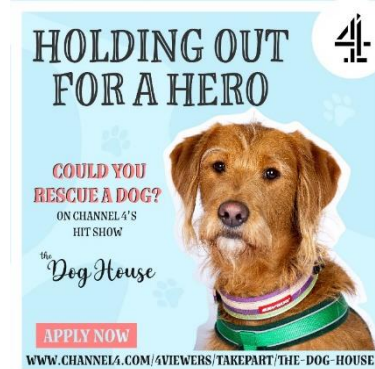


Arunside Announcements Week Commencing 27th January 2025

NSPCC Number Day - Friday 7th February - Arunside will be celebrating Number Day on **Friday 7th February**. NSPCC Number Day is an annual campaign encouraging children to get involved in number-based activities, designed to make learning maths enjoyable! As an **option**, the children are invited to come into school dressed up as a times tables **rockstar**! We will be promoting the use of Times Tables Rockstars throughout the day in order to encourage the children to learn their multiplication and division facts in a fun way.

After School Clubs – As is often the case, after the initial booking process for after school clubs, some children have decided not to continue with the club they had chosen and we now have spaces available on the following clubs: Year 6 Sixers (Tuesday), Year 3-6 Mandarin (Tuesday), Year 1 Lego (Thursday which is also now open to Year 1-3). Please email comms@arunside.school if you would like to reserve a place on one of these clubs. Similarly, do the same if you would like to book your Year 5&6 child in for the Countdown Cricket after half term. Parents are asked to make the payment for clubs on the MCS app before 7th February 2025.



Channel 4 series, The Dog House - We have been approached by the programme makers of the BAFTA-nominated Channel 4 series, **The Dog House**, which is about to return for a new series and searching for people who can offer a loving home to a rescue dog and would be willing to share their reasons for doing so. In previous series, the programme makers found that there were many reasons why people might consider bringing a rescue dog into their life; to help combat loneliness, extra company for a child, to encourage getting out more. For children specifically, having a dog in their home has been proven to help with social skills and impulse control, and even improve self-esteem. Dogs are always happy to see you when you get home from

school, and their love is unconditional - the ideal confidant and an ever-willing playmate! The links for more details are [The Dog House | Channel 4](#) or email thedoghouse@fivemilefilms.co.uk:

Applications for Free school Meals (FSM) – West Sussex have asked that we remind those parents and carers whose children may be eligible for FSM, but who are not currently in receipt of these, that they should apply for FSM between now and the end of March 2025. This will ensure that claims and any future funding awarded is protected. Only applications processed before 1 April 2025 will maintain transitional protection. Please click here to [submit an application](#).

Blocked Driveways on Three Acre – We received the following email on Tuesday from a local neighbour: ‘Morning, there are still ongoing issues around the corner in ‘Three Acres’ with cars parking over driveways and on the restricted parking lines making it difficult for local residents to get off their own drive’. The resident also included a photo of the white care responsible in this incident. We therefore plead again with everyone to ensure that it is not families of Arunside children who are culpable for inconsiderate parking.

A Thank you form the Salvation Army – We have received a letter of thanks form the Salvation Army for the very generous donation of £189.70 that was collected at the St Mary’s Church Carol Service before Christmas. The remaining donations were given to Horsham Matters.



Key Dates for the Diary

- Monday 27th – Friday 31st January - Reception Class Screening
- Friday 7th February - NSPCC Number Day children to come dressed as a times tables Rockstar!
- Monday 17th – Friday 21st February – Half Term
- Monday 24th February – Inset Day
- Monday 3rd – Thursday 6th March – Y6 Mock SATs Week
- Thursday 6th March – World Book Day
- Monday 24th Tuesday 25th March – Year 4 Residential Trip to Lodge Hill
- Tuesday 25th March - Y3 drumming performance to parents at 2.30pm.
- Friday 28th March – Rock Steady Concert – Parents invited

PTA Messages

PTA World Book Day - Book donations - The PTA are reaching out to gather books for the PTA World Book Day fundraiser. We are particularly looking for books aimed at older readers (ages 8-12), but we would be grateful for any donations you are able to offer. Please ensure the books are in good condition, with no torn pages or drawings inside, as we want them to be enjoyed by others. Donations can be dropped off at the school office any time before Wednesday 5th March. Thank you for your support – it means a lot to us, and we appreciate the contributions!