

6th September 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome Back!

I do hope you all had a fantastic summer and you're all looking forward to getting back to normal routines now Autumn term has arrived. We would ask that you send the children's wellies to school as soon as possible to enable them to get out and about, no matter the weather. We would also remind you to send in PE kits.

Children have all now been added to their new classes on Teams. Please check this regularly and set notifications up, as we send out photos and reminders on there. If unsure, please ask your child's teacher.

We have been looking at the best ways to communicate information with parents and carers as we know there are a lot of things happening every week to keep your eye on. After careful consideration, and after reflecting on feedback from parents, we are going to continue with this SWAY newsletter format. Rather than bombarding you with hundreds of e-mails, which you might miss, we aim to send this newsletter out every Friday with all the information you will need for the week ahead, along with information on events that will be coming soon. For those of you who aren't aware, I normally give a brief outline of what's coming next week in my intro and then the rest of the newsletter is broken down into different headings- often in time order. Please check these newsletters, they are very helpful.

We have a few major changes this year. One change that will affect you all is the new government guidance on term time holiday/ unauthorised absences. I have attached a leaflet in this newsletter to help you understand what their new fining system means. As a summary the Government have put great emphasis on fining parents if they choose to take their children out of school for holidays.

Authorised holidays will not be allowed and so we are warning you not to book holidays in term time.

As a school we do not see any of the money from these fines. However, we do appreciate the importance of children attending school every day and so we will be working with the Government to improve attendance across school.

The other change links to our behaviour policy, rewards and sanctions. As this is quite a complex change there is another letter going out to explain the changes with a copy of the new policy. The children will have an assembly and lessons in class about the changes. We all feel the old systems were ready for a change and hope this new system will focus on the positives and help children learn what good behaviour looks like. Our main goal is to prepare them for life, being able to behave correctly will set them up well for a positive future.

We look forward to the children sharing their new rewards with you.

Have a great weekend.

Jackie Oldfield, Head Teacher

Calendar



Sept

Mon 16th-Fri 20th - Year 5/6 Visit to Kingswood Dearne Valley

Mon 30th - SEN Parents Coffee Morning (link to form)

Oct

9th & 10th - Parents' Evenings

Mon 21st October - Friday 1st November - School Holidays

Nov

Fri 29th - *Christmas Fair*

Dec

Tues 10th - Book Bus in school

Monday 23rd December - Friday 3rd January - Christmas Holidays



Latest News



Changes to the Behaviour Policy

I am writing to inform you of the changes we have made to our behaviour policy. These changes are part of our ongoing efforts to create a more positive and productive environment for all members of our community. The revised policy aims to promote respect, inclusivity, and accountability, aligning with our core values and commitment to 'Achieving together'. The key changes to the behaviour policy are as follows:

1. Children can now earn an 'AMPS Award'. Individual AMPS Awards will be given to children if they display any behaviour that reflects a value from the school vision. These are specifically

for **personal achievements or personal growth** E.g. being respectful, showing creativity, looking out for others, taking responsibility for their own actions and having a go when things get tricky.

- 2. House points will be given to children if they display any behaviour that reflects a value from the school vision. These are especially for behaviours that **support the whole school's** wellbeing or environment. E.g. being respectful, working as a team, believing in themselves and others and working with others when things get tricky.
 - 3. Shining Star awards will still be given weekly and linked to our school vision.
 - 4. An 'Arnold Mill Warning Card' will be given after all other avenues have been explored. A child will receive an Arnold Mill Warning Card if they break the school rules. The class teacher will contact you and discuss the behaviour we don't want repeating.
 - 5. If a child receives a second Arnold Mill Warning Card a member of the Senior Leadership
 Team will contact you.
- 6. If a child receives a third Arnold Mill Warning Card a meeting will be set up in school with the Headteacher and an Individual Behaviour Plan will be created to support your child's educational needs.
- 7. We are no longer using the star system, therefore children will no longer be working towards bronze, silver and gold stars.

The more detailed policy can be found on our website (link to policy).

We have delivered an assembly with the children today and they are all very excited about earning the new rewards. We are very hopeful we won't have to go down the route of warning cards as most unwanted behaviour will be addressed before we get to this point.

Thanks for your continued support.



Parentkind – the charity that supports school PTAs - have teamed up with Asda, who is making millions of pounds available to donate to primary schools across the UK through their 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative – all you have to do is, opt in through the Asda Rewards app, choose our primary school and shop and scan in store or shop online at Asda.com, between 2nd September and 30th November 2024

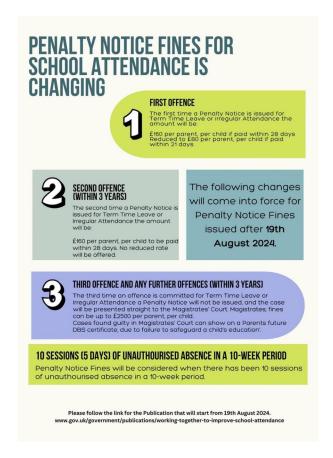
Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to our Primary school. Also, every time somebody opts in, Asda will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot. Plus, it doesn't stop there – Asda are also giving £50 to every school to get them started.

School Attendance: Government changes effective from 19th August 2024

Just a quick reminder that the new Government guidelines have now come into force introducing new measures to tackle the lower rates of attendance which have occurred since the Covid pandemic.

Please see the poster and link below for more information. We will be issuing a new attendance policy in the Autumn term in line with this guidance.

Link to Government Guidance



Internet and Digital Safety



In 2023, Ofcom found that over half of UK children aged between 8 and 11 reported having a smartphone, as well as 96% of UK teens. 18% of 2-4 year olds are gaming online and this rises to over 34% aged 5-7. However, a survey from the Children's Commissioner also found that 45% of under-18s have encountered inappropriate content online That's a high number of children who could benefit from having parental controls on their devices to help safeguard them from such encounters in the future. It is a very good time as we re-start the school year to have a review of the devices children access at home, especially shared devices, which are easily forgotten and make sure our children are as safe as possible.

Due to the sheer volume of devices and apps available for purchase and download, it can be difficult to know where to start when implementing these safety measures @ Please read the attached parent guide - Top 10 Tips for Parents and Educators: Using and Reviewing Parental Controls from the wonderful #WakeUpWednesday Team.



SEND

Please use the link below to register to attend the coffee morning on Monday 30th September.

Link to form



Free Parent Workshop for parents of children with dyslexia

There is a free parent workshop for any parents about supporting their children with dyslexia ran by the local authority. This is on 26th November 9:30-11:30 and is available to book through this link

Link to registration form

School Uniform

We have had a lot of parents ordering the new colour logo school uniform and it looks lovely. This will be available on an ongoing basis and can be ordered using this link Link to online shop

Check sizes before ordering - We have a small sample of uniform in the office if you want to check sizes. We would highly recommend you doing this before purchasing, as there have been some issues with regards sizing. Our suppliers are happy to exchange any ill-fitting items, as long as the items are unworn and still with labels attached.

We will also be keeping a small stock of book bags to purchase from the office for £7.95 (card payments only).





Arnold Mill Branded Uniform

We have recently started working with a new uniform provider, Sportstar, who have provided our leavers' hoodies for many years. Our uniform will still also be available from Just Schoolwear in Arnold. However, the new uniform features a colour logo for the same price and the school receives a small commission for each item sold.





£10 95



Polo Shirt



£7.95



£13 95





T-Shirt

Book Bag

Back Pack

Lunch Bag

School Clubs



Due to it being such a busy half term with the residential trip to Kingswood and parents' evenings, we have decide that clubs will not start until after half term, apart from Gardening Club due to making the most of the light nights (see below for more details). Please keep an eye out for more information in the coming weeks.

Gardening Club

We will be running a Gardening Club for 4 weeks from 17th September for children in years 3-6. There are limited spaces available. If you wish to apply for a place for your child, please complete this form (link to form). We will contact you by 13th September to inform you if your child has been successful.

The club will be dismissed from the Foundation. Please note that the gates to the staff car park will remain locked until after all clubs have finished and the last child collected (unless a member of staff is leaving the premises). If the gate is open, please do not park in the staff car park as you risk being locked in.

Kind regards

Mrs Hopewell, Mrs Humprey & Mrs Carter

PE Timetable

Here are the PE slots for each class:

F1 (am): Tuesday (please come in PE kit)

F1 (pm): Friday (please come in PE kit)

F2a: Wednesday (please come in PE kit)

F2b: Wednesday (please come in PE kit)

1A: Monday and Wednesday (please come in PE kit)

1B: Monday and Wednesday (please come in PE kit)

1C: Monday and Wednesday (please come in PE kit)

2A: Tuesday and Thursday (please ensure you have PE kit in school)

2B: Tuesday and Friday (please ensure you have PE kit in school)

2C: Monday and Tuesday (please ensure you have PE kit in school)

2D: Thursday and Friday (please ensure you have PE kit in school)

2E: Monday and Thursday (please ensure you have PE kit in school)

Previously Published Articles

A message from Carla Rose

CARLA ROSE COUNSELLING



Carlarosecounselling@gmail.com

I have worked as a Teaching Assistant at Arnold Mill for 12 years and in more recent years I have gained my level 4 Diploma in Counselling and have worked as School Counsellor alongside my TA role.

I have now decided to make counselling my sole career, but I will still be working very closely with Arnold Mill.

I will be available to carry out 1-1 private counselling, should you feel your child may need support and encouragement for any concerns that you, or they, may have. This could be for bereavement/loss, stress and anxiety or trauma; or you may just feel that talking to an independent Counsellor, other than a family member or friend, would benefit your child.

The sessions will be carried out in the Den where I have a dedicated counselling room which is a comfortable, safe environment, so your child can express their thoughts and feelings confidentially through creativity and talking, with no judgement.

I am very passionate about how important therapy is for children at a young age as this helps to set them up for a positive response to therapy later in life.

At present I'm available on Wednesday afternoons. Please don't hesitate to contact me at carlarosecounselling@gmail.com should you require any advice, further information or details of the costs.

Kind Regards

School Payments



Dear Parent/Carer

Just a polite reminder that School dinners, tuck, Arnie's Breakfast Club and Millie's After School Club should be paid in advance via your child's ParentPay Account.

TUCK - should be paid in advance. Please note that from now on children will not be able to order tuck unless their account is in credit (ie, topped up with sufficient funds to pay for the item of tuck item they wish to order.

SCHOOL DINNER - should be paid in advance or on the day.

ARNIE'S BREAKFAST CLUB – should be paid for in advance or on the day (if you pay via childcare vouchers we understand that there can be a delay in the funding coming through once you have completed the necessary paperwork and notified the school office)

MILLIE'S AFTER SCHOOL CLUB - should be booked and paid for in advance or on the day (if you pay via childcare vouchers we understand that there can be a delay in the funding coming through once you have completed the necessary paperwork)

I wanted to say a big thank you as the majority of our parents are supportive of our no debt stance and pay their bills promptly/in advance. This approach means we can effectively spend our budget on the children's education rather than paying for unnecessary debts incurred (the school has to pay for every meal/breakfast prepared by the kitchen, for staffing/oncosts for breakfast club and after school club along with admin time spent chasing payments).

It also means that we continue to have a positive working relationships our families; of course in extreme circumstances where a debt remains unpaid the school reserves the right to escalate to a debt collection service (and/or where the debt relates to school meals a parent/carer may be required to provide a packed lunch until the debt is cleared).

Free school meals (FSM) are available to pupils in receipt of, or whose parents are in receipt of, one or more of the qualifying benefits below:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earning from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).
 - Income Support
 - <u>Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance</u> (JSA)
 - Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
 - Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
 - The guarantee element of Pension Credit
 - <u>Child Tax Credit</u> (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
 - Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after the person stops qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

We want to make sure as many eligible pupils as possible are claiming their free school meals. For more information please visit https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-meals/free-school-meals-and-milk or telephone Nottinghamshire County Council on 0300 500 80 80 (you will need your personal details parent/carer national insurance number and date of birth along with the child's details in full, including their date of birth and the school they attend).

All pupils in reception, year 1, and year 2 are entitled to Universal infant free school meals (UIFSM), this is different to FSM so if you met the above criteria to claim for Free School Meals we would be grateful if you still apply for the funding as (a) it helps the school access additional funding streams (b) you will not automatically receive Free School Meals when your child moves to Year 3.

Kind Regards

Mrs Oldfield

Parking



We have had a request from a resident on Mill Crescent to inform our parents that it is a private road and therefore parents should not park on it. We have also had complaints from people living on Galway Road as people have been parking over dropped curbs and blocking driveways.

As a private road, any repairs needed to the road surface are the cost of the residents themselves. Whilst writing, I would ask that you always park considerately around school and would remind you that the school car park is for staff only and should not be used by parents unless collecting a child from Millie's After School Club **after 5pm**.

We would like to remind parents that the car park is for the use of <u>staff only</u> and should not be used for dropping off and picking up. This includes at breakfast club and after school clubs.

Thank you



Useful information



Click through the sheets below for information about:

- Wraparound Care
- PE Timetable
- Free school meals and milk
- Information Leaflet about Strep A
- Academic Calendar 2022-23 (including inset days)
- Link to school policies
- ParentPay
- Easyfundraising
- Cost of Living Helpsheet
- Minor Ailment Scheme help with cost towards medication
- Headlice how to detect and treat
- Inspiring Reading Advice for Parents
- Tax Free Childcare (help towards the cost of Breakfast Club and 30 hour lunchtime supervision fees)

Just click on the symbol in the top left hand corner of the relevant sheet to find out more information on that subject.









Greet your child with a smile and not a mobile!



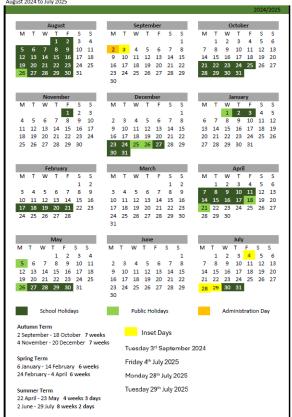
1 - Click here for information about free school meals and milk



2 - Click for important information about Strep A

Nottinghamshire School Holidays 2024-25 August 2024 to July 2025

Nottinghamshire County Council





3 - Click here to see school policies



4 - Click link to visit ParentPay



5 - Click link to sign up to Easyfundraising



6 - Link to Cost of Living Factsheet





Inspiring Reading



Children need support to develop the habit and love of reading. How can you be their inspiration?

- I. Talk about the reader's interests and inclinations find connected
- 2. Think about the reducer's interests and infilinations that connected texts that tempt to explore and discuss together.

 2. Think about why reading is good for them focus on intrinsic motivation rather than external rewards.

 3. Capitalise on opportunities to share reading thoughts and interests.
 - with others encourage them to notice preference and choice.

 4. Find regular opportunities to visit your local/school library.

 5. Make reading time relaxed and interactive chat about pictures,

 - Make reading time relaxed and interactive chat about pictures, characters, likes, dislikes and interesting facts.
 Be a reading detective by investigating the different purposes for reading (e.g. adverts to persuade, news to inform, stories to entertain).
 Recognise and celebrate diversity in texts empower reading of magazines, comics and texts that reflect different realities.
 Invite others into the reading space share the love of reading together in your reading community!

In collaboration with Book Week NI 2022



For more inspiration, visit https://ourfp.org/ OpenUni_RfP





We've signed up for Tax-Free Childcare: Have you?

Find out more at childcarechoices.gov.uk

7 - <u>Link to Tax Free Childcare website</u>



0115 9667930 (option 1 to record a child's absence or option 4 to speak to a member of the admin team)

<u>https://www.arnoldmillprimary.co.uk</u>

https://www.facebook.com/arnoldmillofficial