

Arnesby School Newsletter

28th August 2026



Welcome back to another great Term at Arnesby School. We hope everyone has had an enjoyable summer holiday and are ready for an exciting Autumn term. The children have settled well into their new classes and classrooms (as we have moved around in KS2).

We are delighted to welcome our new children and families and hope that they thrive being part of our school community. We are also delighted to welcome a new member of staff Mrs. Chamberlain (Courage Class Teacher), and as we have been busy preparing for the year, she feels part of our school team already!

You can see below that we have a series of Open Days for new parents. Please spread the word about our 'small school with a big heart' so that we can showcase our wonderful school to prospective parents both in and outside our catchment area. The school welcomes children in all age groups throughout the year.

We are looking forward to an exciting year full of learning, friendship and community.

Mrs. James



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Saturday 12th September 9am– 12.00

Tidy up morning in the school grounds- all welcome to help!

Open days for prospective parents

Friday 25th September, Friday 9th October, Thursday 12th

November 9.30am-3pm

Visits in school for prospective parents .

Please book an appointment with the school office.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SCHOOL?



Just a few photos to show our busy learning in the first few days of the new term. Well done everyone!



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

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Arnesby Attendance



Thank you to all parents and carers who have supported 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 all classes have start of the day activities which wakes up their brains and gets us all ready for a busy school day !



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 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.

All absence requests must be made to the school via the correct form stating why an absence is required. Government guidelines, which came into effect of 1 September 2013, prevents headteachers from granting any leave of absence during term time, unless there are exceptional circumstances. A family holiday during term time is not seen as an exceptional circumstance.

Please note that unauthorised absences can result in a penalty notice being issued if your child has 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a rolling period of 10 school weeks or 5 consecutive days (10 sessions is equivalent to 5 days).

Fines are issued per parent per child at £160 each (discounted to £80 if paid within 21 days). Failure to pay within 28 days the fines being issued may result in parents facing legal action under Section 444 of the Education Act 1996.

Please support the school and your child by requesting leave if you need it.

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Notices and reminders



- **PE days are Tuesdays and Thursday afternoons.** We teach a variety of skills and games across the year. Children must remove any jewellery and long hair tied back in order to take part safely. This includes watches.
- Children in Peace Class can come to school wearing their PE kit.
- Children in Courage and Endurance Classes bring their PE kit into school and change in the classrooms prior to the lesson.
- Children must not have any mobile phones or smartwatches in school. Should your child need to bring in a mobile phone, this must be given in to the office at the start of the day for safe keeping and collected at the end of the day.
- **Saturday 12th September** is a tidy up morning for our school grounds. Sadly, like most gardens, the intense heat over the summer has not helped our plants and flowers and we need to rejuvenate the beds and surrounding areas. If you think you could help by giving an hour of your time, please come along from 9am – 12.00pm and if possible bring some garden tools/ soil/ plants etc. to help our environment look good! Mrs. James is keen to get an Eco- group going in school for children who are interested in wildlife and gardening to help look after our environment but we need a helping hand to start!



Breakfast and After School clubs - September 2026



AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

The feedback from parents around After School Care and activities over the last year is varied and we have often had very few, one or no children in a club that the school has paid for. We can no longer continue this arrangement and therefore this year we have a new programme for After School Club which will continue to run from 3.20-4.30pm

Activities will be facilitated by members of staff and volunteers (with a DBS check) and will change every half term. Each club will run for approximately 6 weeks depending on the length of the Half Term. The cost for each session is £5 which is a slight increase on last year's cost owing to the rise in expenditure. This needs to be paid for in advance for the 6-week block and can be booked through your My Child at School account in the usual way. This will allow us to plan more effectively and ensure that we have the necessary equipment and resources ready and available.

For the first part of Autumn Term (Autumn 1) from September 1st to October 16th inclusive (7 weeks) the clubs will be as follows:

- Monday – Brain boosters - Board games
- Tuesday – Power teams - Multi-sports
- Wednesday - Beginners Hockey (not 30/9)
- Thursday – Building Club - Lego
- Friday - Netball

(As an introductory offer a 7-week block will be charged as 6 weeks)

The next half term may include Homework Club, and Music Club and will run from Monday – Thursday. Mrs. James welcomes any new ideas or volunteers to contact her directly or through the school office, particularly to offer and support a 6-week block of new experiences for children and to contribute to a full week of After School Club offer.

At the end of each half term, we will ask for feedback to ensure that the activities we are offering are benefiting the children.

Informing school of any non-attendance owing to illness or more than 2 days of the club date, you will be refunded as a credit. Any non-attendance of less than 2 days of the club date, no credits will be issued.

For those children in receipt of Free Schools Meals, not Universal Infant Free School meals, the school will cover the cost of the clubs. For those children, please contact the school office, if your child would like to attend.

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Breakfast club



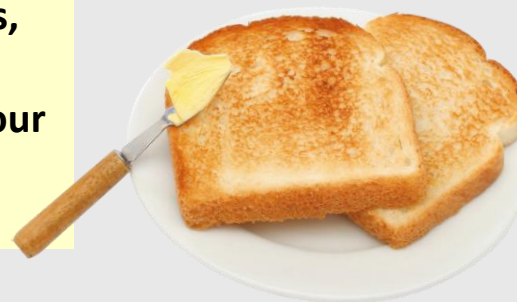
BREAKFAST CLUB

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

Children are given a light breakfast including a choice of cereals, toast and a drink. Breakfast club costs £4 per day per child and can be booked through your My Child at School account.

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.

For those children in receipt of Free Schools Meals, not Universal Infant Free School meals, the school will cover the cost of this club. If you would like your child to attend, please contact the school office.



Safeguarding

Operation Encompass is an early intervention safeguarding partnership between police forces and educational settings. It ensures that if police attend a domestic abuse incident at a child's home, the child's school is notified before the next school day begins, allowing staff to provide immediate support. Information for parents is on our website, under the safeguarding tab.



We are an Operation Encompass School

For further information, please come and see us.

Meet The Safeguarding Team

At Arnesby, we aim to safeguard and promote our students welfare, safety and health by fostering an honest, open, caring and supportive environment. Student welfare is of paramount importance to us.



Mrs James
Headteacher
DSL



Mrs Cox
Class Teacher
Deputy DSL



Mrs Spencer-Parkes
Teaching Assistant
Deputy DSL



Mr Rendall
Chair of
Governors

If you have any concerns about the safety or welfare of a young person or family, please contact one of our safeguarding leads either via the school office, by calling 0116 2478563 or by email: dsl@arnesby.embracemat.org. Embrace MAT DSL: Miss Clarke

Additional Safeguarding Information

Any safeguarding or child protection concern MUST be passed to a Designated Safeguarding Lead.

If you have a safeguarding concern about a member of staff, it MUST be passed to the Headteacher.

If the concern is about the Headteacher, it MUST be referred to the Trust Leader.

Keeping
children safe
is everyone's
responsibility



Information



WHERE EVERY CHILD SHINES



Play-Full Families Family Workshops

**HOME
START**
South
Leicestershire

- Do you have a primary-school aged child? ✓
- Want to learn more about their development? ✓
- Keen to meet other parents with children of a similar age? ✓
- Eager for a more harmonious and playful household? ✓
- Seeking to understand your child's behaviour? ✓

What to expect

- 4 sessions, just for parents (Tues 10-12am), involving
 - Presentations, video clips, reflective discussions and interactive activities
 - Discussions with other families and collaborative problem-solving
 - Exploring child development and how your child uses behaviour as communication
 - Learning about the importance of play.

- 4 fun and interactive parent/s and child play sessions (Tues 3:45-5pm), involving:
 - Having fun and connecting with your child
 - Activities to take away and try at home.

Drinks and snacks provided

Yes?
Come along to our
Family workshops
and be greeted by
a warm smile,
a hot cuppa and
a listening ear

"I can now see how important
1:1 time is. The project has
improved how open we are with
each other, and we understand
each other better now."
(Parent)

Sessions will be held at Home-Start South Leicestershire, 121 Coventry Road, Market
Harborough, LE16 9BY
Contact Office: 01858467982, Family Co-ordinator (Becky): 07752939445

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING CHILDREN GOING BACK TO SCHOOL

Returning to school after the summer holidays can be both exciting and daunting for children of all ages. Different routines, classes, schools, and academic pressures can cause anxiety or uncertainty. Parents play a vital role in easing this transition. This guide will help you support your child emotionally, mentally, and practically as they return to school.

1 RE-ESTABLISH ROUTINES

Gradually shift back to school-time routines a week or two before term starts. Regular bedtimes, wake-up times, and mealtimes can help children feel more secure and reduce the shock of change when school begins. Having a routine creates predictability and stability, helping to reduce anxiety while improving sleep and concentration.

2 TALK ABOUT FEELINGS

Encourage open conversations with children about their feelings. Ask them how they feel about returning to school, such as what they're looking forward to and anything they might be feeling unsure or worried about. Validating their emotions can help reduce anxiety and show them it's okay to talk about their emotional wellbeing.

3 SUPPORT WITH SLEEP

Children need adequate sleep for concentration, brain function, memory, and emotional regulation. Establish a wind-down routine without screens at least an hour before bed, and encourage relaxing activities like reading or listening to calming music.

4 LOOK OUT FOR SIGNS

Some children hide their anxiety. Watch for changes in their behaviour, such as withdrawal, stomach aches, and irritability. If worries persist, speak with their teacher or the pastoral team early to ensure your child receives support.

5 REFRESH SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

Help children reconnect with school friends by arranging playdates or video chats in the weeks before school starts. Familiar faces and social interactions help the transition and provide emotional comfort on that first day back.

6 CREATE A CALM MORNING

Mornings set the tone for the day. Plan ahead with a consistent morning routine that allows time for breakfast, getting dressed, and taking calmly about the day. Avoid last-minute rushing to reduce stress for everyone.

7 FOCUS ON POSITIVES

Talk about the fun and interesting parts of school – seeing friends, favourite subjects, or exciting activities. One simple but powerful change parents can make is swapping "How's your day been?" for "What's been good about your day?" This invites more of a positive, open response. Focusing on positives can help shift children's anxious thoughts and return school as a safe and engaging place.

8 VISIT OR VISUALISE SCHOOL

If possible, encourage visits to the school grounds before the first day, especially if it's a new school. Walking the route or even looking at photos of classrooms and teachers can make the environment feel familiar. The school website is always a great go-to place for this. This is particularly helpful for younger children or those with additional needs.

9 PLAN AHEAD TOGETHER

Involve children in preparing for school – buying supplies, packing their bag, or choosing lunch options. This gives them a sense of control and builds excitement. Use checklists or calendars to prepare together, helping reduce last-minute stress.

10 STAY POSITIVE AND PRESENT

Children pick up on your outlook. Stay calm, positive, and present, especially during drop-offs. Avoid lingering goodbyes, and let them know you'll be there at pick-up. A consistent, reassuring presence builds their confidence and resilience.

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