



Dear Parents and Carers,

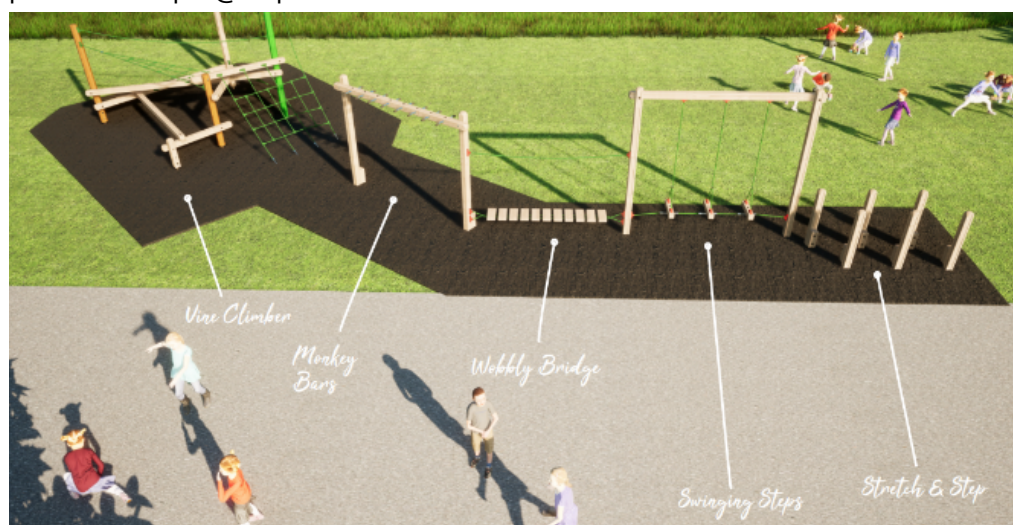
The end of November draws to a close and the last few weeks of a long school term will soon flash by! It continues to be a very positive and busy time at Arnold. We have had a very prosperous time on the sports field in October. It has been wonderful to see so many pupils have the opportunity to take part in clubs and sometimes represent their school at sporting fixtures. There are many successes to read about in this edition of the Arnold Update. I would like to thank the amazing staff who contribute to offer such a vibrant extra-curricular programme each week!

On Wednesday 13th December at 5pm we have our next Parent Forum. We will be discussing agenda items such as School Reports, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and Key Stage 3 (Year 7 & 8). We would love to host as many parents as possible, as you help us shape our school community. To ensure we know how many people plan to attend, please complete the short form [HERE](#).

In the last edition of the Arnold Update we asked parents to help market our open events. Thank you for your support, as we enjoyed a very popular and busy open evening, followed by various school tours during the day. We now find ourselves oversubscribed and with a waiting list in all year groups. In our current Year 6, where we only have five classes as opposed to six, we plan to add further capacity from September 2024. If you know of any parents looking for a Year 7 place for this time, please inform them of this opportunity. A full school is important to us, as this ensures robust funding to ensure we have the financial capacity to deliver a brilliant educational offer to our community.

A reminder that the school tours remain available should current parents wish to see the school live during the day. Parents are central to our school community, but as a middle school parent you have to come to terms with a feeling of a certain distance from the classroom and teachers in comparison to lower school. However, please rest assured we would love to have you visit and feel part of the school. Please contact our main office team if this is of interest! We will continue to advertise opportunities to attend parent events across the year.

We have had exciting news of the delivery of our long-awaited playground equipment. During the last two weeks of January, the equipment will be installed and pupils should be able to enjoy this from the start of February. A visual of our design can be seen below. Huge thanks go to our PTA who have supported the school's efforts in raising funds for this equipment. Local leisure bid writer Tim Wall has also been pivotal in gaining various donations to bring this project to fruition. If you are interested in joining or supporting our PTA, please email pta@aa.pstrust.co.uk



I hope you enjoy this edition of the Arnold update! Thanks for taking the time to read it!

Pete Roberts – Headteacher

Dates for Your Diary

December

Wc 11th Dec

12th - Seasonal Concert 6:00pm
13th - Christmas Dinner Day
13th - Parent Forum 5:00pm
14th - Year 5 Panto

Wc 18th Dec

21st - Christmas Holidays

January

Wc 1st Jan

3rd - Staff Training Day
4th - First Day Back

PTA

November Hundred Club Winners

The winners of the Hundred Club this month are:

- 1st — L. Fox (51)
- 2nd — T. Jennings (22)
- 3rd — E. Freeman (72)

Attendance

Please note, if a pupil is reported as ill on the days prior to or after an authorised or unauthorised holiday, parents will be asked to provide medical evidence of the illness. If this is not forthcoming, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised. 5 days unauthorised will result in a fine.

Year Group News

YEAR 5



Form with the Highest Attendance

5CE

Form with the Highest Achievement Points

5LH

Announcements

Year 5 Pantomime at The Grove Theatre -
Thursday 14th December.

Christmas Carol Concert - Tuesday 19th
December



YEAR 6

Form with the Highest Attendance

6DB

Form with the Highest Achievement Points

6DB

YEAR 7



Form with the Highest Attendance

7CW

Form with the Highest Achievement Points

7CW

Announcement

Quantum Theatre Company are presenting
'A Christmas Carol' on Friday 12th January.

Thank you to the PTA for funding this
performance .



YEAR 8

Form with the Highest Attendance

8JSM

Form with the Highest Achievement Points

8SQ

Children in Need 2023

We were thrilled with the children's participation in the wear 'spots or Pudsey' non uniform day on Friday 17th November.

Money was collected in buckets at the start of the day. £530.00 was raised and will be divided between in-school projects and Children in Need. Your online donations have gone directly to Children in Need.

Thank you for your ongoing support.



Reading Champions

Each month the house with the most words read in each year group will win a point for their house and a 'Reading trophy' for their form tutor to display in their room. A reading badge of honour will then be placed on the house boards for everyone to see and celebrate.

'Reading Champions' House Competition



House scores have been updated.
Each class' reading score for November can be seen on the library desk.

November's Spotlight Subject

MATHS

Fractions

"We have been learning how to convert improper fractions into mixed numbers, as well as dividing fractions using the Keep, Change, Flip method. For example..."

Layla (year 5)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \frac{4}{5} \div \frac{3}{1} & & \\ \swarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \searrow & & \\ \text{keep} & \text{Change} & \text{flip} \\ \frac{4}{5} & \times & \frac{1}{3} = \frac{4}{15} \end{array}$$

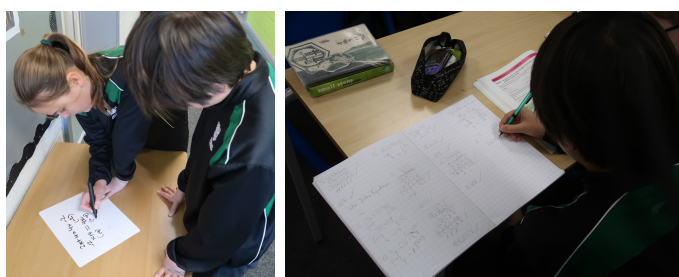


Missing Number Problems in Algebra

"In maths, we have been learning how to solve 2-step equations. We were given a question where we had to find out the value of the letters. For example..."

Andrew & Isabelle (year 6)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 2x + 4 = 4x - 2 & & \\ (-2x) & & (-2x) \\ 4 = 2x - 2 & & \\ (+2) & & (+2) \\ 6 = 2x & & \\ (\div 2) & & (\div 2) \\ 3 = x & & \end{array}$$



Drawing Pie Charts

"In maths, our current topic is pie charts. We are learning how to draw and label them properly. You need to know how to use a protractor and measure angles in order to draw them correctly."

Jake (year 7)

"We were given a worksheet in our lesson with blank pie charts and the different percentages which needed to be shown. We had to use our knowledge of angles to draw the percentage correctly onto the pie chart."

Aariya (year 7)



Linear Sequences

"Linear sequences are sequences that go from one term to the next by adding or subtracting the same amount. For example, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25..."

Bethany & Sophie (year 8)

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & +6 & +6 & +6 & +6 & +6 & \\ \curvearrowright & & \curvearrowright & \curvearrowright & \curvearrowright & \curvearrowright & \\ 6, & 12, & 18, & 24, & 30, & 36 & \\ \curvearrowleft & \curvearrowleft & \curvearrowleft & \curvearrowleft & \curvearrowleft & \curvearrowleft & \\ & -6 & -6 & -6 & -6 & -6 & \end{array}$$



Primary Maths Challenge

88 pupils in years 5 and 6 were chosen to take part in the Primary Maths Challenge. The challenge is designed to make pupils think outside the box and involves some very tough questions. The pupils with the highest scores achieved a gold certificate, with the next highest scores gaining silver and bronze.



Books For Library's In Kenya

Some of our pupils from Arnold Academy, supported by Barton-le-Clay Rotary Club, helped to pack over 1,800 books into 22 boxes. These books will be transported to Kenya through an organisation called Just Be A Child, which provide books for library's in Kenya.



A Visit From Zanib Mian

Arnold Academy had a very exciting visit from the author of 'Planet Omar' at the start of the month. Zanib Mian told us all about where she gets her ideas from and how she starts to write her books. It was inspiring to learn about Zanib's process of writing and her love for writing when she was younger.

Our pupils got a chance to get their book signed and ask any questions that they had during the book signing.



Open Evening

It was great to meet everyone at our Open Evening at the start of the month.

A huge thank you to all our wonderful pupils for being excellent tour guides and classroom helpers on the night. They were fantastic ambassadors for the school!



Nationals in Blackpool

Poppy, Violet-Rose, and River all attended the IDTA National Rock 'n' Roll and Freestyle Championships in Blackpool.

Violet-Rose took part in both the Freestyle Fast Solo and Slow Dance events. There were 87 dancers in Violet-Rose's age category in Fast and she danced through 7 rounds, passing both quarter and semi finals to make the final and become a National Finalist, placing in the top 8 of the country, placing 7th.

Poppy ended the weekend with a fabulous 3rd place in pairs with her partner in the 10-12 girl/girl category. They got through 7 rounds and placed top 3 from 70 pairs.

River was a semi-finalist in her pairs category with her pairs partner. However, in her solo freestyle category she smashed through 5 rounds to make the final. River then had to dance a solo spot in front of 5 judges in the prestigious Winter Gardens Ballroom. Out of 87 children from all over the UK, she placed 5th in the country as a national finalist in her age category.



Southern Regional Oireachtas

Emily took part in the Southern Regional Oireachtas and came 16th in her age group. This competition spans the whole of the south of England so it is an amazing achievement to come in 16th place.

Next year Emily will be able to compete in the competition so that she can qualify for the World Championship of Irish Dancing.



Judo Regional Schools Competition

Joshua represented Arnold Academy and his Judo club at a London Regional schools competition organised by British Judo and came joint 3rd for his age and weight category! He showed huge resilience after losing his first fight and came back to win his second.





SPORTS NEWS



U13's County Cup

The KS3 girls football team braved storm Ciaran earlier in the month. They battled through the wind and rain to win 4 - 1.

The goal scorers of the game were Abi, Mila, Darcey and Thea. Amelia was voted girl of the game. There were also lots of other important contributions from Brooke, Catherine and Sophie.



Upcoming Fixtures

**Year 5 Football Lions Team Fixture V
Robert Bloomfield Academy -
Monday 4th December**

**Year 5 Football Tigers Fixture V
Robert Bloomfield Academy -
Monday 4th December**

**Year 7 Netball League Fixture
V Parkfields -
Wednesday 6th December**

**Year 7 Football Norwich City
School's Festival -
Monday 11th December**

**Year 7 Netball League Fixture
V Henlow CoE Academy -
Wednesday 13th December**

Year 6 Football County Cup

On Wednesday 22nd November our year 6 football squad were in action in the first game of their County Cup group.

The team showed fantastic spirit in a highly competitive match versus Etonbury that finished 1-1. Well done to all involved!

A huge well done to the year 6 football team who continued their unbeaten County Cup group run with a fine 3-2 win away at last years league champions Robert Bloomfield!

A fantastic performance from all involved!



Year 7 & 8 Tigers Football

On Monday 13th November our Year 7 and 8 Tigers Teams enjoyed an excellent evening of football at Pix Brook Academy.

Congratulations to both teams who played some superb football and represented the school so well. The Year 7 Tigers drew 1-1 whilst the Year 8 Tigers won their fixture 4-0.





SPORTS NEWS



Year 7 Basketball

Our year 7 basketball team have been very successful over the past month in their fixtures against Pix Brook Academy, Woodland Middle School and Robert Bloomfield Academy. Their first game resulted in a win of 18 - 12. The next game was won with an amazing score of 56 - 16 against Woodland Middle School. They may have not won their game against RBA, however they all showed great sportsmanship and gave it their all.



Year 7 Netball

The year 7 Girls Netball team have played four fixtures this month. They started with a win at Robert Bloomfield of 6 - 5. The next two fixtures were very close with Henlow winning 10 - 9 and Alameda winning 10 - 8. However, the girls came back fighting in their fixture against Holywell. The final score of this game was a brilliant win of 21 - 7. Well done to Grace, Neve and Ava who were voted players of the match.



Year 8 Basketball

The year 8 Basketball team have also had an amazing month of basketball! On Thursday 30th November, they had their District Cup Final V Parkfields, after winning 3/3 of their group stage matches in comfortable fashion. It was a tight game which resulted in the fixture going into overtime. Unfortunately, the end result was Parkfields 17 - 12 Arnold Academy. The year 8s gave it their all and we are very proud of them.



Rugby All Stars Tournament

Year 7 & 8 took part in a rugby tournament at Luton Rugby Club. The boys showed a lot of determination and skill throughout the day, and ended up playing some lovely rugby.

Year 7 played 7 games, and won 7 games. All the boys were outstanding. They were a credit to the school and played some amazing rugby!



OCTOBER COMPETITION WINNER

The competition this month was to redesign the front cover of 'Harry Potter and the Philosophers Stone'. We have had lots of brilliant entries. Some were hand drawn using pencils and some have been painted. Our winner for this months competition is Neve.

If you would like to have a go at being next months winner, have a read of the competition below. You too could get featured in our newsletter and win yourself a book from our school vending machine.



COMPETITION

"I LOOKED OUT THE
WINDOW AND
COULDN'T BELIEVE
WHAT I SAW..."

DO YOU THINK YOU CAN WRITE A STORY USING THE
PROMPT ABOVE?

HAVE A GO AND HAND IT IN TO THE FRONT OFFICE TO
BE ENTERED FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A TOKEN FOR
OUR BOOK VENDING MACHINE, AS WELL AS HAVING
YOUR WORK FEATURED IN NEXT MONTHS
NEWSLETTER!
COMPETITION CLOSURES ON 15TH DECEMBER.

It's That Time Of Year Again!

Elfridges is returning to Arnold Academy! The PTA have been busy preparing lots of gifts for the shop, which will open at lunch time from the 11th to the 15th December in the **school library**.

If your child would like to purchase a gift for a loved one this year, please send them to school with some money. There is a wide variety of gifts on offer this year and prices start from £2.

Arnold Academy PTA presents
ELFRIDGES
Open at lunch time from the
11th to the 15th December
in the School Library.
Gifts start from £2

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.