



Dear Parents and Carers,

As a short half-term ends, we are delighted to share with you the May Arnold Update. I am excited to have sent this newsletter to the families of the 180 pupils who will be joining us in Year 5 from September. Welcome to the Arnold community; we look forward to seeing you all in person really soon! You will have received transition information and dates from us already, but if you have any queries or concerns about the process in the meantime, please do not hesitate to reach out to us!

It has been a very productive half-term for the pupils, despite only being twenty-three days long. Year 6 and Year 8, in particular, have been absolutely brilliant in the formal assessments they carried out over recent weeks. It was tremendous to see them live out our value of the importance of their education and being their best. You will have the opportunity, as always, to read about the wider curriculum experiences and achievements across this edition of the Arnold Update.

As you will already be aware, Central Bedfordshire Council are once again carrying out a consultation to change school bus transport. This severely changes and potentially disadvantages many of you, especially in the future, of being provided a free bus service from local villages to Arnold. The consultation remains open until late June and can be accessed [here](#). Following multiple requests for the consultation to include a meeting local to this area, as it will be one of those most affected, a meeting has been arranged. Attending this event will allow you to gain further information, ask questions, and share your views directly with council members. However, it will be incredibly important for each of you to complete the formal online consultation feedback also, as having attended a school-focused event myself, I was aghast that officers wrote nothing down of my detailed concerns. The meeting will be based at Barton Rovers Football Club and will be the evening of Thursday, June 19th. Please ensure you review how this potential change will affect you, or others you know, and set this time aside to ensure your opinion is received.

As you know, we are part of Pyramid Schools Trust. Two of their leaders carried out a review we requested on our Pupil Development, Pupil Premium Strategy, and Behaviour and Attitudes school offer. I am pleased to say that it recognized the strong work delivered in these areas. This has helped us sharpen our focus on how to improve delivery further. One area from pupil voice which continues to be shared by our young people was that of online social media, chat groups, and peer-on-peer abuse. The pupils are sharing that they are still being exposed to these concerns and reporting it affects them. We will continue to be proactive in our curriculum to expertly educate our pupils with online safety and etiquette and respect of others. We will once again gain value from working with external agencies in this plight. I request and remind all parents to be extremely proactive in their decisions around access to social media, apps, and screen time limits. Our Arnold children are sharing real concerns in this area, and we must do more as a community to improve this area of their lives! We will once again discuss this, and areas of mental health, at our final Parent Forum of the year. The forum will be on Thursday 26th June at 6:30pm. To register your attendance, please use this [link](#). We hope to see a record amount of parents attend for this tremendously important topic.

Another reminder that we have a number of brilliant opportunities to visit the school and be involved as a parent coming up, such as the Year 7 Charity Fair, Our Cultures Day, Sports Mornings, and the Art, DT, and Music Exhibition. Keep an eye on our school calendar on the website or the diary section of the Arnold Update to plan your attendance.

Thank you for taking the time to read the Arnold Update. I hope you enjoy the half-term break with your family and friends!

Pete Roberts - Headteacher



Dates for Your Diary

June

WC 2nd June

2nd - 4th - Year 6 PGL Trip
6th - Tempest Photos (Year 8 and Sports Teams)

WC 9th June

Father's Day Stall - PTA
10th - Year 5 Whipsnade Trip
11th - Year 8 Wicked Theatre Trip
13th - Year 8 HPV

WC 16th June

18th - Year 7 & Year 8 BAE
20th - Cultures Day

WC 23rd June

26th - Art Exhibition

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

7KM

Form with the Highest Achievement Points

7CF



YEAR 8

Form with the Highest Attendance

8FP

Form with the Highest Achievement Points

8FP

Celebrating Our Arnold Values Achievers!

We believe in recognising and celebrating pupils who truly embody our core values. Each week, our dedicated form tutors have the special task of nominating one pupil from their form who has consistently demonstrated these important principles in their actions and attitude.

As a small token of our appreciation, each nominated pupil receives a vending machine voucher, allowing them to choose a well-deserved prize!

We are delighted to announce our recent Arnold Values Award winners:

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| ★ 5CE: Freddie | ★ 7DB: Spencer |
| ★ 5CP: Nicholas | ★ 7JK: Rishi |
| ★ 5JMC: Amaia | ★ 7KM: Charlie |
| ★ 5LM: Abigail | ★ 7CF: Mia |

Congratulations to all of these pupils for being such excellent role models!

But that's not the only way our pupils can earn rewards! We also celebrate reading success through our Accelerated Reader programme. Any pupil who reaches the incredible milestone of 1 million words read is automatically entitled to select a prize of their choosing. What a fantastic achievement!

Our exciting school competitions also provide opportunities to win those amazing vouchers, so keep an eye out for upcoming challenges!

Finally, we have our popular weekly raffle for all pupils who successfully pass Accelerated Reader quizzes during that week. One lucky pupil is selected at random every Friday to win a prize from the vending machine. It's a great incentive to keep reading and quizzing!

Stay tuned to the next newsletter for even more winners and celebrations of our wonderful pupils.





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Working in partnership with 14 local primary schools, helping them to flourish

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Warwick Castle

What a fantastic way to round off last month! Year 7 thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Warwick Castle. The day was an absolute whirlwind of fun activities and captivating exploration, with incredible sights and countless opportunities for discovery and learning.



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.



UMKT Junior Challenge

On May 1st, 113 pupils from Years 7 and 8 took part in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge. This is a multiple-choice mathematics competition for pupils in the junior school years, generally up to Year 8. It aims to encourage mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency in problem-solving. Finley achieved Best in School, as well as Best in Year 8, while Daksh achieved Best in Year 7.

Three pupils achieved Gold certificates, 29 achieved Silver, and 38 Bronze. This is an incredible achievement, and we are very proud of them.



School Disco



Arnold had a KS2 disco to celebrate Miss. McErlane and Mr. Norman running in the London Marathon. It was held in the gym and the dinner hall from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. They had Domino's there and tons of sweets.

By Lara and Clara (Year 5)



Calling All Junior Dukes: Time to Shine!

With SATs officially behind us, it's time to shift gears and dive into an exciting challenge: the Junior Duke of Edinburgh Award! We're thrilled that over 40 pupils have signed up for this fantastic programme, but now it's time to get those challenges completed. So far, only 10 pupils have started working on the required 10 tasks, and we want to see many more take the leap!

Making Progress on the Challenges:

To help everyone along, we've been running some great opportunities:

- **Caring for Others:** For the past five weeks, pupils have had the chance to participate in litter picking sessions. This is a brilliant way to contribute to our community and tick off the "Caring for Others" challenge. These sessions will continue for the rest of the Summer Term!
- **First Aid & CPR Training:** This is a core challenge that every pupil must complete for the Junior Duke of Edinburgh Award. We've been running training sessions for the past five weeks, and they've been incredibly valuable. If a session has been missed, don't fret! Another First Aid CPR training session will be held in June. Please keep an eye out for notices with the exact date and time.

Need a Helping Hand?

Remember, Mr. Lumley is available every Thursday lunchtime to help any children who need support understanding or completing a challenge. Don't hesitate to pop in and see him – he's there to help them succeed!

Let's make the most of this term and see a huge number of pupils complete the Junior Duke Awards. It's a wonderful way to learn new skills, help others, and achieve something truly special!

Our Students Paving the Way for Safer Roads!

We are incredibly proud to share some fantastic news about two of our very own students, Megan and Alaysia, and their incredible dedication to road safety in our local area!

Last year, as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award, Megan and Alaysia took on a vital project focused on road safety. They did an absolutely amazing job highlighting the dangers of speeding cars right here in our community. Their hard work and commitment in raising awareness were truly outstanding!

Thanks to their brilliant efforts, their project has recently gained significant traction. We're thrilled to announce that there's now a petition available to sign at the Parish Council Office advocating for a 20 MPH zone! This proposed zone would stretch from Ivel Close (off Manor Road) up to the double yellow lines on the bend past the school alleyway.

This is a direct result of Megan and Alaysia's impactful work, and it's a testament to how our students can make a real difference in the community. We are so proud of their initiative and the positive change they are helping to bring about.

Here's a photo of Megan signing the petition – a powerful moment showing her continued commitment to safer roads for everyone!

Do you want to support this important cause? You can sign the petition at the Parish Council Office and help make our local roads safer for all!



PGL : The Year 6's Best Experience of the Year!

What is PGL?

This year, the Year 6s are going on a residential trip called PGL. The camp is located in Boreatton Park, and the activities include abseiling, a silent disco, and a giant swing! There are many students attending, and all of them are sure to have a delightful time! The pupils who are going on the trip have chosen their dorm mates and (possibly) other people to share a dorm room with. Pupils must bring their own blankets or sleeping bags as PGL will not provide any. You can bring money if you wish to purchase anything in the shop at PGL; however, you cannot bring any more than £10.

Silent Disco

On the second day of this exciting trip, the Year 6s will have a silent disco. Don't worry, there will be music; however, instead of everybody listening to one song, you can listen to your own through headphones! Everybody can groove to their own tunes and still dance together, and if anyone happened to walk in, they would see everyone dancing to nothing!

Sadly, there are rules at PGL 😞

- Do not bring any valuable electronics or jewellery. Lights off at 10:00 (but you can talk a bit – tehe)
- If you bring any money, the limit is £10.00
- 😊 ~ TO HAVE FUN ~ 😊

You will love PGL

Remember, if you are worried about PGL, tell a parent/guardian or even your form tutor, as they might be going to PGL and can support you!

- Donut 🍩 worry!
- Bee 🐝 happy!
- And that is the key 🔑 to enjoying PGL!

If you are not going to PGL, do not worry, as the staff have got some fun planned for you too 😊

By Aayah, Amirah, Eliza, Maryam, Taylor, Maria and Sophie (Year 6)



Congratulations to Mrs. Cutmore!



We extend our warmest congratulations on some happy personal news! Over the recent Easter break, Miss. Dunnigan from Chiltern celebrated her marriage and is now Mrs. Cutmore. Parents can be assured that it is still the same dedicated individual supporting their children, simply with a new name. We wish Mrs. Cutmore all the very best in this new chapter.

Forest School

We continue to be incredibly fortunate to be able to offer Forest School sessions with our highly experienced, knowledgeable and enthusiastic Forest School Leader, Mrs. Denman, in Lively Land - the forest space at the back of the school that we share with Ramsey. A growing number of children across the school are being given the opportunity to take part in these sessions which focus on increasing our well being, developing our relationships and increasing our emotional regulation skills in a relaxed outdoor environment.

Comments from the children that have participated include "I really enjoy making the den and going back to add to it with my friends - we have fun", "It's adventurous. I really like exploring the forest and love the hot chocolate and treats" and commented that they particularly enjoy campfire cooking, pond dipping, fire starting and relaxing in a hammock.



PUPIL SPOTLIGHT

Trio of Triumph: Year 5 Football Stars Crowned Champions!

We're thrilled to share some fantastic news about three of our very talented pupils: Thomas (Year 5), Zak (Year 5), and Joey (Year 5) who play in the St. Joseph's Football Club.

These incredible boys recently triumphed in the Chiltern Youth League U11 Spring League Cup, showcasing remarkable skill, teamwork, and unwavering determination throughout the competition.

Their journey to becoming Spring Cup Champions involved navigating several challenging games, including hard-fought quarter and semi-finals. The final itself was a nail-biting affair, ending in a 1-1 draw at full time. We're delighted to report that Joey netted the crucial equalizing goal for St. Joseph's!

The excitement continued into extra time, where the team dug deep and secured two further goals to clinch a well-deserved 3-1 victory.

What makes this achievement even more impressive is that Thomas, Zak, and Joey are playing up a year group, meaning they were competing against a team a full year older than themselves! This remarkable feat speaks volumes about their talent and dedication.

A massive well done to Thomas, Zak, Joey. We are incredibly proud of your success and the spirit you demonstrated on the pitch. Congratulations on becoming the Spring Cup Champions!



Double Dance Delight for Talented Student!

We're thrilled to shine a spotlight on the wonderful achievements of one of our talented pupils, Maya!

Maya has recently demonstrated exceptional dedication and skill in the world of dance, successfully passing two dance examinations with the highest possible honour: a Distinction in both Ballet and Modern.

This impressive accomplishment is a testament to the many hours Maya dedicates to her passion at the Sophie May School of Dance, attending classes after school and on Saturdays. Her hard work, commitment, and evident talent have truly paid off.

A huge well done to Maya on this fantastic achievement! The entire school community applauds your dedication and success. Keep up the amazing work!

Gymnastics Star Shines at First Competition!

We are delighted to share some wonderful news regarding one of our talented pupils, Mae. Sunday 11th May marked Mae's debut in a gymnastics competition, and she achieved remarkable success!

Mae demonstrated incredible skill and dedication, earning a bronze medal in the Vault event and a gold medal on the Beam.

Her consistent performance across all apparatuses culminated in a fantastic silver medal overall in her age category. The entire school community extends its warmest congratulations to Mae on this impressive accomplishment. We are all incredibly proud of her hard work and success!



ECO WEEK

The students have been learning about native species of the UK and the animals and plants that inhabit lively land during Eco Week. This included a week of assemblies from Miss Donovan sharing the local environment with suggestions of local nature areas to visit during half term.

The wildlife camera has proved very successful and has been placed near the little pond that Mr Lumley and some students successfully built last year. It has proved a real wildlife magnet, as you can see from some of the photos. A variety of native birds, including pheasants, blue tits, chiffchaffs, and some amazing nocturnal mammals in the form of muntjac deer, foxes, and badgers, have been captured (see photos below). Please ask your children about them; the excitement is high.

We are so lucky to have such a diverse abundance of species present within our site, and it is a real learning opportunity for students to engage with nature and understand the positive impact it can have on their lives.



Eco Photography Competition



Dates for the Diary

Our Year 5s have been learning about British butterflies, and Ramsey Manor School is hosting an after-school event on **Tuesday 3rd June** from 3:30pm, to showcase the amazing work both schools have produced.

Our local Wildlife Trust Officer, Matt Sutcliffe, has provided a great assembly on the Wildlife Trusts' '30 Days Wild' campaign, running through June. This is a national campaign filled with activities to enable students to engage with the outside environment.

Feel free to sign up as a family:
www.wildlifetrusts.org/30dayswild

We look forward to more lessons outside as the summer continues and updating you on all things ECO.



SPORTS NEWS

Rugby 7s Tournament

Mr Devereux took a team of Year 7 and Year 8 boys to the Stockwood Park Rugby 7s tournament on Friday 2nd May. The boys played amazing rugby in some lovely conditions. The boys won all their games leading to the final. Which they, unfortunately, lost 4-3.



Year 8 Football Team

A huge well done to the Year 8 Football team for a fantastic season and for reaching the County Cup Final.

Despite losing 8-3 to a strong Lealands team in the final, the boys played some great football and showed excellent character, winning the second half 3-1.

To finish as runners-up from the 28 teams who entered the competition is outstanding! We're proud of you all!



KS3 Girls Shine at Rugby 7s Tournament!

Our Key Stage 3 girls rugby team recently had a fantastic day out, competing in a Rugby 7s tournament. The girls displayed incredible skill and teamwork throughout the day, scoring multiple tries and making us all incredibly proud.

It was wonderful to see their dedication and enthusiasm on the pitch. Well done to all the girls who participated!

Year 8 Rounders Team

A huge congratulations to our Year 8 Rounders team who have had a fantastic start to their season! They've already won two out of three games, showcasing their skill and teamwork on the field. A special shout-out goes to Holly, who has been nominated as Player of the Match twice by the opposition – an outstanding achievement! Keep up the great work, Year 8!

Year 7 Rounders Team

Our Year 7 Rounders team has been demonstrating some excellent teamwork and steady improvement with each game they play. It's fantastic to see their dedication and how quickly they're developing their skills. We're excited to watch their progress throughout the season!



PTA NEWS

It has been a relatively quiet month for the PTA, whilst we reserve our energies for the remaining weeks of this school year.

We were delighted to hold a celebratory disco for Miss. McErlane and Mr. Norman to congratulate them on their London Marathon achievements. This raised an additional donation of £200 each, so with all monies raised, the NSPCC & Great Ormond St Hospital have respectively received a fantastic £900 from Arnold pupils.

We sold another 420 doughnuts for Krispy Kreme Friday on the last day of term, raising further funds for Arnold. We never realised the love that our pupils have for these doughnuts! Once we return to school in June, the tickets for the family bingo evening on Friday 27th June and the summer disco on Thursday 3rd July will be on sale. These will bring to a conclusion what has been another successful year of fundraising for Arnold.

Funding during this term:

We were delighted to support the Textiles Department with the purchase of materials to support screen printing workshops. This has only been possible with the continued support of the Arnold community.

'A big thankyou to the PTA for kindly funding an exciting new Textiles printing project. With the funding we were able to purchase some screen printing equipment and the year 7 students have created some fantastic fabric designs inspired by French Artist Henri Matisse' - Miss. O'Toole

