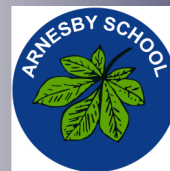


## ARNESBY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

6th SEPTEMBER 2024



Welcome back to the start of another exciting school year at Arnesby School. We hope you and the children are rested and ready, as we are all looking forward to a great and busy year ahead!

As you can see from the outside grounds, the premises team from Embrace Trust have been busy over the summer break with fencing, paving, a new PE shed and new gates. Now that all our signage is complete, we are ready to welcome present and new children, parents and carers as well as the community in Arnesby. With the revamped Village Hall we feel ready for anything!

In class, we have all new topic areas for Geography, History and Science learning and some traditional events too such as the dance festival at Countesthorpe Academy for KS2 in October as this is a milestone event being the 30th year! Look out for further details.

The conkers are almost ready and make us think about how much we will grow and learn this year from a seed to a bloom!

Mrs James



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

[Visits in school for prospective parents](#)

[Please book an appointment with the school office.](#)

*Open days for reception 2025 and new starters :*

*Friday 27th September, Thursday 10th October and*

*Friday 1st November*

*Dance Festival for KS2 at Countesthorpe Academy*

*October 16th and 17th*

*Parents evening*

*Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th October*

*Harvest festival—Tuesday 1st October*

Remember our school hours are:

**School opens 8.35am Gates close at 8.45am**

**Learning starts at 8.45am prompt**

Matthew

Jesus as  
the King

Mark

Jesus as a  
servant

Luke

Jesus as  
the  
saviour

John

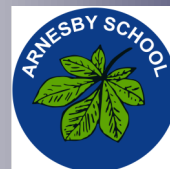
Jesus as  
God

“I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly”. John 10.10

AUTUMN TERM

Curiosity, Respect, Thankfulness, Independence, Resilience, Forgiveness, Honesty, Teamwork, Koinonia

## What's happening in school?



### Peace Class—shining in spirals!

In Peace Class this week we have been starting our topics.

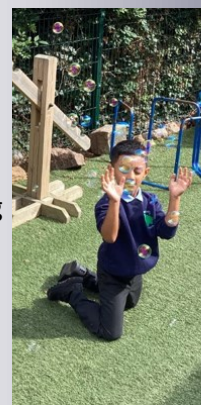
In art the topic is Spirals.

We will be using drawings to share our ideas, experiences and imagination. We will be developing a range of design techniques using colour, pattern texture, line, shape, form and space.



This week we were drawing spirals using different parts of the body. Just fingers, then the wrist and eventually using the whole arm.

The children had great fun experimenting using sugar paper and chalk.



Having fun chasing bubbles to see how far they travel!

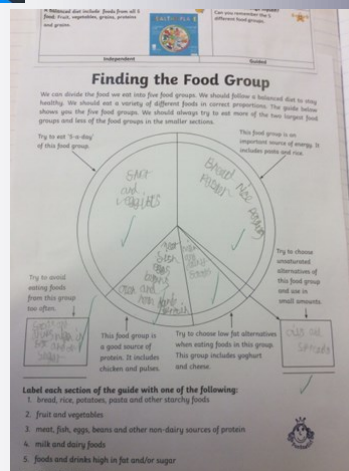
The reading corner is in regular use. For audio books and regular books!



Our science topic is about finding out why it is important to keep our bodies healthy.

This week we found out what a balanced

diet was and we sorted different foods into food groups and looked at which foods are healthy for us.



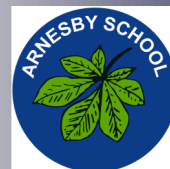
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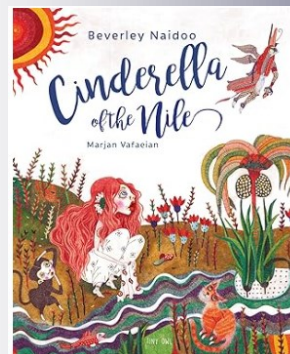
## What's happening in school?



### Courage Class—shining in traditional tales

In English, we are learning about traditional tales and the modern alternative versions. We have started with Cinderella and the book *Cinderella on the Nile* which we are contrasting to the traditional tale.

Our history topic is Ancient Egypt so we are looking forward to learning all about the pyramids and the pharaohs and much more.



Any Egyptian artefacts or books you could loan to help us learn even more, would be greatly appreciated.

Science we are learning about how sound is made and how it travels.



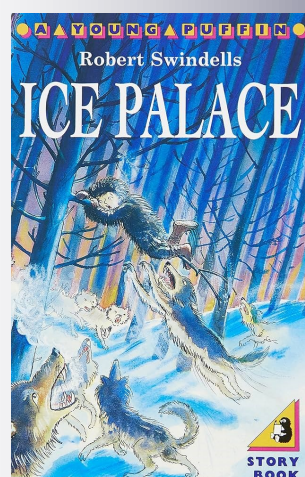
In Maths we are learning about Place value and especially number lines to determine values of digits in a number up to 100's and thousands.



We have also enjoyed some PE sessions of rounders and are learning other ball skills.



In RE we will be studying Hinduism this term.

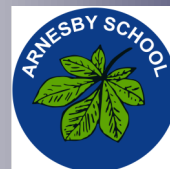


Our class book for the next few weeks is *Ice Palace* by Robert Swindells. The children are enjoying this exciting text so please ask them about what has happened so far!

"I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly". John 10.10

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## What's happening in school?



### Endurance Class—shining in listening



Another year begins and we in Endurance Class have certainly hit the ground running. Welcome to Upper Key Stage 2 new Year 5s.

We've already made a fantastic start in what we're learning this half term: from constructing a working glossary of terms to support us in our Hinduism unit, in RE to getting to grips with the different types of Maps that we'll be using in Geography; from doing a deep dive

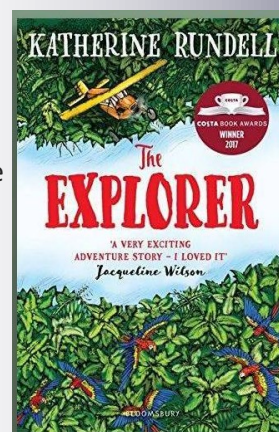


into different word classes to support our Writing work to picking apart place value grids and power ten knowledge to aid us in Maths; from defining Evolution and Inheritance for our Science unit to learning how to introduce and describe ourselves "en Español."



Our reading text in VIPERS is *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell.

It's the start of the year and the children of Endurance class have already shown their ability to work hard and rise to the task of the increased challenge that is Year 5/6. It will be a lot of effort and hard work, but we're bound to have fun along the way and I for one am thoroughly looking forward to it!



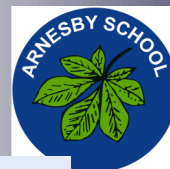
"I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly". John 10.10

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## Spotlight on school support



### Embrace Trust support for Arnesby



from Tom Chambers

Hello everyone,

I am the Estates and Compliance Manager at Embrace Trust.

I look after all 10 school sites, making sure that Capital Projects, Health & Safety and Compliance are carried out. I also support Arnesby on a weekly basis looking after site related jobs and completing all the site safety checks.

Over the summer, we have been busy at Arnesby making sure we have new safe-guarding fencing, a new PE Shed and new ball netting at the end of the playground. The school has completely been deep cleaned and is looking its best. Keep a look out for further newsletters with more work that will be happening over the next school year.



## Blessing the Bags Service



Last week, at the very beginning of the new school year, we walked to church for our worship time. The children's school bag, book bag, or teacher's work bag, came along too as they represent all that is going to happen in this school year, all the work we will do and all the things that we will learn. Everyone was asked to hold up their bags for Rev Stephen to sprinkle some holy water on them, as a sign to ask for God's help with all that we are going to do over the coming year. Once we were all showered(!), it was Rev Stephen's turn to be blessed by the children as he will be helping us over the year in his role as a school Governor and spiritual leader.



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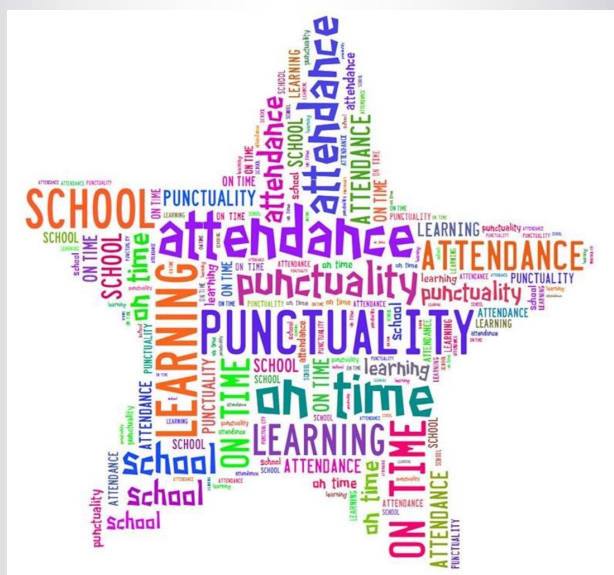


# ATTENDANCE MATTERS!



Let's start the new term with getting everyone in school every single day.

Our attendance so far is: 97%



At Arnesby School attendance is one of our areas for improvement and as such, is a high priority.

We must have a high level of attendance across the school to ensure that all children are given the best education possible.

Please support us in getting your children in school every day and on time.

Remember our school hours are:

**School opens 8.35am Gates close at 8.45am**

**Learning starts at 8.45am prompt**

**Children arriving after 8.45am will be marked as late and MUST go directly to the school office for sign in NOT to the class as learning will have started.**

**End of school: 3.15pm**

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## IMPORTANT SCHOOL INFORMATION



### REMINDER OF NEW ATTENDANCE REGULATIONS

As many of you are aware, the school attendance regulations have now come into effect.

Under the new statutory guidance, the school will continue to monitor the children's attendance and now where a child has 10 sessions of unauthorised absences within a rolling 10 week period, you could be subject to a penalty notice (fine).

**10 sessions equates to 5 school days.**

Please note ALL holiday requests will be unauthorised, unless deemed as an exceptional circumstance. All unauthorised holiday or leave of absences, regardless of the amount of days taken, will now be included in these 10 sessions. Before, you were subject to a penalty notice for 5 or more days holiday only. For example, the 10 sessions within a 10 week period can be met with any combination of unauthorised absence, e.g. 4 sessions (2 days) of holiday taken in term time plus 6 sessions of arriving late after the register closes all within 10 school weeks will be subject to a fine. These sessions can also be consecutive, e.g. 10 sessions (5 days) of holiday in one week or not, e.g. 6 (3 days) sessions of unauthorised absence taken in 1 week and 1 per week for the next 4 weeks. Please note, the period of 10 school weeks can also span different terms or school years, e.g. 2 sessions of unauthorised absence in the Summer Term and a further 8 within the Autumn Term.

As a reminder, illness and medical related absences are authorised if reasons are given and if requested justified with medical evidence. These sessions do not count towards the 10 sessions of unauthorised absences unless they become ongoing and medical evidence cannot be provided.

Arnesby School is adhering to the new Government's 'Working Together to Improve School Attendance' August 2024 statutory school guidance which can be found via the link below:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/66bf300da44f1c4c23e5bd1b/Working\\_together\\_to\\_improve\\_school\\_attendance\\_-\\_August\\_2024.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/66bf300da44f1c4c23e5bd1b/Working_together_to_improve_school_attendance_-_August_2024.pdf)

Thank you for your ongoing support regarding school attendance.

"I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly". John 10.10

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# OUR KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOUR

WHERE EVERY CHILD SHINES



Congratulations to Emily who won 2 Working Hunter classes at the Leicestershire County Show. She went on to become supreme Mini Champion, a real shining star!

This is a wonderful accomplishment and we are so proud of the resilience she has shown in achieving this, just 6 weeks after major heart surgery.

Well done Emily!

For all children to shine brightly, we have learnt in Worship this week about the importance of drinking water throughout the day, to keep us happy, healthy and ready to learn.

Children have considered how lucky they are to have clean fresh water to help them do their best every-day, when over 700 million people across the world are living without clean water close to their home.



## "Where every child shines"

"I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly". John 10.10

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## What's happening in school?



### Friends of Arnesby PTA News



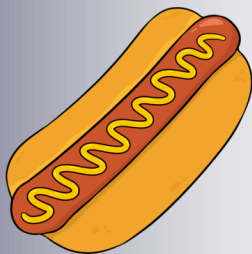
#### Boot Camp

To raise funds for the school a number of parents and friends took part in a boot camp session guided by Shaun in the pouring rain. Spirits were high and the session was noisy and fun! Well done to everyone who took part.



#### New year– new Dates for the Diary

Friday 20th September- Cake Sale



Friday 18th October—Sausage morning

Film night in November—date to be confirmed



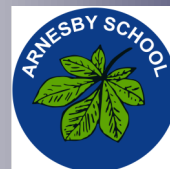
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## What's happening in school?



**LeicesterCity**  
in the Community

### Forest Foxes

We are delighted to announce that we will be part of the Leicester City Football Club outreach sessions around Forest Schools. The programme is called Forest Foxes and this is offered free of charge for 6 weeks. We are able to offer this to all children in school starting Friday 13th September for an hour for each key stage. Please could you ensure that children have the appropriate outdoor coats if the weather is raining and Wellington Boots also if possible. We are looking forward to this exciting learning!



Pictures of our blooming beds and a large marrow or is it a very large courgette?

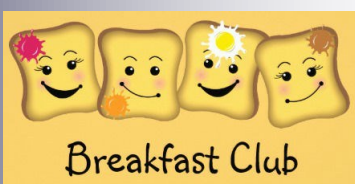
Answers in the form of a good recipe please!



The new PE shed is working well to store both PE equipment and playground equipment for use at

break and lunch times.

The new moveable barriers are helping us to zone the playground areas to allow better use of the space and specific areas for football and basketball etc, ensuring calmer playtimes!



Our breakfast club is available from 8am to 8.45 but facilitated by different members of staff. In order to continue to offer our help to working parents and carers please book places for the breakfast club a week in advance. Thank you

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## Keeping Children Safe



WHERE EVERY CHILD SHINES

### What Parents & Educators Need to Know about **LEGO FORTNITE**

Epic Games have recently introduced three new game modes to Fortnite: Rocket Racing, Fortnite Festival and, finally, Lego Fortnite: a survival game using official Lego characters. There are lots of great mechanics that encourage creativity in children, but – as with any online game – it's important to stay aware of the potential risks.

#### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

##### MONETISATION

Lego Fortnite utilises a similar online item shop to the main Fortnite game. When this title was released, the makers introduced thousands of Lego versions of the original game's character skins. Owning an original Fortnite cosmetic means you also own the LEGO version of no extra cost, but the addition of these extra versions could potentially spark new interest in young players, making it more tempting to pay real money for these in-game accessories.

##### ONLINE PLAY

LEGO Fortnite can be played online, as with the base game. While a player's LEGO world is private when it's first created, they can then invite anyone on their in-game friends list to play with them. If any strangers are on this friends list, they can be invited onto their server. Thankfully, Epic Games has implemented a solid reporting system, as well as tools to kick other players from the game.

##### FEAR FACTOR

There is no explicit violence in Lego Fortnite, but there is a lot of combat. While the battles in Lego Fortnite remain very cartoonish and child friendly, a lot of the action unfolds inside dark caves, with spiders, skeletons or scary-looking monsters. The game can get a little spooky at times, which could potentially scare younger players.

##### COMPLEX GAMEPLAY

Lego Fortnite is a survival game, though it's not as simple as something like Minecraft. There are lots of different crafting stations and loads of items to use or combine (including various rarities to seek out and harvest). The gathering and crafting elements of the game can get quite complicated and confusing, which could be a source of frustration for some younger players.

### Advice for Parents & Educators

#### LEGO IS FRIENDLY

Much like real Lego, this game is incredibly inviting. It's friendly, fun and accessible: a younger player could still enjoy this title even if they'd never played Fortnite before. With sanitised violence, it's a far more family-friendly gaming experience all round – worth bearing in mind if you're concerned about children and young people being exposed to violent or frightening content.

#### SET LITTLE CHALLENGES

As we've noted, the game is a lot more difficult than it may seem, which could be frustrating or upsetting for some younger players. While the game does a good job of setting realistic targets for players, it can still feel overwhelming. If parents suggest smaller challenges – such as building a house – children can flex their creativity, express themselves with their builds and feel a real sense of accomplishment.

#### PLAY TOGETHER

Take some time to play the game together. Not only will that help with some of the complicated tasks, but it's also just a fun pastime. Playing with family members also reduces the potential for younger players to invite strangers to enjoy the game with – if any are on their friends list. Furthermore, playing with children will let you more effectively limit their time spent on the game. Instead of "switch it off", you can now say "let's play some more later!"

#### MONITOR SPENDING

If a child has provided their parents' email address and been given consent to make in-game purchases, it's worth keeping an eye on how much gets spent on the in-game currency, V-Bucks. It's very tempting to buy character skins in LEGO form, as a way of expressing yourself and looking cool and unique. As you may know already, the average skin costs between £6-18, which can add up very quickly if not tracked and limited. Keep in mind that you can make it necessary to enter a PIN code to validate every purchase using the game's parental controls, and you can prevent the game from saving your payment information whenever you make a purchase. Furthermore, players under-13 automatically have their spending limited to \$150 (£78.55) per day.

#### Meet Our Expert

Daniel Upscombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality, augmented reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VO247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.

**#WakeUpWednesday**

The National College

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