



Dear Parents and Carers,

A very quick turnaround of another Arnold Update for you. Although there have only been ten school days in April, it is incredibly surprising how much content we have to share from that short period. This is testament to the vibrant offer we are working hard to provide for our wonderful pupils!

A huge thank you to all parents and carers who took a few moments to complete our stakeholder survey. We received 272 survey responses, compared to 247 last year. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, and we are proud that this demonstrates the continuous improvement we have made over time. As the survey was sent out via Pyramid Schools Trust, the usual option to 'tick here if you would request a phone call from a Senior Leader to discuss an area of this survey' was not available. I would like to assure you that this option is possible at any point in the year. We will aim to reach out to ensure your voice and any concerns are heard. We will always aim to listen to feedback and develop in any way we can. Please also come directly to me should you ever feel the need.

Recently, there has been an increase in cyber attacks and email phishing from malicious organizations. Schools are also being targeted, and guidance from our IT support service has been to remove email addresses from our website. Many of you will already have some key email addresses to hand. Please do not hesitate to ask reception for key email addresses or have a teacher pass these on via your child. We would not want this amendment to affect our approachability and the strong relationships we have built between parents, carers, and staff.

Over the past month, we would like to thank you for your kind support of our charity events. Miss. McErlane and Mr. Norman successfully completed their marathons last weekend in very warm conditions. The pupils enjoyed reflective assemblies this week focusing on perseverance, where staff spoke about their efforts towards this cause. They have both raised a brilliant amount, exceeding their targets!

The summer term provides various opportunities for parents to connect and attend events at Arnold. Please keep a close eye on key dates in our Arnold Updates and Parentmail for your chance to enjoy things such as the Year 7 Charity Fair, Our Cultures Day, Sports Mornings / Afternoons, and the Art, DT, and Music Exhibition. We have our next Parent Forum next week on Wednesday 7th May, at 5:30 pm. We will be discussing our approach to Religious and Sex Education, as well as wellbeing and mental health policies and support for our pupils. Please register your attendance [HERE](#) for the event.

Today we say goodbye to a tremendous member of staff, Mrs. Bolton. Clare leaves us to return to her vocation working in law. We are very sad to see her go and wish her well. Mrs. Bolton has such a positive and happy disposition, and pupils in Chiltern and across the whole school have enjoyed the brilliant classroom support she has offered!

Thank you for taking the time to read the April Update. I hope you enjoy the long weekend with your family and friends!

Pete Roberts - Headteacher



Dates for Your Diary

May

WC 5th May

5th - Bank Holiday
7th - Imperial War Museum Trip - Yr 8
7th - Parent Forum

WC 12th May

Year 6 SATs week

WC 19th May

23rd - Last day before Half Term
23rd - Tempest - Y8 & Sports Teams

WC 26th May

26th - Half Term

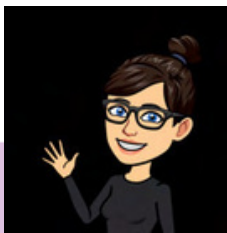
PTA Hundred Club

For £5 a month, you can purchase a number in our 'Numbers Club' and be in with the chance of winning a cash prize. 50% of the monthly prize fund is returned to three lucky winners, with the remaining 50% used to support the purchase of new books for the school library.

WANT TO SHARE AN ACHIEVEMENT?

Whether it's a sporting, musical, writing, cooking or a painting success... We want to hear about it!

Send in your news to
admin@aa.pstrust.co.uk to be featured.



YEAR 5

Form with the Highest Attendance

5LN

Form with the Highest Achievement Points

5LN



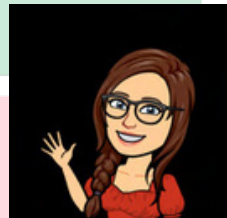
YEAR 6

Form with the Highest Attendance

6SJE

Form with the Highest Achievement Points

6SQ



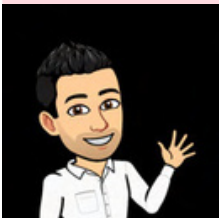
YEAR 7

Form with the Highest Attendance

7DB

Form with the Highest Achievement Points

7CF



YEAR 8

Form with the Highest Attendance

8FP

Form with the Highest Achievement Points

8FP





PYRAMID SCHOOLS TRUST
Working in partnership to future generations' talents, talents and contribute

Follow US

New Facebook page:
Pyramid Schools Trust

X: @ThePyramidTrust

Insta: pyramid_schools_trust

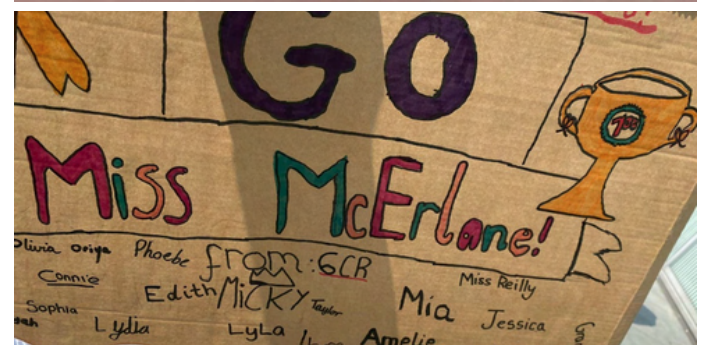




London Marathon

Wow! Huge congratulations to Miss. McErlane and Mr. Norman for their phenomenal achievement in completing the London Marathon on Sunday, April 27th! They crossed the finish line with incredible times of 4 hours and 31 minutes and an amazing 3 hours and 33 minutes respectively.

Their dedication and effort extend beyond their personal challenge, as they have also raised thousands of pounds for their chosen charities: Great Ormond Street Hospital and the NSPCC. We are all incredibly proud of their inspiring commitment and significant contribution to these worthy causes.



Exotic Animals Encounters

Just before the Easter holidays, some of our students had an exciting visit from Exotic Encounters! They had the amazing opportunity to learn about, touch, and even hold a variety of fascinating animals, including snakes, a gecko, a tarantula, a rabbit, and more. The children were thrilled by this hands-on experience and thoroughly enjoyed discovering these incredible creatures up close!



Music

In music this term, we have been learning about African Drumming. Our main instrument has been a Djembe drum. We have also been focusing on polyrhythms.

This is a djembe drum. It is a type of African drum played by hand to produce different tones, such as an open tone and a closed tone.

We have also been learning about rhythm and notation. We have learnt rhymes to help us remember the letter names.

By Daniel (Year 6)



Lunch Time Clubs

Are you bored during lunchtime? Looking for somewhere to take refuge from the cold? Well, if so, this article is about to solve all your biggest problems.

Fun Club

Mrs. Evan's club, also known as the 'Fun Club', is one of the most popular clubs for one reason: the computers. You take turns on them and you can do just about anything on them! Play games, watch videos, or simply search up things you were wondering about. Another fun aspect of this club is that if you don't get a chance to go on the computers (or simply don't want to), there is a chosen video displayed on the board, fit to make you laugh. Also, you can take some scrap paper and simply write or draw! It is absolutely perfect for people who prefer to stay inside. The best thing is that it's every day!

Chess Club

It's in Lab 2 and, well, you play chess. Sometime this year, the best pupils in each house are going to be chosen for a tournament. All places will receive house points, so it is fully worth your time!

Art Club

Art club is the perfect place to try out your talents! If you like drawing, painting, or even arts and crafts, this is the place for you. No matter if you're not good at art, the teachers will help you become an artist even someone Sarah Graham will respect. It takes place every Friday lunchtime for KS2.

German Club

Do you have a passion for learning new languages? Well, this club, run by Mr. Wojcik, will help you achieve this dream of yours. It is for both KS2 and KS3. It takes place every Thursday lunchtime apart from the days Mr. Wojcik is on a trip or sick. People come in there knowing nothing about the German language and come out speaking fluently with a wonderful accent.

By David C (Year 6)

Celtic Harmony Trip

Just before the Easter break, our Year 5 students embarked on an unforgettable trip to Celtic Harmony, stepping back in time to experience life in the Stone Age. The glorious sunshine provided the perfect backdrop for a day spent outdoors, where the children fully embraced history.

From building sturdy dens and trying their hand at hunter-gathering to discovering how ancient tools were crafted, every activity brought the past to life. The highlight of the day? The thrilling Big Hunt, where students put their newfound survival skills to the test! It was a fantastic day of hands-on learning, adventure, and fun.



Maths Challenge

Year 7 pupils took part in a maths challenge in Stevenage at the Education Centre for Learning. This was hosted by Herts for Learning, now known as HFL Education.

A team took part in heat 4 and scored extremely high in this heat, eventually winning. We were then invited to take a team of four to the final to compete against other schools. We were one of only two schools outside Hertfordshire who qualified, which in itself is amazing!

Pupils took part in 4 rounds, with one round being a memory round. The final outcome was that we came 21st out of the 104 schools that participated in the event. The standard was very high, and the questions and activities very challenging. Amazing teamwork from all the pupils!



Reading Competition

Each month, the house with the most words read in each year group earns a point for their house and a 'Reading Trophy' for their form tutor to proudly display in their classroom. A 'Reading Badge of Honour' is then placed on the house boards for everyone to see and celebrate the achievement.

Below are the winners for March and April – congratulations to all the top readers! Keep the fantastic work!



5RF



6JSM



7JF



8RN

Break The Rules Day

What a brilliant way to end last term! Our "Break the Rules" day saw pupils and staff come together to support charity by cheekily breaking school rules for 50p a go. The effort paid off spectacularly, with an amazing £1,300 raised for Great Ormond Street Hospital, the NSPCC, and the Arnold PTA. Congratulations to everyone who took part in this hugely successful event!



Harlington Upper School Design Exhibition

Harlington Upper School would like to warmly invite you to celebrate the creative talents of their students at the Design Exhibition! Join us at Harlington Upper School on Wednesday, 2nd July, from 3:30pm to 6:00pm to admire the exceptional work of their Year 11 and Year 13 students in Textiles, Design & Technology, and Art. For those wishing to continue the celebration, the Pyramid Schools Trust will also be hosting their summer music concert at HUS from 6:00pm on the same day. It promises to be a fantastic event showcasing the incredible achievements of our students! Please refer to the poster below for more details.



Forest School

Some children go to forest school and learn about nature. They get to play in rivers, look for animals, and explore the nature around them. They have a great time. Every four weeks, another group comes to explore the wonders of nature around them. So far, they have found a river and a den. Next week, they will learn about more of the wonders of the forest.

By Taylor (Year 6)

Arnold Academy Art Exhibition

Come and experience the incredible talent of our students at the Arts Exhibition on June 26th! Please see the poster below for detailed information.



Accelerated Reader

Wow! Accelerated Reader is tracking the amazing word count achieved by all our pupils since September – and the numbers are astounding! A huge thank you to the PTA; the funds raised from the 100 Club directly contribute to our children's love of reading by providing a wealth of fantastic books.

Arnold Academy Reads!



In this school year, students have read...

14,881 Books
210,301,177 Words
for **18 minutes/day!**
(individual student average)

RENAISSANCE
Accelerated Reader®

SPORTS NEWS

It has been an excellent start to the term for all pupils within PE. Beginning an athletics unit of lessons that will run across the Half Term, all pupils have worked incredibly well in trying to achieve their 'personal bests' in a wide variety of track and field events. Pupils have put in such fantastic effort so far and will be looking to better these times and distances as the term progresses.

We are also pleased to launch a 'School Records' board in the PE block for all year groups, with pupils striving to hold track and field records within their year group and across the school.

The hectic extra-curricular calendar has also begun, with our Year 8A Boys football squad competing against Woodland School in the u13 County Cup semi-final. Having narrowly been edged in their previous meetings, the boys put in a fantastic display and followed the game plan superbly on the day, winning the game with a convincing 4-1 scoreline. They can now look forward to a County Cup Final in what will be their last ever game for Arnold. As soon as we receive a date for this fixture, this will be communicated. Meanwhile, following an excellent u11 County Cup run, we are now also awaiting news on whether we have qualified for the boys u11 County Cup Final.

We also look forward to the start of the competitive athletics season for all year groups, with Key Stage 3 fixtures running this Half Term and Key Stage 2 fixtures after Half Term. Pupils will all be selected through our 'Talent ID pathway' in lessons, which provides all pupils with substantial and equal opportunities to be selected. With squads chosen across two year groups, we are unfortunately not able to select all talented athletes, but do look forward to district athletics events which provide an opportunity for more to be selected in each age range.

We also look forward to the start of our cricket and rounders seasons, with fixtures upcoming over the coming weeks. With Striking & Fielding on our curriculum after Half Term, these sports teams will be selected through practices. We also look forward to hosting our home Year 7 & 8 cricket matches at Hexton CC, who have again kindly let us use their impressive facility for our home fixtures.

This term, we have also, once again, been delighted to welcome back the Hertfordshire Gaelic Football Association for some curriculum coaching. Attending each Wednesday and working with a mixture of our boys' and girls' classes, it has been great to see many of our pupils enjoying the sport.

Finally, as the weather is improving and increasing in temperature, please continue to send your child in with the correct kit and plenty of fluids for all lessons. Thank you for your support.

KS2 Girls Netball

As we wrap up another brilliant season, we're proud to celebrate the excellent achievements of our KS2 Girls Netball Team. The girls have shown outstanding teamwork, resilience, and sportsmanship throughout every match and training session.



SPORTS NEWS

KS3 Girls Rugby

We're thrilled to share the latest news from our dynamic and dedicated KS3 Girls Rugby Team. It's been an exciting term filled with growth, determination, and plenty of muddy boots!

We'd like to give a huge thank you to Edd Rhodes, who has been working closely with the girls this term. His dedication, encouragement, and expertise have had a real impact on the players' development and confidence, both on and off the pitch.

We are looking forward to the upcoming 7s tournament that the girls are taking part in next week.



Sports Day

Just before the Easter holidays, the six houses participated in sports day. The girls were saving and scoring in football, and the boys were hurling the ball across the air in handball; everyone had a fantastic time! The girls and boys are both split into two teams, cup and shield, yet all twelve teams did excellently, putting their hearts into it no matter what score they achieved.

By **Sophie, Eliza, Maria, Mariam, Amirah**

Sports Week

Sports Week proved to be a huge success, actively engaging pupils in exciting competitions and fostering a real sense of fun.



PTA NEWS

March was another busy month for the PTA team, with a successful Mothers & Others shop. We are sure that our pupils enjoyed celebrating all those who are important to them on Mother's Day.

The spring term concluded with two great events: Break the Rules Day and our family bingo session at Barton Rovers. Through the penalty fines for 'breaking the rules' and family bingo, Arnold Academy PTA donated £700 to each of the charities that Miss McErlane and Mr Norman ran the London Marathon for – the NSPCC & Great Ormond Street Hospital respectively. Their commitment to the marathon training has been wonderful to see!

As it is such a busy summer term, we thought it would be useful to share details of what we have coming up this term:

Thursday 8 May - KS2 celebration disco for our London Marathon runners, with all proceeds going to their chosen charities.

We have limited tickets left for this disco, so please do purchase them as soon as possible via Parentmail.

Monday 9 June to Friday 13 June - our Father's Day shop will be open for the pupils to buy gifts for those important in their lives.

Friday 27 June - our last family bingo night of the school year, being hosted by our friends at Barton Rovers. Tickets will be available to purchase in the next few weeks.

Thursday 3 July - summer disco for KS2 & KS3. Details to follow after May half term.

Most importantly, through your continued support, we have been supporting Arnold with the funding of equipment and extra learning resources. Over the last few months, we have provided support for the following:

- The refurbishment of the Hub, which is used to provide mental well-being support to our pupils by teachers and external agencies. With thanks also to Deans Flooring, who provided the new carpet free of charge.
- A mental health workshop for all year groups.

As a PTA, we are passionate about supporting the mental health of our pupils and will continue to do so going forward.

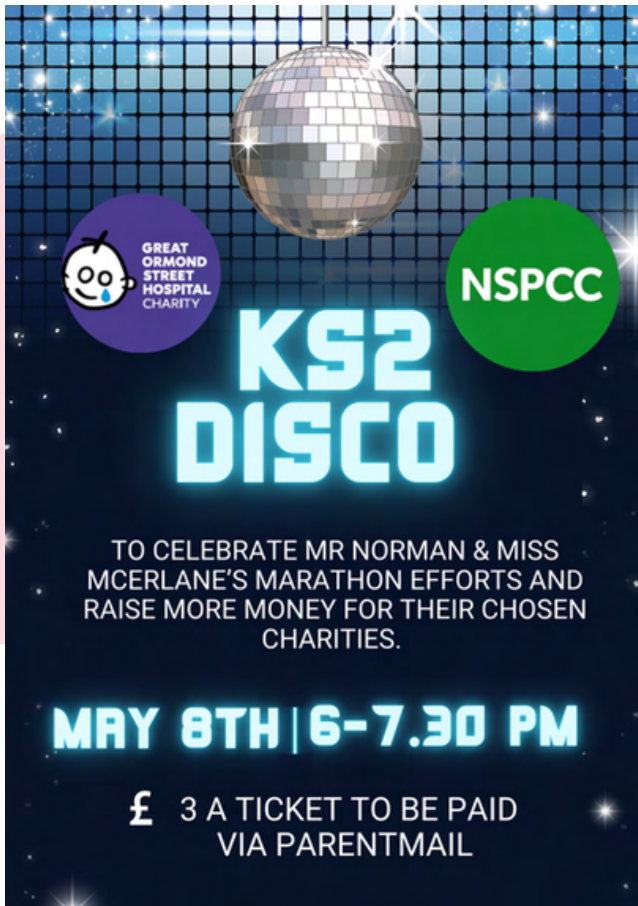
Pre-loved School Uniform

As we look forward to welcoming the new Year 5 pupils in September, our stock of pre-loved uniform is rather depleted. If you have good quality branded uniform to donate, please could we ask that you drop this off at the school office at your earliest convenience. Please note that we are unable to accept non-branded uniform.

With thanks to all for your continued support of the Arnold PTA.



PTA NEWS



100 Club

Our 100 Club is a monthly draw. Each month, 70% of all of the entry money is distributed back to three winners, with the remainder being used for the school to purchase some lovely new school library books for the pupils to borrow and enjoy.

We do have some unallocated numbers if you would like to get involved. Entry is £5 per number, payable by standing order each month.

If you would like to join our 100 Club, please see the instructions in the 'Information for Parents/PTA' section of the Arnold Academy website or contact the PTA by email (pta@aa.pstrust.co.uk) for further details.

