

ARNESBY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

19th December 2025



A bumper Christmas Issue to celebrate the season! It seems a long time since we came back in the summery days of August . We have worked very hard this Autumn Term and are proud of all our learning. We have had great fun with all our activities and, also celebrate the superb support we have had from everyone in the school community and village.

"Thank you for the gift of our school, a place of learning, friendship, and growth. Bless every child who walks through our doors and fill their hearts with curiosity, kindness, and courage. May they discover their talents and use them to bring light to the world.

Bless our staff with wisdom, patience, and joy and guide them as they nurture young minds and inspire hope for the future. Keep Arnesby school a place where every person feels valued and included.

Bless the families who support our children and grant them strength, peace, and unity. Fill our hearts with gratitude and help us to walk in kindness, sharing blessings of the season of great joy with one another".



Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful new year. Mrs James

UPCOMING EVENTS:	
<u>Back to school</u>	
<u>Monday 5th January 2026</u>	
<u>House point winners</u>	
<u>Friday 9th January</u>	
<u>Traditional tales dress up reading day.</u>	
<u>Wednesday 21st January</u>	
<u>NSPCC Number Day</u>	
<u>Friday 6th February 2026 —dress up</u>	
<u>Parents evening</u>	
<u>Wednesday 4th March and Thursday 5th March</u>	
<u>World book day</u>	
<u>Thursday 5th March</u>	
<u>Visits in school for prospective parents .</u>	

Matthew	Jesus as the King
Mark	Jesus as a servant
Luke	Jesus as the saviour
John	Jesus as God

AUTUMN TERM 2025

Matthew 5: 14 "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden "

WHERE EVERY CHILD SHINES

Arnesby Nativity — Where every child shines

Well done to all the children at Arnesby school for a fantastic

Nativity performance this week .



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WHERE EVERY CHILD SHINES

Arnesby School — Where every child shines



The Honky Tonky Donkey performance by Peace Class was a great success!



The children clearly showed how much they enjoyed the songs - especially the choir from Courage Class— and the story, beautifully narrated by members of Endurance Class. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make the Nativity performance such a polished and festive treat, including the chime bar group for their lovely recital of Silent Night.

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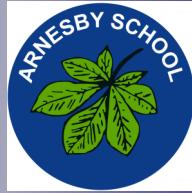


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What's happening in school? Peace Class

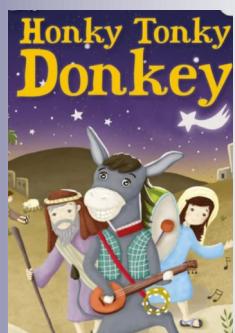
PEACE class shining in royalty



As we come to the end of this term, we want to take a moment to celebrate all the incredible hard work and achievements of the children in Peace Class. This term has been filled with exciting learning experiences, creativity, and teamwork. The children have worked so hard in their reading, writing and maths, and have enjoyed our units of work in other subjects.

In our History lesson this week, we explored the life and significance of **Queen Elizabeth II** as part of our topic on *Famous People*. The children learned about her role as a monarch, her long reign, and some key events during her time as Queen.

To make our learning creative and fun, the class also worked on **drawing portraits of the Queen**. It was a wonderful way to combine history with art and celebrate an important figure in British history.



A special highlight of the term was our **Nativity performance**. The children worked so hard to learn their lines, songs, and actions, and their performance was truly wonderful.



We will continue to build on these successes and explore more exciting topics together. Until then, we wish you all a joyful festive season and a happy, healthy New Year.

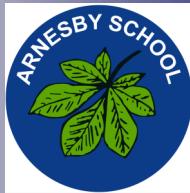
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What's happening in school? Courage Class

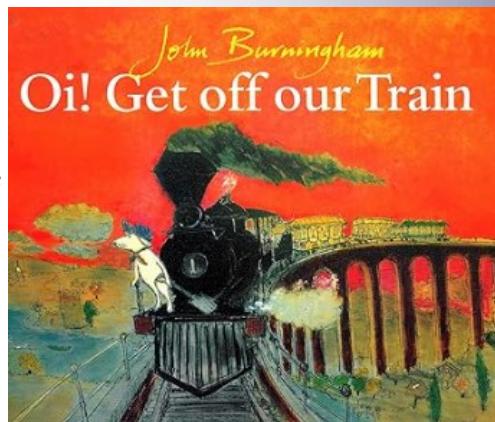
Courage class shining in enjoying their learning.



This year the children in Courage Class have made their own decorations for our class Christmas tree. Various bauble designs adorn our tree and this has helped us think about the magic of Christmas!



We have now finished our book **Stig of the Dump** and have thoroughly enjoyed reading this classic children's book. We have also written some great letters as an animal character in response to the book **Oi! Get off our Train**



train about a number of endangered species.

Mrs James and Mrs Jaswal have been impressed with how well the children have worked consistently hard this term and have participated well in everything we have been doing. From computing, learning how to programme from scratch, to science using torches to create shadows when learning about

light and dark.

Well done Courage Class, have a restful Christmas ready for an exciting Spring term!



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What's happening in school? Endurance Class

Endurance class shining in learning

It's been a very busy term for the Children of Endurance class: We've had our Sharing Assembly, Year 6 has had Mock SATs papers to complete, we've finished two sizeable writing units, we've gone to the pantomime and to Leicester Cathedral as well as a Mosque.

We've completed work on what it means to be a Muslim in modern Britain, explored North America, learned about the significance of the Islamic Golden Age, made bridges out of spaghetti, learned how to read sheet music, discussed our pets in Spanish, learned how to use negative space and scale factor to take a 2D image and make a 3D artistic sculpture out of it.



We've learned about polyrhythms and Gamelan music. We've experimented with light and learned about how different organisms grow and develop over their life cycle. As you can see we have had fun learning how to saw and construct in design technology. Mr Kearney was impressed by the amount of sawdust on the carpet but less so by the accuracy of cutting the correct length!



We've had debates in RE about whether or not Christmas should be considered a Christian or Secular celebration, have learned about ratio and fractions and BIDMAS, and done it all while showcasing the School's Vision and Values consistently.

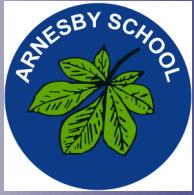
The children have worked incredibly hard this term and have very much earned a break this Christmas. I look forward to seeing them come back in the New Year ready and raring to go for the next term, hitting the ground running and keeping up the good work.

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Christmas Lunch



Arnesby Christmas Lunch was great fun with children colouring their own place mats and devouring their lunch! The Christmas pudding was the real hit with lots of children enjoying this festive treat. A big thanks to all the staff for helping to serve the children and Patrick Rendall our Chair of Governors who was the official quality control! And a special thanks to Julie Springthorpe who serves the children's lunches every day of the school



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The Lantern Walk

The Lantern Walk started at the Village Hall as we moved around the village singing Christmas Carols.



Mr Kearney ably led the singing with the help of his guitar not phased by one of his strings snapping on the way!

The children sang very well and enjoyed the walk ready for an evening of Christmas fun and entertainment back at the Village Hall at the end of the walk. Santa even came to find out what was happening too!



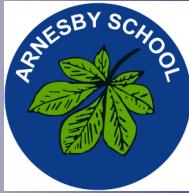
Thank you to the Friends of Arnesby (PTA) - Rups and the team, for organising the games, food, activities and the Christmas Hampers raffle. Overall the event made over £790!

Thank you everyone for supporting the school and the PTA.

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What else has been happening in school?

The Pantomime



This year we went to the De Montfort Hall to see the Pantomime Dick Whittington; tickets kindly funded by the Friends of Arnesby (PTA).

The children all enjoyed the show: When Dick realises he is penniless, he sets out on a journey to London, where the streets are reportedly paved with gold. Of course, his trusty cat joins him for this epic journey. While in London, he takes on Queen Rat and her growing army, and they had a legendary adventure!



It was a very LOUD experience with the children knowing all of the songs!



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WHERE EVERY CHILD SHINES

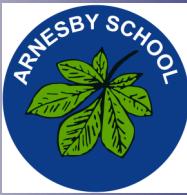
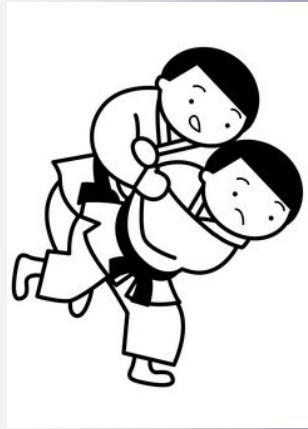
What else has been happening ?



JUDO SUCCESS!

Theo won the Leicester Judo Academy player of the year , parents player of the year and throw of the day.

Well done Theo !



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Family Christmas at Leicester Cathedral



Monday 22 December
2.00pm -3.00pm

Christmas Craft

Join us for FREE Christmas craft making activities. No need to book – just drop in.

All children need to be accompanied by an adult. From Ages 3+ Stay with us afterwards for the family Christingle Service.

Christmas Eve
3.00pm

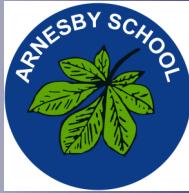
Crib Service

A family friendly service telling the Christmas story with carols and music by the Cathedral Choir. Come and help build the Cathedral Crib as we enter the mystery and joy of Christmas together.



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ATTENDANCE MATTERS!



Please keep your child attending every day as it makes such a difference to the children's learning and social interaction.

Our attendance is: 96.9% and has decreased since the last two newsletters

Please help us keep it at 97% or better and not to slip below this!

The last two newsletters were:

98.2% and 97.3%

School opens 8.35am

Gates close at 8.45am

Learning starts at 8.45am prompt

The school has new doors which now automatically lock at 8.45am.

Any child arriving after this time will be marked as late and MUST go directly to the school office for sign in.

Children do NOT go to the class.

We would appreciate parents dropping their children at the gate to ensure children go smoothly into class as morning tasks start at 8.35am.

If you need to leave a message, please see either Mrs James or Mrs Lawson at the gate, or phone the school office.

Please keep supporting the school by getting your children to school on time. It makes such a huge difference to their learning at the start of the day as start of the day activities and tasks wakes up the brain and gets us all ready for a busy school day !

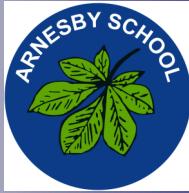
Thank you.

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Breakfast and After school clubs

Breakfast and afterschool club's are an important part of the schools offer we have worked with the school sports offer through Super Star Sports to give each day a focus sport. These sports will run for the half term and we will change the focus next half term based on the feedback from children and parents. Please try and support these clubs if you can.



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

We are committed to keeping your children fit, active and healthy!

Arnesby Primary School

Monday
Nerf Mayhem

Tuesday
Gymnastics

Wednesday
Multisports

Thursday
Badminton

Term Dates
W/C 5th of Jan to 13th Feb
15:15PM - 16:30PM

To book your child on, please speak to the school office. Alternatively, to book, please use your My Child at School account.

Please note that Art Club is not running in the Spring Term

BREAKFAST CLUB

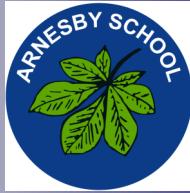
Our breakfast club is available from 8am to 8.45am facilitated by different members of staff.

In order to continue to offer our help to working parents and carers, please book places for the breakfast club **a week in advance** and especially not over the weekend for a place on the following Monday or Tuesday morning.

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Keeping Children Safe



At Nations Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one topic of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationsonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

The 12 Online Safety Tips of Christmas FOR CHILDREN WITH NEW DEVICES

Christmas is almost upon us once again, and soon some lucky children will be excitedly tearing off the wrapping on a new mobile phone, tablet or games console. For some of them, it will be the first time they've owned a device that connects them to the online world. Even for older children, a new device means new corners of the digital landscape to explore – and, unfortunately, new risks to be aware of. We've put together our top tips so that you can guide your young ones in enjoying their new digital gifts safely and responsibly throughout the year to come.

Merry Christmas!

1. ALWAYS SET A PASSWORD

If your child's new device has a password protection feature, use it! It'll help to keep their private information safe and will deny others access to their device without permission. Your children's passwords should be something memorable to them – but something which other people can't guess (it's also a good idea for parents to write it down in case it gets forgotten!).

2. SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

This really is an essential when your child gets a new device, so they're protected from the outset. Most phones, tablets and consoles allow you to customise their settings to determine which games your child can play, how they can communicate (and who with), what content they can access and so on. It'll give you peace of mind that they can't inadvertently do something they shouldn't.

3. PAY ATTENTION TO AGE RATINGS 18+

One of the first things children want to do with any new device is play games and explore apps. Before they download anything or install a new console game, check its age rating. Many popular games and apps have content that's not suitable for younger ages. The safest long-term solution is to adjust the device's settings so they can only download and use games and apps appropriate for their age.

4. KEEP NUMBERS AND DEVICES PRIVATE

Make sure your child understands that they should never share their phone number with someone they don't know or accept a friend request from them. They should also appreciate that it's a good idea to mainly keep their device out of sight, never lend it to a stranger, and never put it down somewhere that other people could steal it or take it to use without asking.

5. HAVE THE MONEY CONVERSATION

Before your children start using their new device in earnest, talk to them about in-app purchases and other ways that money might be spent through their device. Once they understand, you might want to agree on a spending limit and encourage them that they can come to you if they're uncertain, or if they have made a purchase by accident.

6. DISCOURAGE DEVICE DEPENDENCY

Of course, children who've just got a new device will naturally want to spend as much time on it as possible. But whether they're snapping bad guys, watching videos or connecting with friends, it's easy for them to get attracted very quickly. Gently remind them that having family time, going outdoors and getting some exercise are still fun, too. And the device will be there when they get back.

7. EXPLAIN SECURE WIFI NETWORKS

Your home WiFi is protected by a password that only your family knows, whereas public networks (like those found in coffee shops, for example) can be accessed by anyone. It's important that your child grasps this difference because, if they're using a portable device on an unsecured network, then a hacker could access their personal information without them even knowing.

8. LIMIT SCREEN TIME

Using a device for too long, especially just before bed, can interfere with a child's sleep quality and reduce their concentration and overall enthusiasm. It might be helpful to agree on certain times of day when they don't use their device. Most devices' settings let you specify a screen-time limit, helping your child to stay fresh and focused in order to perform well at school.

9. ONLY PAIR WITH KNOWN BLUETOOTH DEVICES

Your child may want to connect to another device via Bluetooth, so they can listen to music wirelessly or share pictures and videos with nearby friends. But if they use Bluetooth to link with a device that they don't know, they're at risk of a stranger being able to see their personal information or having someone transmit a virus onto their device.

10. TURN LOCATION SETTINGS OFF

It's safest to disable the device's location services (if it's a portable device) so your child doesn't inadvertently make other people aware of where they are. You can usually do this via the device's privacy control settings. Turning location settings off not only means your child's whereabouts can't be tracked by others, it also significantly extends battery life.

11. STAY AWARE OF THE SURROUNDINGS

It's quite common to see adults not looking where they're going while engrossed in their phone. Children are even more easily distracted. In some cases, children have been hit by cars or cyclists because they were staring at their device and lost track of where they were. Remind your child that screens and walking don't mix. If they need to use their device, they should stop in a safe place first.

12. BE THERE IF THEY NEED TO TALK

Even when you've made a device as secure as you can, there's still a possibility of your child seeing something that bothers them, or someone they don't know attempting to contact them. If this happens, listen to their concerns, empathise and reassure them. Once they've explained what happened, you can decide if you should take further action like blocking or reporting another user.

National Online Safety #WakeUpWednesday

www.nationsonlinesafety.com [@nationsafety](https://twitter.com/nationsafety) [/NationalOnlineSafety](https://facebook.com/NationalOnlineSafety) [@nationsonlinesafety](https://instagram.com/nationsonlinesafety)

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