



Bulletin: Friday 27th June 2025

This week started with the whole school enjoying a theatre company visit to perform 'The Secret Garden'. Year 6 children also took part in some workshops to help them prepare for their upcoming performance. Thank you to FOAV for funding this.

Since then, the week has been all about transition, and there's certainly been a buzz of excitement (and nervousness) in the air! Your children will no doubt have told you that they have found out their new class and teacher for next year – a big moment for them, and one we know they've been waiting for. Behind the scenes, class teachers and support staff have put a great deal of thought and effort into the class lists and have based decisions on a whole host of factors.

We're looking ahead to 'moving up morning' on Thursday 3rd July, when children will spend time with their new teachers and classmates. To support a smooth transition, we've also planned several shorter sessions between now and the end of term. These will help the children to get to know their new learning groups and the adults they'll be working with in September.

In preparation for the new academic year, staff are also meeting regularly to share important information about the children – how they learn, which strategies work well for them and any additional details that will help us support them.

We also want to take this opportunity to confirm that, despite some rumours, no teachers will be moving year groups next year. Classes for September will be as follows:

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- 3 White – Mrs Baker and Mrs Lund
 - 3 Grey – Miss Carter
 - 4 Yellow – Mrs Blakemore
 - 4 Orange – Miss Jones
 - 5 Green – Mr King
 - 5 Red – Mr Hill
 - 6 Purple – Miss Oates and Miss Iremonger
 - 6 Blue – Miss Fallon
 - Games – Mr Ward
 - Spanish – Miss D'Mello (new teacher for September)
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If you do have any questions about your child's transition, please don't hesitate to speak with their current class teacher.

Finally, in case you missed it, here is a reminder of some news we shared on Dojo earlier this week: At the end of this academic year, we will be saying goodbye to both Mrs Tinkler and Mr Hicking.

Mrs Tinkler is taking early retirement after 14 incredible years at Arno Vale. Her nurturing and empathetic approach has supported hundreds of children and families, and she will be deeply missed. We are thrilled, however, that she will remain a part of our community as a school governor.

Mr Hicking, who joined us in January 2020, will also be leaving to pursue new opportunities. His calm, thoughtful presence and unwavering support for our pupils have had a big impact across the school. His legendary sense of humour and unforgettable pranks will certainly be missed!

Have a lovely weekend.

Parent View

Thank you to those that have already completed the Parent View questionnaire. It will remain open for one more week and we'd really appreciate it if you could take a few minutes to fill it in. Your feedback is really important to us — it helps us understand what we're doing well and where we can improve. By sharing your views, you help us make the school the best it can be for all our children. Thank you for your continued support!

[Please click here to access the questionnaire.](#)

Some feedback we've had so far asks if we could do more to support families with managing screen time and online safety at home.

*Keeping children safe online is a top priority for all families. **Did you know that Apple offers built-in parental controls on iPhones and iPads through its Screen Time settings?** Parents can restrict explicit content, manage app use, block certain websites and control purchases. For detailed instructions about how to customise privacy, Siri access and game settings click this link:*

[Use parental controls on your child's iPhone or iPad – Apple Support \(UK\)](#)

Other companies offer similar controls and we'll look to share this information in future bulletins.

Mr Ward and Mr Lindley's Summer Sports Camps

These will take place on the following dates:

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- 5th, 6th, 7th August
 - 12th, 13th, 14th August
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[Click here for more information and to book a place.](#)

Summer Fair

Summer Fair – Friday 18th July

Time: 3:35–5:00pm (straight after school)

We're excited to invite you to our Summer Fair, taking place on **Friday 18th July**. There will be plenty of fun, games and activities for the whole family to enjoy—don't miss it!

Non-Uniform Day – Friday 11th July

In return for wearing non-uniform, **FOAV** is kindly asking for the following donations:

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- **Year 3 & 4** – Bottles (any kind)
 - **Year 5 & 6** – Hamper items in your class colour: Purple, Blue, Red or Green
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 **We Need Your Help!**

The fair can't go ahead without volunteers. If you're able to help on the day or in the lead-up, even for a short time, please get in touch with Carly, Kate, or Becky at foav@arnovale.notts.sch.uk

Raffle Tickets

Raffle tickets are now available to purchase on MCAS – just £1 per strip!

We kindly ask that all donations are in good working order and of a suitable quality for use or resale.





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

Birthdays:

This week we celebrated the birthday of Elsie. Happy Birthday!

Stars of the week:

- 3 Grey – Ella for determination and Ruben for always showing school rules and values.
- 3 White – Phoebe for independence and determination, and Esila for being helpful and for having a great attitude to learning this week.

- *4 Orange – Raife for being helpful and for always trying his hardest, and Amelia for independence and determination.*
 - *4 Yellow – 4 Yellow will receive double stars of the week next week due to Mrs Blakemore's absence this week.*
 - *5 Green – Eva for independence and James for having a great week demonstrating our school rules and values.*
 - *5 Red – Georgia for independence and Sid for always showing our school rules and values.*
 - *6 Blue – Harry for being kind and helpful, and Huey for being an enthusiastic and determined learner.*
 - *6 Purple – Edward for determination in his writing, Iris for an amazing attitude towards learning and Joe I for being a great friend.*
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TTRS

100% of 4 Orange logged on and played this week! Well done 4 Orange!

Kindness mention

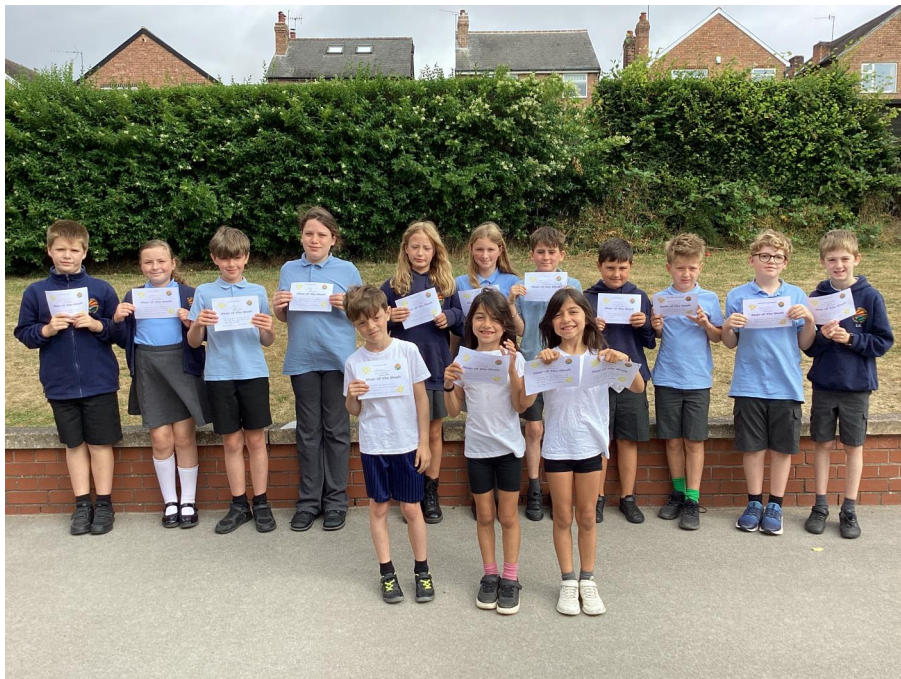
Emily in 6 Blue received a kindness mention from Mr Baker for being so thoughtful and caring.

Out of school achievements:

- *Sofia completed a 3 mile run/walk for Race For Life.*

- *Bella showed us a football trophy from her football presentation.*
 - *Georgia shared with us her stage 6 and her 100m swimming certificates and badges.*
 - *Edith shared with us her stage 4 swimming certificate and badge.*
 - *Coralie shared her 25m backstroke certificate and badge and spoke about a recent football tournament.*
 - *Alfie and Louis showed us their football tournament medals.*
 - *Alfie, Harry, Teddy, Harvey and Lenny also showed us a variety of different football trophies from their football team - Gedling Southbank.*
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Well done everyone!





Sport:

This week brought an incredible day of cricketing success for our school! On Tuesday, we took three teams—27 children in total—to compete in tournaments held at Gedling Colliery Cricket Club. The Y5 team, Y6 team and our Girls team all represented the school with outstanding skill, teamwork and sportsmanship. Throughout the day, our players not only competed brilliantly but also showed fantastic support for one another and great respect for

all other schools involved. Several parents and staff from other schools even commented on the impressive attitude and conduct of our pupils.

We are absolutely thrilled to share that all three teams were crowned champions in their respective competitions! This means we are now officially Gedling Champions in the Year 5, Year 6 and Girls' categories—a rare and remarkable achievement for one school.

As a result, all three teams qualified for the County Finals—an exciting next step. However, we were disappointed to learn that the Y6 County Finals are scheduled for Thursday 3rd July, which unfortunately clashes with the first main transition day for Arnold Hill, Colonel Frank Seely and several other local secondary schools.

We are genuinely gutted about this unavoidable clash, but attending transition sessions is a vital part of preparing for secondary school. We therefore made the disappointing decision to withdraw our Y6 team from the County Finals.

We're incredibly proud of all three teams and want to wish the Y5 and Girls teams the very best of luck as they go on to represent our school at the County Finals. What a fantastic achievement—well done to all involved!





Would you like the opportunity to have your writing published?

*Last year, five of our children wrote a mini saga and had their work published in a book. This year, the competition is back. It is open to all children between 7 and 12 years old. You need to write a mini saga, a story of no more than 100 words. The theme is **Monster Tales**. All entrants will receive a bookmark and a sticker. The school with the best set of entries will win £1000 and the top five entries will win a goody bag worth over £100.*

If you would like to enter, please see Mrs Blakemore for an entry form. The closing date is 25th July if you are submitting the entry yourself. If you would like Mrs Blakemore to submit your entry, please return it to her by 18th July.

Subject in Focus: Geography

Geography teaches us about people, places and the natural environment so that we can fully appreciate Planet Earth.

We want to nurture curiosity and encourage children to understand how physical and human geography are deeply interconnected. Through Geography, pupils explore key global issues such as sustainability, diversity and environmental responsibility, helping them appreciate their role in a rapidly changing world.

We follow the Collins Connected Geography scheme, offering a well-sequenced and progressive curriculum. Geography is taught in discrete lessons each term and supported by regular practice sessions to reinforce learning. Lessons are designed to develop key geographical skills such as map reading, data analysis and critical thinking.

By the time children leave Arno Vale, our aim is that they are confident geographers who understand their place in the world and can discuss important geographical topics.

For more information about the subject, including curriculum plans, please visit our website [Geography | Arno Vale Junior School](#)

Our subject leader for geography is Miss Carter.

General Messages:

Head Lice

There have recently been a couple of cases of head lice in school. While lice are nothing more than a nuisance, it is important that children are checked regularly so that any head lice can be dealt with quickly and before they can be allowed to spread.

Uniform

Please ensure your child wears the correct school shoes — plain black, practical and suitable for daily activities. Trainers, Crocs, flip flops and fashion shoes are not part of our uniform. As communicated previously, smart, flat sandals that securely fasten are permitted in warmer weather. Thank you for helping us maintain high standards and a smart school appearance.

Star Vision Photography

You have until midnight on Sunday to take advantage of free shipping back to school on all photo orders. After this time there will be a price increase and all orders will be delivery to home only.

Updated School Dinner Menu – Thursday 3rd July

Choose from chicken curry or vegetable curry, served with rice and naan bread. Alternatively, enjoy a jacket potato with your choice of cheese, baked beans or tuna mayonnaise.

Reminders from previous bulletins:

INSET Days 2025/26

A reminder that next academic year, both Arno Vale Junior School and Woodthorpe Infant School will have the following INSET days:

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- *Monday 1st September 2025*
 - *Monday 3rd November 2025*
 - *Monday 23rd February 2026*

- *Friday 3rd July 2026*
 - *Monday 27th July 2026*
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Midday Supervisors

We're always on the lookout for friendly, reliable people to join our team of midday supervisors. The role involves helping to keep children safe and happy during lunchtime, both in the dining hall and on the playground. If you're interested or would like to find out more, please get in touch with the school office. In addition, we're looking for someone with experience of working in a kitchen environment to work on Fridays. Again, please get in touch for more information if you're interested.

Music Lessons on MCAS

For parents of children taking guitar and ukulele lessons: payments are now available to make on MCAS. Please ensure payments are made promptly to secure your child's place.

Community Links

Please check out our website for details about lots of things taking place in our community.

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

Calendar Dates

Arno Vale Junior School Diary Dates	
Monday 23 rd June 2025	Whole school theatre production in the hall. The Secret Garden.
Thursday 3 rd July 2025	Moving up morning (new classes) Y6 transition day at Arnold Hill Y2 new parents meeting
Friday 4 th July 2025	Inset Day Y6 transition day at Arnold Hill
Friday 11 th July 2025	Non uniform day
Tuesday 15 th July 2025	Y6 performance
Wednesday 16 th July 2025	Y6 performance
Friday 18 th July 2025	FOAV summer fair
Monday 21 st July 2025	End of year reports to parents
Wednesday 23 rd July 2025	Y6 leavers' festival
Friday 25 th July 2025	Last day of term Y6 leavers' assembly (2.45pm)
Monday 1st September 2025	Inset Day
Monday 6 th October 2025	Individual photos (and siblings)
Monday 3rd November 2025	Inset Day
Monday 23rd February 2026	Inset Day
Friday 3rd July 2026	Inset Day
Monday 27th July 2026	Inset Day