Panto - Mansfield Palace Theatre 2:00pm - 5:30pm

18.12.26 - Break up for Christmas

FOAV



Friends of Arno Vale work incredibly hard throughout the school year to arrange events for our families and children. FOAV fundraising is crucial in allowing us to provide even more opportunities for the children. It also allows us to invest in projects that benefit the whole school. Without this support these projects won't be able to take place for our children. Please do look out for these events and support them as often as you can.

If you would like to be part of the FOAV team and continue with the wonderful work they do, please contact the school office so your details can be passed onto them.

Medication



If your child requires medication during the school day, please ensure that school are informed. Medication must be handed to the office staff, along with completed medicine forms. These forms are available on the website or can be collected from the office. Pupils

must not keep medication in their bags for safeguarding purposes. Without the completed forms, staff are not allowed to administer medication. Thank you for supporting us with this.

Communication



Strong communication between home and school is really important in helping our children feel happy, supported and successful. We want to work in partnership with you and value the knowledge and insight that you have as parents and carers. If you have a question, concern, or simply want to share something with us, please don't hesitate to get in touch. We are always here to listen, support and work together to ensure the very best for your child.