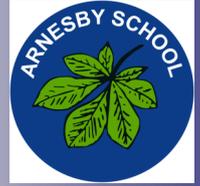


ARNESBY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

13th February 2026



We have seen some fantastic learning at Arnesby this half term. All classes have been focussed on presentation and handwriting and we can see some great improvements.

Our trips and activities this term have been greatly enjoyed (including Mrs James in the 'stocks' at Warwick Castle!) The children are enthusiastic at all times and have been working together with the School Council and House Leaders to create even better playtimes, especially in the dull spring weather, with new activities and games—watch this space for more details.

Well done Arnesby another great half term.

Mrs James

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Move it March starts on the 27th February

Parents evening

Wednesday 4th March and Thursday 5th March

World book day

Thursday 5th March—dress up as a book character

Science Day

Wednesday 11th March

Leicester Tigers Stadium experience

Tuesday 17th March

Wednesday 18th March

Open School from 2.30pm

Friday 20th March

Comic Relief— Tell a joke day!

Thursday 26th March

Easter Service in St. Peters Church @9.30am . All welcome.

Animal Day—Friday 17th April

Please let the office know if you can bring an animal into school so that we can create a working timetable.

Visits in school for prospective parents

Please book an appointment with the school office.

Matthew

Jesus as the King

Mark

Jesus as a servant

Luke

Jesus as the saviour

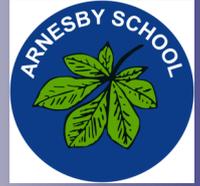
John

Jesus as God

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

SPRING TERM 2026

What's happening in school? Peace Class



Peace Class shining in Castles!

As part of our History topic on Castles, the children have been learning about how the very first castles in the UK were built after 1066. We explored the features of the Motte and Bailey castles, which were the earliest type constructed.

The children discovered that these castles had a very distinctive design and were built for a clear purpose—they were quick to build, easy to defend, and helped control the surrounding land.

Working together in pairs, the children then designed and created their very own Motte and Bailey castles.



They tried hard to make their models as authentic as possible, thinking carefully about each section, including the motte, bailey, keep and walls.

The children were also able to talk confidently about the different parts of their castle and explain the reasons behind their design

choices.

The class showed fantastic teamwork, creativity, and enthusiasm—



Well done, everyone!



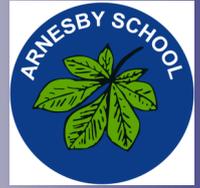
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SPRING TERM 2026

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



What's happening in school? Courage Class



Courage class shining in showing our skills



Courage Class have been showing their understanding of some parables by acting the stories out with modern day themes. Well done, some super acting!

PE is still a favourite and we have been learning the skills of basketball which are looking good!

Science has seen us experimenting with friction as a force and understanding the mechanism of a pulley and how they work.

Handwriting is a big focus for us and we are really trying hard in all our learning to show the correct joins and keep our presentation neat, and tidy.



Well done Courage Class for a great half term of learning.

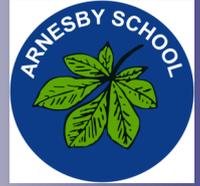
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What's happening in school? Endurance Class



Endurance class shining in working together.

It almost feels unreal that it's already half term but yet here we are in the middle of February about to break up for a week.

We've worked incredibly hard in Endurance Class over the course of this half term. We've explored the way people can use colours to evoke emotional responses from people and design a space in school with a focus on how the colours we use can have an impact on the utility of a space.

In PE we've been learning about gymnastics and making use of school apparatus to practice moving through different levels with different styles of movements. They've been working very hard on perfecting their balance and movement in a variety of different ways.

Year 5 also had a fantastically interesting VR experience about being safe with smartphones in the coming years. It was a very informative and entertaining experience. Thanks to Embrace Trust for organising this for us.

We've also had an excellent trip to Warwick Castle where we learned a great deal about medieval fortifications.



We learned about the art of falconry through the eyes of a variety of birds of prey as well as learning about the influence of Richard Neville the Kingmaker, Earl of Warwick.

The children of Endurance class have worked very hard this half term. WELL DONE!



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

SPRING TERM 2026



What else is happening in school? Number Day!



Our Number day was great fun with children dressing up in all things number related and enjoying some maths activities to celebrate .

Well to parents and carers who co-ordinated the UNO cards this year. Don't they look great?



Although there is a serious message in supporting the good work that the NSPCC do for all children and adults to learn about safeguarding, we all had a great time!

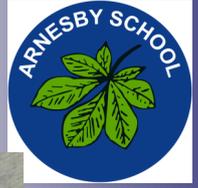


Matthew 5: 14 "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden "

SPRING TERM 2026

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Resilience, Forgiveness, Honesty, Teamwork, Koinonia





What has been happening outside school? Warwick Castle Visit



We all had a wonderful day at Warwick Castle and really enjoyed learning more about why this castle was never defeated. The children have produced some super writing and have been able to talk confidently about what they have learned.



Thank you to the PTA for helping to fund the coach part of this trip, we are very grateful for your support.



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ATTENDANCE MATTERS!



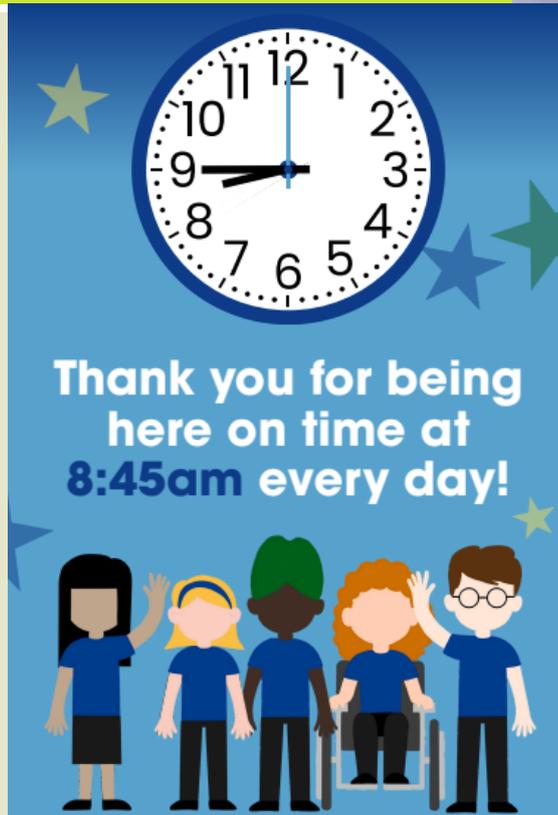
School opens 8.35am

Gates close at 8.45am Learning starts at 8.45am prompt.

The school doors 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.

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

Our attendance is: 97.1% and is the same as the last newsletter

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

The previous two newsletters were:

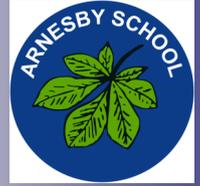
96.9% and 97.1%

Please be reminded that any appointments involving medical professionals in school time must be requested please and with proof of the appointment. A letter or screenshot of an appointment will be sufficient for our records. Please share this through contact with the school office.

Thank you for supporting the school by getting your children to school on time. It makes such a impact 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 !

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

SPRING TERM 2026



What else is happening in school? Children's Mental Health Week



This week is National Children's Mental Health Week. The theme this year is belonging . Belonging is the feeling of being a valued part of the groups and places that are important to us. It means feeling cared for and comfortable



to be ourselves.

In school, we have been thinking about how we belong to a school community as well as other communities and have completed some work around this theme. We want children to feel confident and relaxed, happy, comfortable and know they are valued in our school and that this is their place to excel and shine.

Mrs. James also invited children to **'Come as you are'** in whatever clothes they felt most confident and relaxed in. We could see children's personalities shine through as they talk about why they have chosen the clothes they have for the day.

In the photographs you can see the beehive activity—more to follow when we have put it all together!

Peace Class have painted some wonderful artwork using carbon paper to form the outline. Look at some of their super paintings! WELL DONE!

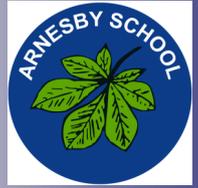


Matthew 5: 14 "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden "

SPRING TERM 2026



Keeping Children Safe



As part of Safer Internet Day we have been thinking about the use of AI and how it can be helpful but we also need to be cautious.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SUPPORTING SAFE USE OF AI

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is increasingly woven into young people's digital lives. It can offer some educational benefits and day-to-day assistance; however, it also raises concerns about misinformation, privacy, fairness, and safety. This guide provides parents and educators with practical strategies to support young people to navigate AI tools responsibly, and to use them safely and with discernment.

Arnesby School - WHERE EVERY CHILD SHINES

1 DEMYSTIFY WHAT AI REALLY IS

Children encounter AI in most online places, including games, streaming platforms, and school tools. Explain that AI uses patterns from past data to make decisions, but it doesn't think or feel like humans. Use age-appropriate examples, like how recommendations on YouTube or Netflix work, to build understanding and prevent false beliefs about AI being all-knowing or alive.

2 TALK ABOUT RISKS OF MISINFORMATION

AI can create convincing false information, including deepfake videos, photos, and fake "facts". Encourage children to think critically about what they see and read. Teach them to double-check information using reliable sources, to look at images and videos carefully, and to ask an adult if something doesn't seem right.

3 DISCUSS DATA AND PRIVACY

Explain that AI systems learn by analysing lots of data, sometimes including personal information. Help young people to be mindful of what they share online and why protecting personal data matters. Model good habits like reading app permissions together or reviewing what's collected by voice assistants like Alexa or Siri.

4 ENCOURAGE CREATIVE USE OF AI

Support children, when using AI tools, to explore ideas, make art, or build projects. This fosters confidence, imagination, and independent thinking. When children use AI creatively, rather than just passively consuming it, they are more likely to stay engaged and make thoughtful choices.

5 USE AGE-APPROPRIATE AI TOOLS

Not all AI platforms are suitable for children. Choose tools designed for education or creativity, with clear safety policies. Review terms of use and privacy settings, and help children use them in age-appropriate ways. For example, some chatbot tools mimic conversation but should only be used with guidance and boundaries in place.

6 USE AI TOGETHER

Exploring AI tools together can help adults understand how they work and spot potential issues. Try co-writing a story with an AI writing assistant or experimenting with an AI art tool. This encourages curiosity, helps you stay informed about the latest AI tools, and allows you to reinforce safe and respectful use while modelling critical thinking.

7 SET BOUNDARIES FOR AI USE

Establish when, where, and how AI tools can be used, just as you would with any digital technology. For example, you might agree not to use AI tools to complete school assignments without permission, or to avoid unsupervised use of voice assistants. Consistent boundaries help manage overuse and misuse.

8 WATCH FOR OVERRELIANCE

Some AI tools, like homework help apps, may be tempting shortcuts. Encourage children to use AI to support their thinking, not replace it. Celebrate effort and process over perfect answers. Reinforce that mistakes are part of learning and that relying too heavily on AI can limit real understanding.

9 TEACH DIGITAL ETHICS AND LITERACY

Help children explore how AI works, where it might be biased, and why ethical thinking matters. Building digital literacy alongside ethical awareness ensures children engage with AI critically, not just conveniently. Help young people to understand that not all people use AI for legitimate purposes; some use it for malicious reasons. Encourage questions about fairness, representation, and who benefits from certain tools; talk about algorithms, echo chambers, and the impact of automation on daily life.

10 STAY CURIOUS AND INVOLVED

AI is developing rapidly, and staying informed helps you support the young people in your care. Follow trusted sources for updates and keep the conversation going. If a child brings up a new AI trend or tool, take the opportunity to learn about it together. Showing interest builds trust and strengthens digital resilience.

Meet Our Expert

Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.



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Road Safety Competition



Arnesby School - WHERE EVERY CHILD SHINES

Leicestershire
County Council

ROAD SAFETY
EDUCATION
PROGRAMME
POEM
COMPETITION!

SPRING
TERM
COMPETITION

WRITE A POEM THAT
INCLUDES BEING SAFE
WHEN USING THE ROAD

YOU COULD INCLUDE
KEY ROAD SAFETY
MESSAGES SUCH AS:

- STOP, LOOK,
LISTEN, THINK
- RIDING SCOOTERS
SAFELY
- WEARING
HELMETS

A WINNER FOR EACH
YEAR.
ENTERIES SENT TO US
BY: FRIDAY 20TH MARCH
2026

TEACHERS TO DECIDE WHO WINS
AND SEND THE WINNERS WORK
TO ROADSAFETY@LEICS.GOV.UK

Leicestershire
Road
Safety

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

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