



Dear Parents and Carers,

Another edition of the Arnold Update is released, in very quick succession, as we have just enjoyed our half-term period! We have just begun an incredibly short period between now and Easter, and it is certainly 'jam-packed' with energy, events, and, of course, excellent education!

In the next four weeks, we will navigate a great number of events, trips, and activities; careers week, Mother's Day stall, World Book Day, Andy Seed - a visiting author, a trip to the Tower of London, an overseas trip to France, Disabilities and Autism Awareness Week, a Macbeth Trip, a Keech fundraiser, Red Nose Day sales, house sports competitions for all year groups and another Parent Forum! In all of this we will continue to deliver our planned curriculum with strict intent, as learning remains our core focus at Arnold.

We have moved our next Parent Forum to a Tuesday, based on feedback from parents. This is in an attempt to increase the numbers available to attend, as we are passionate that this is an excellent vehicle for parents and staff to collaborate on school improvement. To confirm your attendance on Tuesday 12 th March please register [here](#).

During the final week of half term, our Year 8 pupils enjoyed an educational visit from a Holocaust survivor. This was a wonderful addition to our History curriculum from Subject Leader Miss Sealey. This was funded by our amazing PTA and will now be offered every year, for Year 8 pupils.



This month we welcome parents' evenings for Year 5 and 7 parents. You should have received instructions on booking arrangements, so please check your inbox; we really look forward to seeing you all in due course. These events offer parents the opportunity to book with each subject teacher to gain verbal updates on your child's progress, following their autumn term written report.

March is also the month for Ramadan, commencing around the 10 th March this year. We strongly support our Muslim community with their holy month. Separate guidance has been shared to communicate how we are supporting pupils during this period.

Once again, thank you for taking the time to read the Arnold Update. I hope you enjoy it!

Pete Roberts - Headteacher



Dates for Your Diary

March

Wc 4th March

National Careers Week
Mother's Day PTA Stall

7th - World Book Day
8th - Yr8 Careers Event
10th - Ramadan Starts

Wc 11th March

12th - Parent Forum

WC 18th March

Disabilities/Autism Awareness Week

WC 25th March

29th - 12th Easter Holidays

Reminder

On days of the week when students have PE lessons or a lunch club, all pupils that have their ears pierced will need to either take their earrings out before school, or bring ear tape to school to cover them.



Year Group News

YEAR 5



Form with the Highest Attendance

5LH

Form with the Highest Achievement Points

5CE

Announcements

If you have any unwanted board games, please may they be donated to the year 5 team.



YEAR 6

Form with the Highest Attendance

6DB

Form with the Highest Achievement Points

6KL

YEAR 7



Form with the Highest Attendance

7CW

Form with the Highest Achievement Points

7CW



YEAR 8

Form with the Highest Attendance

8KT

Form with the Highest Achievement Points

8CR

Updates From The PTA

The PTA's Mothers & Others shop will be open every day next week, during lunchtime (12noon to 2pm) for the pupils to purchase gifts for those special people in their lives.

Gifts will start from £2. Please remind all those shopping to ensure that they eat lunch first, before visiting the shop.

We look forward to seeing them all then.



PTA vacancy

Our fantastic Treasurer, Mel, will be stepping down from this position at the end of this school year. We are now looking for her replacement - are you in a position where you could support the PTA in this role? If interested, please contact the PTA by email - pta@aa.pstrust.co.uk



Arnold Academy PTA Mothers and Others Gift Shop

*From the 4th - 8th March
In the Library
Gifts from £2*



Holocaust Workshop

Our year 8 pupils attended a two hour session learning about Kristallnacht, the Kindertransport and hearing recorded testimonies from Holocaust survivors. This covered the reasons for the rise in anti-Semitism in Europe after WW1, and how the Nazi Party were so successful in their rise to power.

The pupils then also attended a one hour talk with Hedi Argent, a Holocaust survivor who told her story and answered questions the pupils had. Hedi, now aged 94, discussed her experience growing up in the conditions that led to the Holocaust. She spoke about how antisemitism felt as well as what it meant, before fleeing to England as a refugee and having to learn how to become an 'English Girl'.



Swiss Rolls

Our year 7s have been baking swiss rolls in their food technology lessons. They did an amazing job of rolling the cake into a swirl without it cracking along the edge.



Fantastic Focaccia

Year 8 have been making some impressive focaccia bread in their food lesson with Mr Burr.

The class used a variety of vegetables to decorate their bread, and flowers were made using red onions, sweetcorn and peppers.

Mr Burr was very proud of his year 8s and their creative uses of vegetables and herbs to create a beautiful scene on their focaccia.



Maths Challenge

Well done to the pupils who represented Arnold Academy in the Hertfordshire Year 5 Maths Challenge on Wednesday 7th February.

They worked brilliantly in their teams to answer some very difficult questions. We will find out in March if the teams made the final.



VIP Lunches in the Library

A celebratory VIP Library Lunch was held in honour of Elena, John, Sophie and Ru this month. They are all readers who have reached 1 million words read or above.

Mrs Molyneux organised a tea party for each of them and their friends to celebrate this amazing achievement. They all sat in the library to enjoy their lunch and cake with their friends. It was so lovely to see them all talking about some of their favourite books.



Reading Competition

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

Arnold Academy Reads!

In February 2024, students have read...

1,924 Books

37,717,055 Words

for **35** minutes/day!
(individual student average)

RENAISSANCE
Accelerated Reader®

Arnold Academy Reads!

In this school year, students have read...

10,513 Books

174,454,566 Words

for **18** minutes/day!
(individual student average)

RENAISSANCE
Accelerated Reader®

Keech Hospice £30 Challenge

In last month's issue of our Arnold Update, we mentioned our form groups taking part in a fundraising activity organised by our school councilors. They were set the task of raising £30 in each form group.



A number of classes decided to organise bake sales in order to raise the money. These were very successful and plenty of pupils, and staff members, were very happy with all the delicious treats they could purchase.



One class chose to hold 'Splat the Teacher' in their form group. Everyone that wanted to splat a teacher with slime donated some money. Thank you to Miss Nicholls, Mr Murphy, and Mr Roberts for being good sports and getting involved.

The dinosaur below was won by Hazel in the 'guess the name of the dinosaur' fundraiser. 7DD had lots of names to choose from, however the winning name was Gracie!



We are pleased to announce that we have raised over £1,000 in total. Thank you to everyone that took part and contributed to our fundraising events.



Children's Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week took place at the beginning of the month. The theme this year was 'My Voice Matters'.

This is all about empowering children and young people to express themselves through the use of different tools.

See below for some ways to start a conversation about their mental health.

If you would like further information about Children's Mental Health Week, follow the link [here](https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk) to find further resources.

Tell me about
your day

What was the best
thing about today?

What is the biggest
stress / worry in
your life right now?

What's your online
life like?

Who would you talk to
if you were feeling
worried about your
mental health?

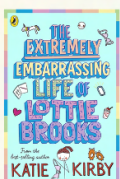
What can I do to
help you?



[CHILDRENSMENTALHEALTHWEEK.ORG.UK](https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk)

BOOKS WANTED

If you have any of the following books that you are about to give away, we would be very grateful if you could donate them to our library. These are some of the books that our pupils are currently asking for.



Lottie Brooks
Collection
by Katie Kirby



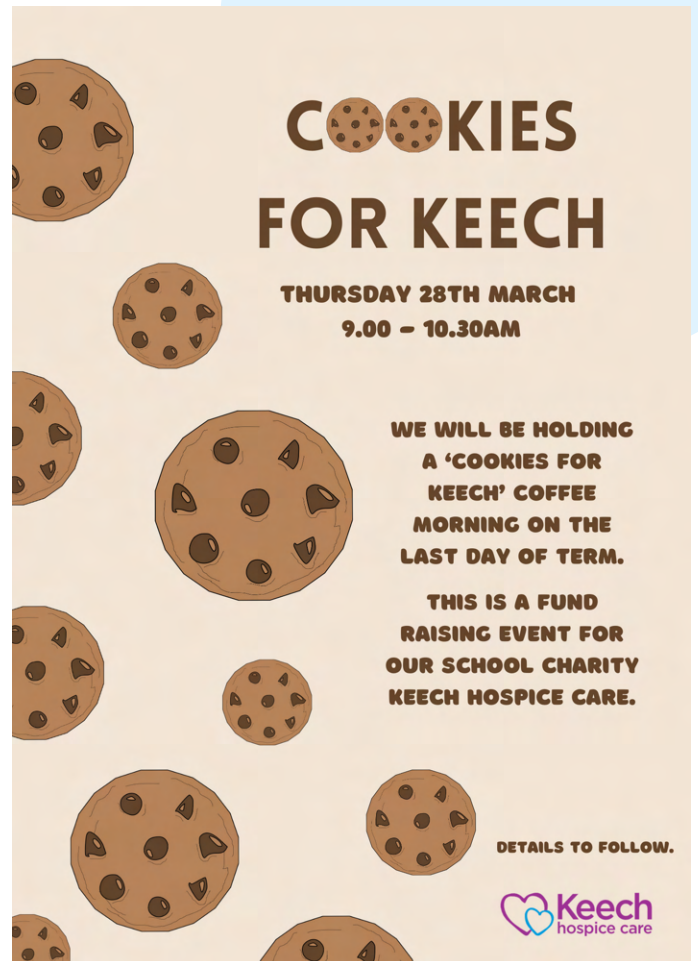
Babysitter Club
Collection
by Ann Martin



Dog Man
Collection
by Dave Pilkey



Bunny Vs Monkey
Collection
by Jamie Smart



Book Fair

The book fair was a huge success! Thank you to Mrs Molyneux for running this for our pupils during their library sessions. They thoroughly enjoyed themselves as they looked through the wide selection of books on offer. We sold over £1,500 which has left us with £750 to buy new books for our library. These books will be arriving soon and available for all our pupils to read during their library sessions.





SPORTS NEWS



It has been a hugely eventful and successful term within the Arnold Academy PE department.

This Half Term has seen our pupils develop their skills in Basketball and Table Tennis, with huge progress made across all year groups. Attendance at extra-curricular clubs has been excellent and it has been fantastic to see so many pupils attending to prepare for competition or just simply to develop their skills and enjoy being involved.



This Half Term has seen a huge amount of competitive sport for Arnold pupils with our Year 5 Netball team completing their first competitive school league season, the Year 7 Girls basketball team becoming District and County Champions, the Year 8 Boys Basketball team becoming County Finalists, the Year 7 and 8 rugby teams preparing for their league season with fixtures versus Sharnbrook Academy, the Year 7 football team and KS3 girls team enjoying visits to the Tottenham Hotspur Training Centre and our Year 5 boys football team enjoying their first league season with their weekly fixtures at Redborne Upper School.



Upon returning to Arnold after Half Term, the curriculum will see pupils enjoying new sports in their PE lessons, whilst the extra-curricular calendar will see KS2 Girls football, KS3 Girls football, Year 7 rugby, and Year 8 rugby seasons all begin.



There are also fixtures in place for each of our football B teams (Tigers) at all age ranges whilst our Year 6 and Year 7 Football teams will also be resuming their County Cup campaigns. Lots to look forward to!

Kit Sponsorship

Take a look at our fabulous new kit by Prestige. A huge thank you to Drain Jetters for sponsoring our rugby kit.

We would also like to give a thank you to Partnership Education who have sponsored our basketball kit which should be arriving soon.

If your company would like to sponsor one of our teams, please get in contact at admin@aa.pstrust.co.uk

