



Friday 24th October 2025

Hexton Road, Barton-le-Clay, Bedford, MK45 4JZ Tel: 01582 616400

October Edition

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the October edition of the Arnold Update. A very Happy Diwali to our Hindu community, who celebrated earlier this week.

It has been a long half-term, and with the weather and light changing, I am sure you are all feeling the tiredness, as are the children and staff here! As ever, we have packed a lot of activities and opportunities around the core of excellent education we endeavour to deliver here at Arnold this autumn.

Huge thanks to the PTA team for another brilliant and spooky Halloween disco this week. The children certainly enjoyed it!



It was lovely to host so many of you in person or virtually as part of the Parents' Evenings during October. We have also enjoyed coffee mornings and the Parent Forum over the last few weeks, which have been well attended. Our next Coffee Morning is a SEND Information session for all parents and carers on Friday 21st November at 9.15am. This is being supported by external agencies, and there will be more of these across the year. To register your attendance for the event, please use this [LINK](#).

We have enjoyed transition events for local feeder schools during this past month. Prospective Year 4 pupils have spent the morning at Arnold again, having Science, Food Tech and PE lessons. Another reminder that we have our Open Evening on Wednesday 5th November at 5pm. If you know of anyone looking for school places, please share, retweet, or forward any correspondence from the school. We still have a small number of places available in the current Year 6, as well as receiving applications for Year 5 in September. After the Open Evening, we will have Open Morning Tours, which will be bookable on our website from 5th November onwards. As a current parent, if you have not seen us live during the school day, a reminder that you are very much welcome to tour our classes when we advertise these events! Parents are integral to life here at Arnold, and we welcome your involvement in the journey of your child through the school.

I really hope you enjoy reading about the news and activities in this edition. We hope you have a restful break over the half-term and look forward to seeing you in November!

Pete Roberts - Headteacher



Dates for Your Diary November

W/C 3rd November

3rd - First Day Back

4th - Faith Tour Year 7 Y Band

5th - Open Evening

W/C 10th November

11th - Remembrance Day

13th - SATs Info Evening (Year 6 Parents)

14th - Children in Need

W/C 17th November

17th - Anti Bullying Week

19th - PTA Christmas Shopping Event

21st - Parents SEND Coffee Morning

W/C 24th November

25th - Parent Forum

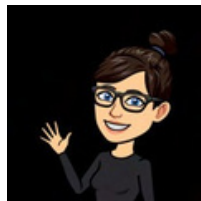
28th - Staff Training Day

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 Group News

YEAR 5

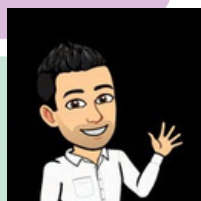
Form with the Highest Attendance

5RN

Form with the Highest Achievement Points

5CP

YEAR 6

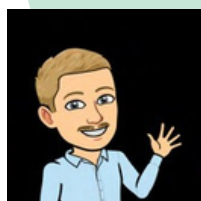


Form with the Highest Attendance

6FP

Form with the Highest Achievement Points

6DD



YEAR 7

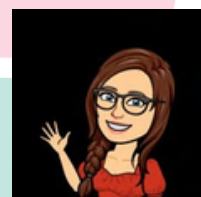
Form with the Highest Attendance

7SR

Form with the Highest Achievement Points

7SR

YEAR 8



Form with the Highest Attendance

8JMc

Form with the Highest Achievement Points

8DB

HOUSE NEWS

KS2 Spooky Story House Competition Results!

Our House Representatives have been busy judging the KS2 Spooky Story House Competition, and what a challenge it was! We had so many amazing entries this year, with pupils showing off their creativity, imagination, and storytelling skills. After much careful reading (and a few shivers down the spine!), the judges narrowed it down to the following winners:

Year 5

- 🏆 1st – Riya (5RN – Attenborough)
- 🥈 2nd – Amelie (5KM – Rashford)
- 🥉 3rd – Lily (5KM – Rashford)

Year 6

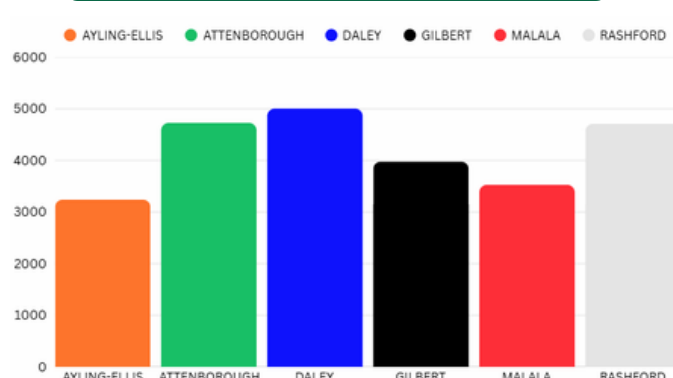
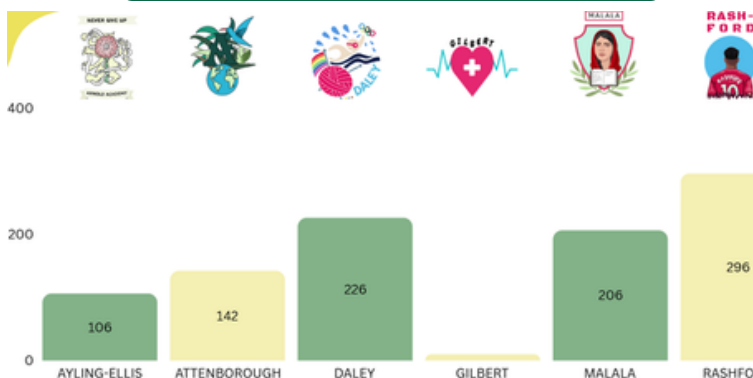
- 🏆 1st – Aarya (6LN – Rashford)
- 🥈 2nd – Victoria (6LN – Rashford)
- 🥉 3rd – Ella (6DD – Attenborough)

A huge well done to all our winners and to everyone who took part, the standard of writing was truly spooktacular! 🎃

Prizes and certificates will be presented during registration, congratulations once again to all our talented storytellers!

HOUSE POINTS

ACHIEVEMENT POINTS



🍰 Harlington Bake Off 2025 🍪🍰

On Tuesday 21st October, nine talented Arnold students took part in the exciting Harlington Bake Off!

Students from Arnold, Parkfields, and Harlington were mixed into teams named after famous chefs - Prue Leith, John Torode, Gregg Wallace, Gordon Ramsay, Nadiya Hussain, Mary Berry, Paul Hollywood, and Jamie Oliver.

Each group faced the challenge of baking five creative dishes: ghostly brownies, healthy pizzas, spooky cookies, monster burgers, and bone-shaped choux buns! Students could choose to bake individually or in pairs, and the results were truly impressive. 🧑🍳👩🍳

🏆 **The results are in!**

🥇 **1st Place: Team Prue Leith - Evania's Arnold spider biscuits stole the show!**

🥈 **2nd Place: Team Jamie Oliver - Isobel wowed the judges with her chocolate brownies.**

🥉 **3rd Place: Team Tom Kerridge - Sofija's choux pastry was simply outstanding!**

Every one of our Arnold students did us and Mr. Burr proud! 🌟

A huge thank you to all the students and to the wonderful staff from Harlington and Parkfield for making the day such a success.



Reading Superstar Alert! 📖🌟

We are incredibly proud to celebrate Amirah (Year 7), who has reached an outstanding milestone - an astonishing 20 MILLION words read!

This remarkable achievement reflects Amirah's dedication, love of reading, and commitment to learning. Hitting such a high word count is no small feat and places her among the top readers in the school. Her accomplishment is an inspiration to us all and a reminder of the power of books to expand our minds and imaginations.

Well done, Amirah! We can't wait to see how many more millions you'll reach next!

Celebrating Our Arnold Values Achievers!

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

★ Molly - 8JF

★ Harry - 6JW

★ Max - 8JMc

★ Charlotte - 6FP

★ Darcy - 6LN

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

📖 Accelerated Reader Library Quiz Raffle 📖

★ Harry - 7SR

★ Meda - 5LH

★ Isaiah - 7JSE

Millionaires Row!

We celebrate reading success through our Accelerated Reader programme. Any pupil who reaches the incredible milestone of 1 million words read during their time at Arnold, is automatically entitled to select a prize of their choosing from the vending machine. What a fantastic achievement! Congratulations to our new Millionaires for October:

★ Dexter - 8DB

★ Stanley - 8JF

★ Ismail - 6JW

★ Grace - 6FP

★ Abigail - 5AT - **Our first Year 5 Millionaire of the year!!** 🎉👏

New Graphic Novels Thanks to PTA 100 Club!

Thanks to the generous support of our PTA 100 Club members, we've added a fantastic new collection of graphic novels to the school library. These books are already a huge hit with Arnold pupils, offering exciting stories and eye-catching artwork that inspire a love of reading. Thank you to everyone involved for helping us keep our library fresh and engaging!



📢 Applications are officially OPEN! 🎉

Train to Teach with the Pyramid Teaching Partnership! Your journey to inspire and #BeTheFuture starts now. Apply today! 🍎🌟



Honouring Remembrance Day Through Art

Our pupils have been busy in Art this term, creating a stunning display of handmade poppies to mark Remembrance Day. Each poppy has been carefully crafted as part of a thoughtful and meaningful project that reflects the importance of remembering those who have served and sacrificed.

The beautiful poppies have been brought together in a striking art installation, now on display within the school. This collective piece not only showcases the creativity and care of our pupils, but also stands as a powerful tribute to those we remember.

We are proud of the respect and reflection our pupils have shown throughout this project, and we invite the school community to take a moment to view the installation and pay their respects.



Year 8 Design & Technology Food Homework – Ingredient List Now Online

We're pleased to let parents/carers and pupils know that the ingredient list for the Year 8 Design & Technology (Food) homework is now available on the school website. To find it, simply visit the Homework section and scroll to the bottom of the page. There is also a link provided below for easy access.

[D&T Food - Year 8 Homework Ingredient List](#)

Junior Duke is Underway!

We're excited to announce that this year's Junior Duke Award is now up and running! All participating children will receive their booklets before half term, and are welcome to begin the challenges right away.

Once a challenge is completed, pupils need to hand their booklet to Mr. Lumley for review. He'll check that enough evidence has been provided to pass the challenge and offer advice if any extra work is needed.

Each booklet includes a helpful letter with tips and guidance on how to successfully complete the Junior Duke Award so be sure to read it carefully! Good luck, and enjoy the adventure!

🧥 Wrap Up UK – Coat Collection Drive 🧥

We're supporting Wrap Up UK this October–November by collecting good quality coats for those in need.

- ✅ Men's, women's & children's coats (new or second-hand)
- 🚫 No other clothing items, please
- 📍 Drop off at the school
- 🎯 Helping the homeless, families & shelters stay warm this winter

Let's make a difference together! ❤️



WHAT IS WRAP UP UK?
Wrap Up UK is an annual project run by Rotary Clubs working in partnership with Hands On London. Its sole aim is to collect coats for distribution to charities supporting people across the UK who struggle to keep warm during the winter months.

COATS FOR ALL
We collect coats new or "well loved" (second hand). Women's, Men's, Young people's and Children's coats in all sizes. We ask that you only send coats that you would be happy to receive. Dirty coats with buttons missing and a broken zip aren't nice for anyone – especially someone currently living in crisis.

WE CAN ONLY ACCEPT COATS
While we really appreciate your good intentions, please do not send us any other clothing items. Every coat counts in our quest to provide warmth to the homeless, those in need and families in crisis.

THE RECIPIENTS
The coats will be passed on to charities working in this area with the homeless, women's refuges, night shelters, and others. This includes adults and young people of all ages.

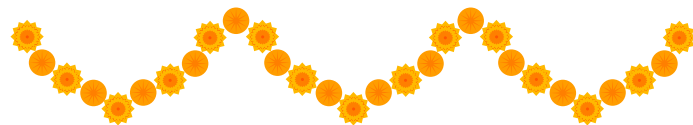
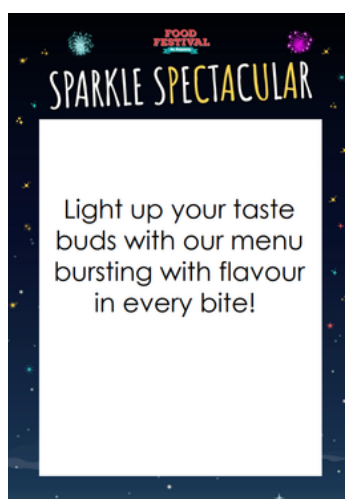
THE PRACTICALITIES
Rotary will supply a collection box and plastic liners. Once full Rotary will take the contents away for sorting and delivery. Details of the recipients will be made known after distribution.

Collection period this year – October into early November.

🔥 Bonfire Night Goes Off with a Bang at Lunchtime! 🎆

This 5th of November, Aspens is lighting up the lunch menu with a Sparkle Spectacular to celebrate Bonfire Night in style!

Don't miss this fiery feast – it's sure to be a blast!

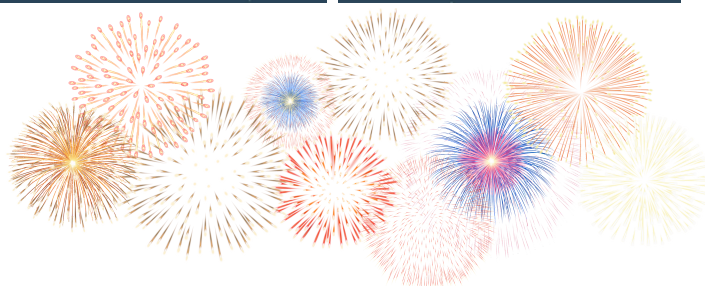


KS3 Art Club Celebrate Diwali with Handmade Diya Lamps

This term, the KS3 Art Club got creative in celebration of Diwali, the Festival of Lights, by making their very own diya lamps using clay. The students explored traditional designs and techniques, shaping and decorating their lamps with care and creativity.

Each diya lamp is a unique reflection of the students' artistic expression and cultural appreciation. The project not only highlighted their sculpting and design skills but also encouraged an understanding of the significance of Diwali in different communities.

We've included some photos of their stunning work. Well done to everyone involved in bringing light and colour to our school through art!



PUPIL SPOTLIGHT

Year 8 Stars Shine in Barton Rovers' Impressive Win

We're delighted to share some exciting news! At the beginning of October, Barton Rovers Under 13s, which includes several of our talented Year 8 students, played an outstanding match against Harpenden Rovers, securing an incredible 10-1 victory!

Since forming the team four years ago, the players have shown remarkable dedication and resilience through every challenge. Their commitment, teamwork, and determination truly shone through this weekend, and we couldn't be prouder of their success.

Congratulations to Harry, Ronnie, Jett, Ethan, Cealan, Xander, Max, Matthew, David, Albie, Leo, Nikolas, Tommy, and Daniel for their fantastic performance.

A huge well done to all the players — your coaches Steve, Steve, Elaine, and Zoe are incredibly proud!



Sadie and Izzy Go the Extra Mile!

A big congratulations to Sadie (Year 7) and Izzy (Year 6) who completed the Love Luton RunFest 5K over the weekend!

Taking on the challenge with determination and energy, they crossed the finish line with big smiles and were awarded special medals to celebrate their fantastic achievement. Completing a 5K is no easy feat, and their commitment to fitness and perseverance is something to be truly proud of.

Well done, Sadie and Izzy - you've inspired us all to keep moving and aim high!



SPORTS NEWS

It has been another fantastic few weeks of school sport, with impressive performances and excellent teamwork across all year groups.

The Year 8 (A) football squad have continued their strong league campaign, securing wins against Henlow (B) and RBA (B), as well as their first league victory over Marston Vale. Standout players have included Kai, James S, and Louis M, each earning Player of the Match honours for their outstanding contributions.

The Year 7 (A) football team have shown great determination and spirit in recent fixtures, including a narrow defeat to Etonbury, a hard-fought draw, and an impressive National Cup win against Henlow. Players of the Match have been Rowan M and George J, both demonstrating leadership and skill on the pitch.

The Year 6 (A) football squad remained in excellent form, recording multiple league victories and a competitive draw. Players of the Match have included Stanley H and Jack F, who continue to impress with their consistency and effort.

In netball, the Year 8 teams have shown fantastic teamwork and perseverance. The (A) team have faced tough opposition against RBA and Woodlands, displaying great attitude throughout. Players of the Match were Jemima E, Emma G, and Myla S. The (B) team also worked hard in their fixture against Woodlands, with Mia G recognised for her performance.

Well done to all students for their commitment and positive representation of the school - an excellent few weeks of sport all round!

Sports Clubs

Introduction to Contact Rugby – Year 7 & 8

We're excited to offer Introduction to Contact Rugby sessions for all Year 7 and 8 boys and girls interested in trying out some basic rugby contact drills and activities. These fun and structured sessions will focus on safe techniques, including wrestling and close-contact exercises. These will take place on Tuesday lunchtimes.

At this early stage, students won't be expected to tackle or chase anyone. Activities will be carefully matched by gender and size, and students can choose who they work with.

While gum shields are not essential for the first few sessions, we do strongly recommend wearing one for added protection.

Year 6 Champions League

We're excited to announce the launch of the Year 6 Champions League this October! Sixteen mixed-ability, mixed-gender teams will compete in this exciting lunchtime football competition.

Each team will play one match per week during the league stage, with a total of 15 games. Matches will take place during Wednesday and Thursday lunchtimes. After the league stage, the top 8 teams will progress to the knockout rounds to battle it out for the championship title!

Team managers are responsible for making sure their players know when they are playing. Weekly fixtures will be posted on the PE department window, so keep an eye out!



PTA NEWS

My Child's Art – Deadline Extended!

Good news! The deadline to submit entries for My Child's Art has been extended. You now have until Friday 7th November (the end of the first week back after half term) to send in your child's masterpiece.

Don't miss this chance to showcase your child's creativity, we can't wait to see all the fantastic artwork!

Support Our School While You Shop Online!

As we head into the festive season, don't forget you can raise free funds for our school every time you shop online at no extra cost to you!

All you need to do is sign up to [Easyfundraising](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and select our school as your chosen cause. Whenever you shop with popular retailers like Amazon, John Lewis, Argos, M&S, and hundreds more, they'll make a small donation to our PTA.

It's quick and easy to do:

1. Go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk
2. Search for Arnold Academy PTA
3. Create your free account
4. Start shopping as normal and watch the donations add up!

Use this 'Refer a Friend' link to help our school! For every person who signs up using this link, £1 will be donated to the school pot. Please share it with friends and family!

[Click here for 'Refer a friend link'](#)

Every little bit helps us provide extra resources and experiences for our children and it really does make a difference.

Thank you for your support and happy shopping!



PTA Events Calendar – Save the Dates!

As we head towards the festive season, we have lots of exciting events coming up! Please take a moment to pop these dates into your diaries, we'd love to see as many families as possible joining in the fun.

Christmas Shopping Evening – Tuesday 19th November, 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Come along for a festive shopping night! The PTA has organised a Christmas shopping event at the school. We currently have over 30 local small businesses attending, so please come along and support them. Entry is free of charge, with prosecco, mulled wine, and mince pies available.

Elfridges – Monday 8th to Friday 12th December, 12:00–2:00pm

Our popular Christmas shop is back again this year, with a wide range of presents starting from just 50p! Our elves have been busy buying and wrapping a fantastic selection of gifts. Thanks to the library team and the English department for their support, we'll be open for business in the school library from 12:00 to 2:00pm each day. More details to follow closer to the time.

Christmas Disco – Wednesday 17th December

Session 1: 5:00pm – 6:00pm

Session 2: 6:30pm – 7:30pm

Tickets go on sale Monday 17th November, priced at £3 each. Discos will be held for both KS2 and KS3 students.

As always, your support and your children's attendance is invaluable to the PTA in raising funds for the school.

Tuck Shop – Friday 19th December

Our popular end-of-term tuck shop will return with a festive treat!

Thank you for your ongoing support — these events make such a difference to our school community. We can't wait to celebrate the season with you all! ✨