



## Bulletin: Friday 9th January 2026 (website version)

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*Happy New Year!*

*It has been lovely to welcome the children back in to school this week and to be able to speak to so many of you on the playground. If you ever need to ask anything, please don't hesitate to get in touch. If you ever have any specific issues regarding your child, just contact their class teacher on Dojo and they will reply at their earliest convenience.*

*Unfortunately, I get the impression I was a little unpopular this morning with lots of children waking up hoping for a 'snow day'. Luckily we seem to have missed the worst of the storm and have only had to put up with plenty of slush around the school site! Thank you for helping to ensure that we have had very high levels of attendance in school today! As a reminder, school would only be closed as a last resort if it was deemed unsafe to open. We would always liaise closely with Woodthorpe Infant School too when making any decision.*

*On Monday, I delivered an assembly about our school rule of being kind. This is something I am particularly passionate about, as kindness is such an essential part of life. A quick glance at the news or social media often reveals countless examples of unkind behaviour, which is why it is so important that we continue to talk about kindness regularly with the children.*

*During the assembly, I shared examples of kindness I had observed over the Christmas break, before discussing the many ways pupils can show kindness both in school and in their wider lives. We talked about what being kind can look like:*

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- *Saying something nice to someone*
- *Helping others*
- *Sharing*
- *Listening carefully*
- *Including everyone*
- *Smiling at others*
- *Comforting someone who is upset*
- *Taking turns*
- *Caring for each other, our surroundings and belongings*
- *Encouraging one another*

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*Our current class challenge links directly to this focus, and in a few weeks we will find out how much reward time each class has earned by demonstrating kindness.*

*Unfortunately, Mr Rossington is still unwell and will remain off work next week. We hope to see him back soon. Miss Jones has also been unwell this week so a big well done to 4 Orange for being so fantastic and impressing the supply teachers we have had in school. Mr Perkins is unwell so please be aware we currently have a supply caretaker supporting us on site.*

*Finally, children in Y5 and 6 will be learning how to play table tennis in PE lessons this half term. We recently had some new equipment delivered and Y6 children were the first to try it out. It looked a lot of fun!*

### **Punctuality**

*We would like to remind everyone of the importance of children arriving at school on time each day. Even arriving just 5 minutes late may not seem much, but if this happens every day it adds up to 975 minutes of missed learning time over the school year – that's over 16 hours.*

*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. 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.*

### **Site safety / staff car park**

*You may have noticed a marked pedestrian walkway to the main entrance. This is to make sure that those using the main entrance (for example, Club Vale families) have a safe and designated path to walk along. We will soon be installing some improved signage to help guide both pedestrians and vehicles.*

*Please note that cars should not be driven up the drive to the main entrance when dropping off or picking up children. This area is designated for staff parking only, and we are keen to minimise vehicle movement there to maintain a safe environment.*

### **School dinners**

*A reminder that we are currently trialling a new system that allows parents to book school meals for individual days if they want to, rather than having to block-book for a full week.*

*For this system to work effectively, we ask that all meal bookings are completed by midnight on Saturday for the following week. Although food orders will usually have been placed in advance, having accurate bookings by this deadline will allow the catering team to plan meal preparation efficiently.*

*If you forget to make your booking by the deadline, please email [office@arnovale.notts.sch.uk](mailto:office@arnovale.notts.sch.uk) by 9:00am on the Monday morning, clearly stating your child's name, class and the days required for a school dinner. The office team will then make the booking on your behalf. We will be completing a dinner register with the children each day rather than only on Monday mornings; however, it is essential that the above deadlines are followed for the system to run smoothly. Please also remember to ensure your child's dinner account has sufficient funds.*

*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: If your child receives free school meals, the office will continue to make your bookings daily for you.*

*Here is our updated menu for the spring term: [School Meals | Arno Vale Junior School](#)*

*Thank you for your cooperation as we trial this new system.*

*Celebration assembly*

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*Stars of the week:*

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- 3 Grey – Reggie and Theo for independence.
- 3 White – Effie and Ted for independence.
- 4 Orange – Daphne and Jaxon for independence.
- 4 Yellow – Phoebe for determination and Edith for kindness.
- 5 Green – Isaac for determination and Ben for independence.
- 5 Red – Caitlin for determination and Christy for kindness.
- 6 Blue – Trey for independence and Marley for determination.
- 6 Purple – Eli and Iziah for independence.
- 6 Baker – Sam and Penelope for determination.

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#### ***Mr Baker's special kindness mentions:***

*Well done to Chloe, who has been spotted helping her class all week by holding doors open and being really positive.*

#### ***Birthdays:***

*Noah, Phoebe, Edith, Lydia, Naomi, Charlie, Iziah, Louis, Toby M, Toby D and Jacob have all celebrated birthdays recently.*

#### ***Out of school achievements:***

*Esme shared her gymnastics awards and medals – well done for your hard work!*

***General messages and reminders from previous bulletins:***

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- *On Monday 26th January at 3.45pm, we are holding a meeting in school for Y5 parents about the Y6 residential to Willersley Castle.*
- *Y6 parents: If you haven't done so already, please read the message posted on Dojo about the National Child Measurements Programme.*
- *We are aware of a particularly slippy patch of ground outside the entrance to Woodthorpe Infant School. We recently had some investigation work take place on our field where it was found that any potential blockage was not on our grounds. However, we'll continue to support the relevant authorities as much as possible with getting to the root of the cause. We understand that some more investigation work will be carried out on Arno Vale Road on Tuesday 13th January and this is likely to involve the use of some temporary traffic lights.*
- *Tuck shop for the spring term: Payment is now available on MCAS and needs to be paid by Sunday please.*
- *Payment for the Y5 trip to the Holocaust Centre is due by 16th January and the final installment for the Year 4 residential to Dukes Barn is due today.*
- *If you have not yet updated your consents, this can be done quickly on MCAS by clicking on the 'Parental Consents' tab – it only takes a few seconds. If you haven't already done so, please complete this at your earliest convenience. Thank you.*

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***Dates for your calendar:***

*Here are some important dates for this academic year:*

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2026	
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	First day of the spring term
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> January to Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> January	4 Yellow residential to Dukes Barn
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> January to Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	4 Orange residential to Dukes Barn
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Whole school Drumba workshops as part of our health and wellbeing day.
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Y5 trip to National Holocaust Museum
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> February to Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Half term holiday
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Inset day
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Return to school
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Parent's consultation meeting - 3.40pm to 6.30pm
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent's consultation meeting - 3.40pm to 6.30pm
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent's consultation meeting - 3.40pm to 6.30pm
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> March to Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter holiday
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	Return to school
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
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Y3 trip to Cresswell Crags
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
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Inset day
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 performance
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 performance
TBC	Y3/4 Minecraft workshops
TBC	FOAV summer fair
TBC	Y6 leavers' festival
TBC	FOAV film night
TBC	FOAV disco
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of term

1 - [Calendar | Arno Vale Junior School](#)

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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.*

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[Community News | Arno Vale Junior School](#)

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