

Headteacher Newsletter



Dear Families,

What a fantastic start to the academic year it has been! I'd like to begin by expressing heartfelt thanks to our wonderful PTA. Their dedication and creativity have brought us two incredible events already—the new Colour Run and another spectacular Fireworks Night. These events not only bring joy to our children but also help fund the many enriching opportunities and facilities we're proud to offer.

This newsletter is brimming with highlights from the term so far—moments that have enriched our children's learning and created lasting memories. As you may know, we'll be saying goodbye to Mrs Hadden at the end of this term. While that time will come all too quickly, I'd like to focus on the exciting news that Ms Broadhurst has been appointed as our new Deputy Head from January. Her unwavering commitment to helping every child be the best they can be is inspiring, and I look forward to working closely with her.

The EYFS team are thrilled with the new intake of students in Buttercup and Daisy classes. The children are keen and inquisitive, and we are looking forward to helping them develop and thrive throughout their journey at Arunside.

We welcomed around 100 families to our recent Open Days. It was a wonderful opportunity to showcase our school in action and a powerful reminder of the articulate, confident children we are privileged to teach. We are incredibly grateful for the strong support of our parent community—you champion us in so many ways, and it truly makes a difference. We would also like to wish our Hindu families Happy Diwali and our Jewish families, we hope you have a wonderful Rosh Hashanah (Happy New Year).

As we approach the half-term break, I want to thank our dedicated staff for their tireless efforts in supporting both the academic progress and wellbeing of our pupils. I hope you all enjoy a restful and refreshing half term, and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 3rd November.

I hope you enjoy our new look newsletter and take pride in all the fantastic things that have already happened this term.

Warm regards,

Donna Jagger

Headteacher Newsletter

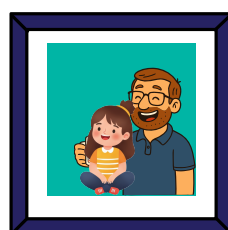
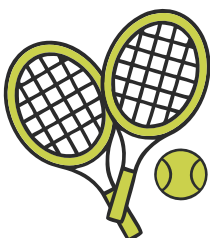


New appointment of Ms Broadhurst as Deputy Head starting in the New Year!

I feel truly honoured to be stepping into the role of Deputy Headteacher at Arunside, having been part of this wonderful school community for the past nine years. I'm looking forward to working with everyone in this new position and to continue the great work we do together for our children and families.

Welcome Mr Ginns!

Mr Ginns has joined us from a school in Chichester and is excited to be teaching Year 4 in Hazel Class. With a keen interest in sports, he will also be leading PE and sports across the school. In his spare time he enjoys watching films and tv shows, reading and spending time with his daughter.



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Student Council

Mrs Flower and last years' student council members collaborated to produce the Arunside Lunchtime Charter. This has been placed in all classrooms and the hall.



Arunside Lunchtime Charter

While Eating in the Hall

- Be polite and respectful.
- Always walk sensibly through the hall.
- Be mindful of the volume of your voice.
- Be sensible when choosing where to sit and keep hands and feet to yourself.
- Remain seated until you are allowed to leave.
- Keep the hall tidy! If you drop it, pick it up.

While Outside

- Be polite and respectful – kind words and hands.
- Everyone should have at least one good friend to play with – if you see someone alone, include them in your game!
- Walk sensibly when the bell rings – no rhino stampedes!
- Dispose of your rubbish properly in the bins.
- Only touch or use your own belongings.
- Respect the football rules. Only play on your day!
- Be responsible – take care of play equipment and play areas.



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We ♥ our
Volunteers



Without volunteers Arunside would not be able to function as successfully as it does. There are many ways you can donate your time to help the school. Below are some of the ways in which you can help and support.

Chair of Governors (and Parent Governor): Xin Liang

Becoming a parent governor at Arunside for the past two years has been one of the most rewarding experiences I've had as a parent. When I first put myself forward, I wasn't entirely sure what to expect, but I knew I wanted to contribute something meaningful to the school community.



What surprised me most was how much insight I gained into how schools actually work. Being part of the governing body opened my eyes to the complexity of running a school – from budget planning and staffing decisions to curriculum development and safeguarding policies. It's given me tremendous respect for the dedication of our headteacher and staff.

As a parent governor, I've been able to bring a parent's perspective to important discussions while thinking strategically about what's best for all pupils, not just my own children. It's been fascinating to see how our input genuinely shapes the direction of the school.

Most importantly, I feel I'm actively contributing to improving education for all the children in our school. It's strengthened my connection to the school community and given me a real sense of purpose. I'd encourage any parent considering it to take the leap – it's a chance to make a genuine difference.

Best wishes,

Xin Liang

New Parent Governor Vacancy:

Today you will be receiving an email from Arunside advertising a new Parent Governor position within our Governing body. Hopefully Xin's words will encourage those who are interested in this rewarding role to apply for the position.

If you have any queries, please do get in touch. **email: clerk@arunside.school**

School Reader: Amy Ripley

I've been a school reader for 4 years 😊 I started because both my daughters were in KS2 and I really wanted to help as many children as possible develop a love of reading, particularly if they found it a challenge.

I love walking into a class and seeing a bunch of hands from the class shoot up because they want to read - and seeing them find a book they love that makes them light up and engage. I get to engage with a great group of kids and have fun - I get to slow down and listen to what they love, and pick a book that represents that. It's really special!



School readers must undertake safeguarding training and pass a DBS check

To register interest in becoming a reader email: comms@arunside.school

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Arunside PTA Member - Bernadett Toth:

How long have you been a PTA member: "I've been involved with the PTA since my son joined in 2020, and officially became Secretary in 2021. I'm now the Communications Secretary, supporting the Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary."

Why did you join? "Coming from abroad, I wanted to understand the British school system better. I was also inspired by the PTA's creativity during Covid—finding ways to keep fundraising and supporting the school despite restrictions. Making new friends in the process was an unexpected but very welcome bonus — I love spending time with my fellow committee members." 😊



What do you enjoy? "seeing the children's excitement at our events and knowing that all the effort really makes a difference. It's incredibly rewarding to walk through school and see the projects our fundraising has made possible, from the sensory room to the outdoor gym equipment and most recently the outdoor reading area just to highlight a few."

What skills do you get to use? "In my role I get to be creative with tools like Canva to create posters, and act as a link between school leadership, the PTA committee, and PTA Year Group Reps."

I also look after our social media page on [Facebook](#). These aren't things I do in my everyday job, which makes it a refreshing and fun change.

Being part of the PTA has given me the chance to meet new people, build friendships, learn new skills, and feel more connected to the school.

It's not just about fundraising—it's about creating experiences for the children and a stronger community."

To enquire about joining the PTA email: pta@arunside.school

School Trip Volunteer - Brigitte Taylor

Why did you volunteer? "Mrs Manger asked if I'd like to go and as it was a day that I don't work, I was free. I try to say yes if I am free- sometimes the days work and sometimes they don't!

As the children go up in the school there is less 'contact' - with the teacher and class involvement as they are upstairs and being able to see what goes on in an external setting is interesting as is the dynamic of how the children behave and when they are out of school on a trip.

I enjoyed going as it was interesting and I'd be happy to help again. It's also nice for the children to see their parents make the time to go and be involved with school related things- it makes them feel good that you make the effort to go."



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*We ♥ our
Volunteers*



PTA Fireworks Night



**Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our amazing PTA,
this event was a huge success yet again!**

The total raised was approximately £5,000!

Every penny raised will be used to directly benefit the children.

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Year 5 RE Trip to a Sikh Gurdwara



Year 3 RE Trip to a Hindu Temple



Rehearsals underway for Young Voices



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Great Fire of London

Year 2 were visited by Rainbow Theatre to experience The Great Fire of London.



West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service

Year 2 were treated to an informative visit and presentation from the local fire crew. Children had the opportunity to explore the fire truck and learn what to do in an emergency.

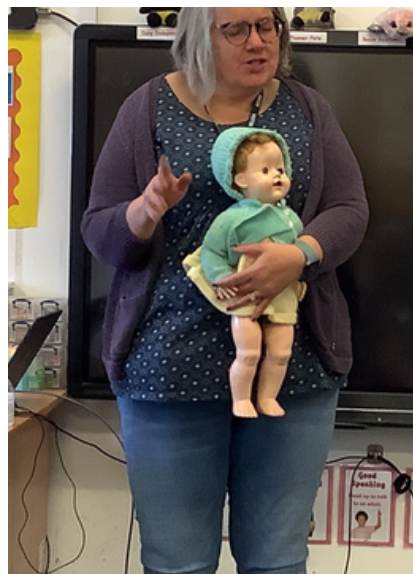


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Horsham Museum Toy Workshop

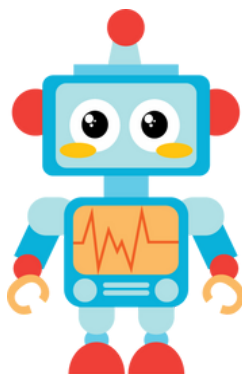
Year 1 were delighted to have a fun and informative visit from Horsham Museum looking at toys from the late 19th and early 20th centuries and comparing them to toys being made today.



Year 6 ROAR Club

Some keen engineers from Year 6 have been attending a lunch time club to take part in the ROAR Competition! They have been working in teams to design products to solve a problem, created posters and prototypes and will be filming adverts complete with jingles to submit to the competition!

Our sponsors from Horsham Lions will be visiting next term to choose a school winner, whose video will be submitted to the national round of the competition after the half term, so watch this space!



Headteacher Newsletter



Parent Support

So far this term we have offered:

- An Online Safety workshop with Mr Heath
- Zones of Regulation workshop with Mrs Lee
- Reaching Families posters and flyers with details of support groups and workshops for families of SEND children.
- Invitation to a free “Sleep, Screens and Stressed out Kids” webinar
- Invitations to a free webinar via West Sussex Parent Carer Forum to support families of children who are having toileting issues
- We have begun working towards a Wellbeing Award
- Provided one-to-one parent support when required

Look out after half term for:

- Drop-in during Parent’s Evenings with the pastoral team in the ICT suite
- Guidance from Rob Long encouraging a “Smartphone-Free Childhood” in the ICT suite during both Parents Evenings
- Parent Wellbeing drop-in with Mrs Lee and Mrs Roberts on Wednesday 3rd December 9.00am - 11.30am for coffee, biscuits and a chat.

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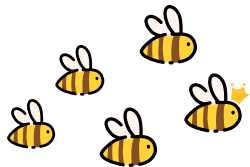
KS2 Time to Talk

After Half Term, Our PSHE Lead Miss Phillips will be resuming 'Time to Talk' sessions

Mondays 12.30pm - 1.00pm in Rowan Classroom.

This serves as a great opportunity for the children to talk through their feelings and any concerns in a safe and supportive environment.

Eco Council Pollination Station



Installing a new Pollination Station outside the Forest School area.

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New After School Clubs on Wednesdays



- Year 3 + 4 Crafty Christmas Creations Club.
- Year 5 + 6 Multi-Sports Club with Mr Ginns.

Both clubs are available to book on MCAS



Parents Evening

If you haven't done so already, please ensure to book a slot at one of our Parents Evening events:

- **Tuesday 11th November 2025 (late)**
- **Thursday 13th November 2025 (early)**

If you are struggling to book using MCAS, speak to the office team and they will assist you.



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Wishing you all a restful Half Term!

Kind regards

**Donna Jagger
Headteacher
Arunside School**

