

21st March 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a short but very busy Spring Term at Abbey Park and your children have continued to excel themselves in their work and behaviour.

Statutory Testing

Next term, as you know is the term where we have tests in Y1, Y2 and Y6. Y6 SATs will be in the week starting 14th May. Y2 SATs will take place the following week, commencing 21st May and Phonics screening will take place in the week beginning 11th June. More details will come out for the individual classes nearer the time.

We will be continuing the before and after school booster clubs for Y6 right up until SATs week. Please try to ensure that your child attends if they have been selected to do so.

Parent Communication

We are always trying to improve communication between home and school. We have installed the suggestion boxes – please continue to use these – and we have subscribed to an app service called **School Jotter**. To enable this, you need to go to the app store and download the free app and search for Abbey Park. You will be issued with your own password and log on details attached to this newsletter. This app will be used to send messages and as we develop it, you will be able to access more information about your child and our academy. Please don't forget to also follow us on Twitter @AbbeyParkHX and also to give us your email addresses so we can email correspondence to you and save paper.

INSET day, 2018

When we issued the term dates for this year we said that we would be issuing a date for an INSET day when we knew the dates of the Northern Education Trust conference. This date is 29th June. **Abbey Park Primary Academy will be closed to all children on this date for additional staff training.**

School Lunches and Payments

On Wednesday 28th March we will be having a special treat Easter lunch which will consist of hotdogs, corn on the cob, cous cous and Easter cakes. If your child does not normally have a school lunch but you would like them to on this occasion, please inform the office by **Friday 23rd March**.

We must insist on payments for school lunches to be paid on the Monday morning for the rest of the week. **If your dinner money goes into debt we will not be able to give your child a full school meal until the debt is paid.** Either send them with a packed lunch, or we will give them a nourishing, but simple lunch of bread and butter, fresh fruit, a small biscuit and a cup of milk as we always have supplies of these items in school.

Parent Questionnaire

Please complete the attached questionnaire as the information we collate does inform our areas for improvement. So far in the suggestion boxes we have had a request for the 'Nit Nurse' to come back and for children who consistently perform well to be rewarded. These are really sensible requests but unfortunately, as much as I would like the 'Nit Nurse' to return, there is not a service that offers this in Calderdale or in NET. If we hear of nits in school, we will send out the usual information and advice, but please do continue to check your own children's hair regularly. High performers and children who consistently behave well can be chosen as our Golden Person or as the Star of the Week. They also build up merits so they can attend our end of year trip. Good attenders also get their name in the golden box so that they have a chance to be drawn out to win a prize at the end of the year.

We do listen to your suggestions and welcome them so keep them coming!

Staffing

From next half term, Mr Taylor will be taking up post with us and teaching Y5. He is moving to Abbey Park from another Calderdale school and has a lot of experience teaching KS2. This is to cover Mr Brown's move to Y6 whilst Mrs Kermotschuk leaves us temporarily to have her baby. From September, 2018 Miss Kirkland will be joining us as a KS2 teacher. She is joining us from another outstanding Calderdale school and will be a very welcome addition to our team.

Mrs Hunt is much better and will be rejoining us gradually until Easter and then resume full class teaching after the holidays. We would like to thank Miss Ryder and Miss Amini for the excellent cover and the stability they brought to Y4 and Y5 this term.

Mrs Harper and Mrs Ford will be teaching in Y3 for the next few weeks as Miss Weedy has decided to move onto pastures new and will not be returning to us. I would like to thank her for the many years of dedicated service she has given Abbey Park and we will miss her very much. Her SENCO responsibilities will be taken over by Mrs Kermotschuk, who will officially become SENCO on her return from maternity leave. During that time, Mrs Ford will cover essential SENCO work, supported by Miss Priestley for well-being work and referrals. Thank you for your patience in this temporary period of instability

Easter Celebrations

Due to popular demand, we are bringing back the decorating egg competition. Please bring the eggs in on Tuesday 27th March. The winners will be announced in the celebration assembly at 9:00 on Thursday 29th March. *(Please note the change of time of this Easter celebration assembly)*. Children can also decorate and wear a hat if they wish.

Clubs next half term.

Mondays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gardening club – Mrs Zabrocky • Football – Mr Clifford • Cooking club – Miss Travers 	Yr 2 and above – 15 children Yrs 5 and 6 boys (for a tournament) - 22 children Yrs 1 and 2 – 12 children
Tuesdays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMovie club – Miss Priestley • Sewing Club – Mrs Nutton 	Yrs 3 -6 – 12 children Yrs 2 -4 - 12 children
Wednesdays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Netball Club – Miss Wood 	Yrs 4 – 6 – 16 children
Thursdays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choir – Mrs Ford/Mrs Armitage • Computer Club – Mrs Wood/Mrs Hunt • Games Club – Mrs Ford • Art Club – Mrs Wade 	Yrs 2 -6 – any number Yrs 1-6 – 15 children Yrs 1-3 – 15 children Yrs R-2 – 15 children

Clubs will be on a first come, first served basis by completing the form attached. You will be notified of your place in the club by message.

Thank you for your continued support of Abbey Park and our values. School will reopen after Easter on **Monday 9th April, 2018 at 8:55**. Have a restful and happy Easter break.

Child's Name: _____

Choices of Clubs:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Signed _____

Yours sincerely

Mrs. P Kermotschuk
Acting Principal