

THE ARC SCHOOL OLD ARLEY WEEKLY REVIEW

What a wonderful week it's been, filled with sunshine and plenty of smiles across the school. The brighter weather has lifted everyone's spirits, and it's been lovely to see students making the most of it. Although the Lions didn't come away with a win this week, their performance was full of promise and determination. They played with real heart, and we're excited to see how they continue to grow. Our girls' football team also had a fantastic training session alongside another visiting girls' team. The collaboration, teamwork, and enthusiasm on display made it a real highlight of the week.

We celebrated Red Nose Day in true style, with some brilliantly creative—and wonderfully wild—crazy hairstyles brightening up the school. A huge thank you to everyone who took part and helped make the day so memorable. Our bake sale was another big success, raising even more money for a great cause. The treats were delicious, and the generosity from our school community was inspiring.



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|------------|---------|
| • Candice | Kyle |
| • Chase | Leo |
| • Cobie | Leon |
| • Daisy | Logan |
| • Damian | Mason |
| • Dylan | Myles |
| • Emily | Nicole |
| • Ethan | Olivia |
| • George H | Riley |
| • George T | Taylor |
| • Harrison | Toby |
| • Hunter | Tristan |
| • Josh | Vinnie |
| • Kaleb | |
| • Kodi | |



- **Learners achieving 90% or more**
Laylah, Liv, Leon, Kodi, Ethan, Mason, Leo, Daisy, Harrison, Mya T, Riley, Noah E, Dylan, George T, Vinnie, Charlie
- **Learners achieving 80% - 90%**
Toby, Myles, Leah, Tristan, Emily, Taylor, Candice, Reece and Damian
- **Learners achieving 70% - 80%**
Nikolai, Darcey, George H, Cobie, Tyler, Nicole, Chase, Kaleb, Oliver, Harlie and Antonio.

DATES TO REMEMBER

March:

24th & 26th Parents Evening

27th – Last day of Spring term, Ramadan lunch celebration and Easter Celebration

During **Lent and Ramadan**, many of our families are reflecting on gratitude, generosity and helping those in need. As part of this, we are collecting **unwanted gifts** to donate to **Birmingham Children's Hospital**. Your kindness and generosity will help bring comfort and joy to children and families who need it most.

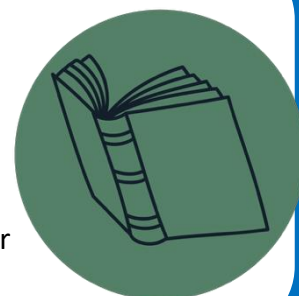
Vote Question of the week:

We asked our pupils – How can sharing your own story help you connect with other people?

- It makes people agree with everything you say
- It stops people from asking questions about you
- It lets others see what makes you unique and what you care about
- It proves your story is more important than theirs

Voices of the earth (VOTE) focus this week: Stories of the world

The theme Stories of the World invites learners to explore the power of storytelling across cultures, generations, and time. It encourages students to reflect on how stories shape identity, beliefs, and history, and how they can be used to express personal and collective experiences. Through this theme, learners will discover that stories are not just entertainment—they are tools for understanding the world and connecting with others.



Written by Cobie, Yr 7

Maths:

This week in maths we have been learning about fractions. I found this quite challenging at first but using the time method really helped me to understand it better.

English:

In English, we took part in a fun competition where we wrote our own short stories. My story was about a mother who turned into a monster—only for it to be revealed that it was all a dream.

Science:

In science this week, we explored the process of bread-making to learn more about the different elements involved in respiration.

PE:

In PE, we have been playing cricket, which I've really enjoyed.

Food Technology:

This week in food tech, we baked lemon and raspberry cheesecakes.

Kids say
the
funniest
things



Changes to Messaging Safety on Instagram and TikTok

There have been some important updates this week regarding how messaging works on popular apps used by young people, including Instagram and TikTok.

Meta (the company behind Instagram) has announced that it will be removing end-to-end encryption (E2EE) from Instagram direct messages, with changes expected from 8th May. TikTok has also confirmed that it will not introduce end-to-end encryption within its messaging services.

What does this mean?

End-to-end encryption means that only the sender and receiver can read messages – not even the platform itself can access them. This is the system currently used by apps such as WhatsApp.

While this can protect privacy, it also means that:

- Harmful or illegal content cannot be easily detected
- Platforms cannot monitor or flag concerning messages
- Serious issues (such as exploitation or grooming) are harder to identify and report

Why this matters for child safety

From a safeguarding perspective, these changes may improve safety for children and young people. Without full encryption:

- Platforms have more ability to detect harmful behaviour
- Suspicious activity can be flagged and investigated
- Known harmful content can be identified and reported to authorities

This helps reduce the risk of online spaces becoming hidden environments where harmful activity can go unnoticed.

What should parents do?

- ◆ Keep conversations open: Talk to your child about who they are messaging and remind them never to engage with people they don't know.
- ◆ Review privacy settings together: Ensure accounts are set to private and messaging is limited to known friends where possible.
- ◆ Encourage reporting: Remind children that they should report anything that makes them feel uncomfortable.
- ◆ Stay informed: Platforms regularly update their safety features, so it's important to keep up to date with changes like this.

A balanced view

It's important to recognise that there is an ongoing debate between privacy and safety online. While privacy is important, these changes highlight a growing focus on ensuring that platforms are safer spaces for children and young people.