



Bulletin: Friday 4th April 2025

As another busy and exciting half term comes to an end, we wanted to take a moment to reflect on some of the fantastic things that have happened across the school this week.

We were treated to a whole-school music assembly on Wednesday, where each class had the opportunity to showcase what they've been learning in their music lessons this half term.

Thank you to Miss I for organising such a brilliant event. It sounded amazing!

Year 5 have been putting their culinary skills to the test, cooking up some delicious spaghetti Bolognese as part of their Design Technology project. The children learnt a range of important cooking skills, and the finished results looked and smelt incredible! A big well done

to them all and thank you to the kitchen staff for their support and kind words about the children's excellent behaviour.

Year 6 also shone this week as they presented their Design Technology playground pitches to visitors from the Friends of Arno Vale Recreation Ground. One of the visitors wrote to say:

"Thank you for allowing the Friends of Arno Vale Recreation Ground to be blown away by the amazing Year 6 children with their pitches for the playground. I hope we manage to get at least some of their ideas into reality in the near future... It is an amazing school!"

High praise indeed – well done Year 6!

Over in Year 3, there was plenty of laughter (and a little embarrassment) as the children found themselves well and truly tricked by their teachers' clever April Fools' prank.

Despite some staff illness in Year 4 this week, the children have responded brilliantly to changes in routine. We've had lovely feedback from our supply teachers about the children's excellent behaviour and attitude to learning – fantastic work Year 4!

*As we head into the Easter break, we'd like to wish all our families a restful and enjoyable holiday. Please remember to stay safe and look after one another. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Tuesday 22nd April**.*

Egg Decorating Competition

We had an egg-cellent time today as we held our annual egg decorating competition—cracking open a whole carton of creativity across the school! The competition was no yolk, with entries that were truly egg-ceptional in every way. We were thrilled to welcome international egg judge Mrs Blakemore, who scrambled to choose the best from each year group—she said it was an egg-stremely tough decision thanks to the egg-straordinary effort everyone put in. Huge congratulations to our egg-stra special year group winners:

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- *Violet in Year 3*
 - *Annabelle in Year 4*
 - *Edee in Year 5*
 - *Evie in Year 6*

- The overall winner, who really shell-shocked the judge with her creativity, was Ava in Year 4—cracking work!
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Every participant will be shell-ebrated with 5 Dojo points from their class teachers, and while everyone deserves a prize, Ava will be whisked away with a voucher for Clip n Climb (courtesy of FOAV)!

Year group winners will also receive an egg-citing prize after the Easter break. Well done to all who took part—you really cracked it!





Arnold Hill Transition

We understand that parents of children attending Arnold Hill in September have received a welcome email today informing them that transition days will be taking place on Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th July. You may have noticed that Friday 4th July is also an INSET day here at Arno Vale and this has been in the calendar all year. This clash was out of our control and we hope it doesn't cause any inconvenience. Please note that children are expected to make their own way to and from Arnold Hill on transition days.

Sport

Our Y5/6 girls football team beat Coppice Farm 4-0 last Friday to make it two wins from two games. Their next match is against Robert Mellors after half term. A win will secure qualification to the knock out stages of the competition.

Our other girls team went away to All Hallows to play in their first ever match. Mr Hill and Mr King were full of praise for how much determination they showed.

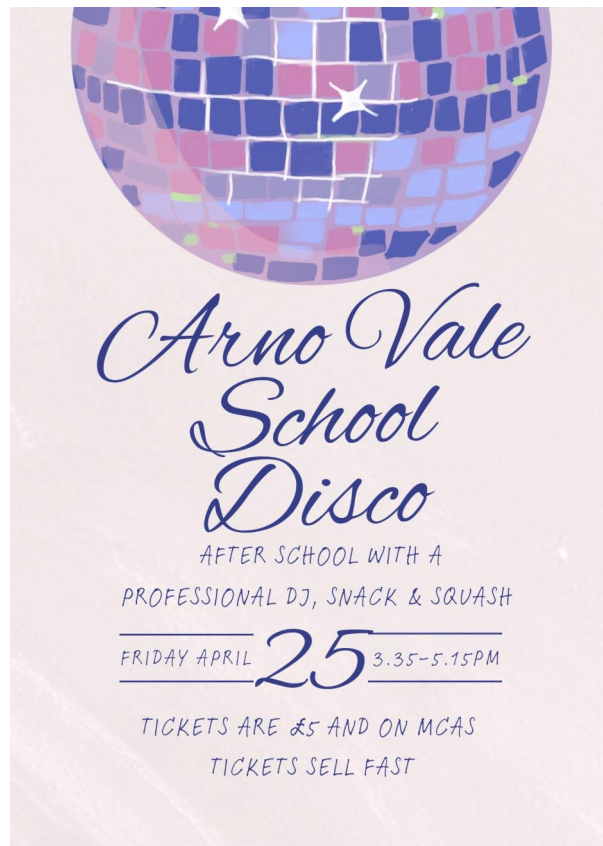
Both boys teams have also been in action this week: a 3-1 win against Hawthorne and a 3-0 win against Good Shepherd.

A group of Y4 children have taken part in an orienteering festival this afternoon.

Well done everyone!

FOAV Disco

FOAV members are organising an after school disco on Friday 25th April. Tickets cost £5 and are available to purchase on MCAS. Children can bring a change of clothes to school if they want to and we'll make time for them to get changed. Please collect your child from the main entrance at 5.15pm prompt. This is another great opportunity to raise additional funds for our ongoing Class Ambassadors' project, dedicated to improving playtime experiences.



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

Birthdays:

Isla M, Oliver, Christy, Isla F and Adam celebrated their birthday this week - Happy Birthday!

Stars of the week:

- 3 Grey – Naomi and Zac W for curiosity.
- 3 White – Solomon and Lenny for independence.
- 4 Orange – Eva and Harry for showing independence.
- 4 Yellow – Orestis and Ralph for determination

- 5 Green – Dylan H for independence and Poppy for respect.
 - 5 Red – Oliver for independence and Eliza for curiosity.
 - 6 Blue – Joe G and Isaac for outstanding levels of determination.
 - 6 Purple – Matylda and Emily R for determination.
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Mr Baker's special mentions for catching people being kind and/or respectful:

A huge thank you to Mr Manchester and his lunchtime gardening squad, who have been working hard to make our school grounds look as good as possible. Lots of children like to help Mr Manchester, but these children have been giving up their playtimes to work hard on a regular basis: Amelia, Ava, Evie, Layla, Iona, Jessica, Esila, Ela, Alice, Tamaira, Sara and Zach.

TTRS:

These 10 children have achieved the most correct answers this half term:

- *Adrian O*
- *Faris M*
- *Harry D*
- *Ben H*
- *Jake B*
- *Tilly G*
- *Raife A*

- *Millie T*
 - *Ivy D*
 - *Evie M*
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Out of school achievements:

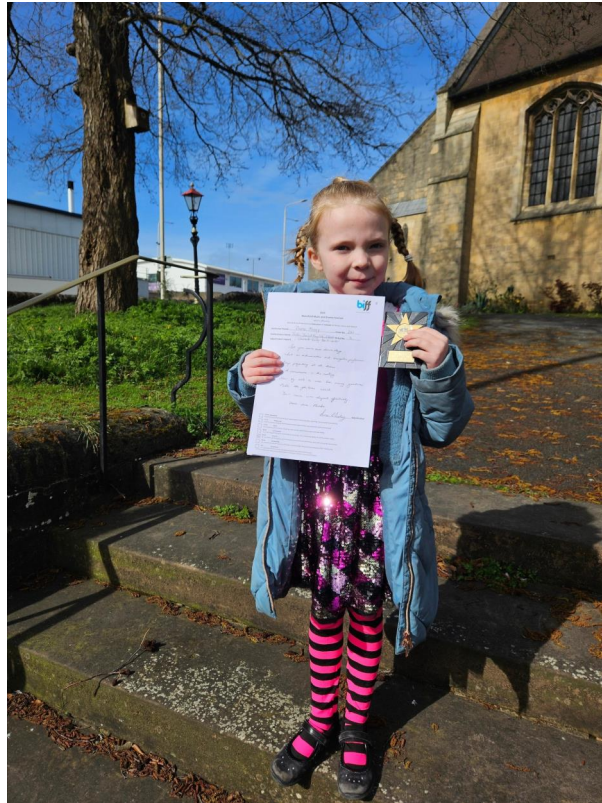
- *Phoebe shared her certificate and plaque from the Mansfield Music and Drama Festival. She performed her character study and won first prize for her portrayal of 'The Jester' in 'Is this a Fairytale?' by Bea Webster. Georgia also spoke about her involvement in the same festival.*
 - *Esme worked hard to achieve a gymnastics medal.*
 - *Tamaira told us about her new Stage 6 certificate from swimming.*
 - *Christie showed off a t-shirt she wore during a recent dance show.*
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Class Challenge:

The challenge over the last 3 weeks was about respecting the school environment and keeping different areas of the school clean and tidy. As all of the classes have done such a great job, every class was awarded 15 minutes of additional break time to be used today.







General messages from the office

School Dinners

The new school dinner menus for the summer term can be found on the school website or you can click this link: [menu-april-2025.pptx](#)

Willersley Castle

The next instalment for the Year 6 residential to Willersley Castle in October is due on Friday 18th April.

Ukulele

There will be NO ukulele lessons on Tuesday 22nd April due to staff training.

Reminders from previous bulletins:

Nut Free Site

*To ensure the safety of all our children and staff, please do not send any items containing nuts to school. This includes snacks, packed lunches and birthday treats. Even trace amounts of nuts can cause severe allergic reactions in some children, **so your cooperation is essential in keeping our school a safe environment for everyone.***

Free School Meals

Transitional Protection for Free School Meals is changing. Here is the current update we have from the council regarding what this means for families:

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- Any child currently eligible for free school meals under transitional protection will continue to be eligible for free school meals until the end of their current phase of education, for example children in year 1 will continue to be eligible until they leave primary school in year 6.*
 - Any child who becomes eligible for free school meals up to 31 March 2025 will continue to be eligible for free school meals until the end of their current phase of education, for example children in year 1 will continue to be eligible until they leave primary school in year 6.*
 - Any child who becomes eligible for free school meals on or after 1 April 2025 will be eligible for free school meals but will be assessed regularly and if there is a change in their circumstances and they no longer receive a qualifying benefit, they will lose entitlement to free school meals.*
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We would encourage you to check to see if you are eligible before the 31st of March by going to the website

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-meals/free-school-meals-and-milk>

or phone on 0300 5008080

Tuck Shop – Summer Term

*This is now available for purchase on MCAS! This will run from the first week back after Easter until the final week of the summer term. The cost is £13 for the full term, which includes a slice of buttered toast and a carton of milkshake. Please make payment by **Sunday, 20th April** to allow the kitchen to cater for everyone.*

Recycling

You may be aware that from the beginning of this week, new recycling legislation came into force that affects most businesses and organisations such as schools. It is called the 'Simpler Recycling' initiative and its aim is to reduce the amount of waste we, as a nation, send to landfill and to encourage more reusing and recycling. Organisations are required to separate their food waste from other refuse and place it in a separate bin for disposal.

We held an assembly at the start of the week to explain this to the children and to inform them of what they need to do at lunchtimes. Children who stay for a school meal will place their food waste into a bin in the hall at the end of their meal. This waste has to be separate from any other type of waste including packaging.

We are asking the children who bring a packed lunch to put any of their waste back into their lunchboxes and take it home. This allows you to see what your child has eaten, what they have left and can encourage discussions around what they like to have for lunch. We have compost bins in school and any fruit or vegetable left overs from snack time (for example apple cores, orange or banana peel) can be deposited in a designated bin ready to be emptied into the compost bins.

After the Easter break, we will be working with the children to look at how we are managing our waste across the school to see what improvements we can make to be as environmentally friendly as we can.

Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

Easter Sports Camp

Please complete the form below to register for this year's Easter Sports Camp, taking place on Tuesday and Wednesday of both weeks:

 **8th (full) & 9th April**

 **15th & 16th April**

 **[Register here](#)**

 *Please note: There is a slight price increase this year – £18 per child, per day. Children from Woodthorpe Infant School are welcome to attend.*

Thank you!

Mr Ward

Community Links

Please check out our website for details about lots of things taking place in our community, including Easter activities:

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

Calendar Dates

Arno Vale Junior School Diary Dates	
Monday 7 th April to Monday 21 st April 2025	Easter holiday
Tuesday 22 nd April 2025	Return to school
Friday 25 th April 2025	FOAV Easter Disco (3.35-5.15pm)
Thursday 1 st May 2025	Conversion date for joining White Hills Park Trust
Monday 5 th May 2025	May Day bank holiday
Monday 12 th May to Thursday 15 th May 2025	Y6 SATs week
Tuesday 20 th May 2025	Class photos (and sports teams)
Thursday 22 nd May 2025	Y3 trip to Cresswell Crag for a Stone Age experience
Monday 26 th May to Friday 30 th May 2025	Half term
Thursday 12 th June 2025	Father's Day coffee and cake
Thursday 19 th June 2025	School Games afternoon
Tuesday 24 th June 2025	Back up School Games afternoon (in case of bad weather on 19/6)
Friday 4 th July 2025	Inset Day
Tuesday 15 th July 2025	Y6 performance
Wednesday 16 th July 2025	Y6 performance
Friday 18 th July 2025	FOAV summer fair
Tuesday 22 nd July 2025	Y6 leavers' festival
Friday 25 th July 2025	Last day of term
Monday 1 st September 2025	Inset Day
Monday 6 th October 2025	Individual photos (and siblings)
Monday 3 rd November 2025	Inset Day
Monday 23 rd February 2026	Inset Day
Friday 3 rd July 2026	Inset Day
Monday 27 th July 2026	Inset Day