

News from Abbey Park School

Term 6 July 2023

'Potential into Performance'




The Park
Academies Trust



Message from the Principal

Dear Parent/Carer,

The start of Year 6 transition to Abbey Park School, a significant event in the calendar, reminds us that the end of the academic year is fast approaching. We seem to fit so much into this last term but it is all worthwhile as it provides some exciting and beneficial experiences for our young people.

I would like to take this opportunity to show my appreciation to our 'Peer Mentors' for their support of Year 6 during their induction. A cohort of 240, new to the building and expectations is a challenge, but the hard work of this team of APS pupils means that the new cohort are well prepared for September. The singing in the final assembly of induction was outstanding! It is also good to report that the cohort is full and that Abbey Park will be at capacity of 1200 pupils in September.

Across the country, recruitment of teachers has been a challenge, but I am pleased to say that as planned, we are able to run our full curriculum for the next academic year. A number of staff are moving on to new posts or abroad - we wish them the very best in their new ventures and thank them for their work here at Abbey Park School. I know they will be missed by pupils and colleagues. Mrs McKeeman retires this year - we appreciate all she had done for MFL teaching at Abbey Park and all the very best for the future. Further on into the newsletter you will find a summary of those staff leaving and new appointments to replace them.

This year has been eventful, in particular the long-awaited Ofsted visit in January was a very positive experience and has since been endorsed through visits from our external consultant and Challenge Partners. The latter is an organisation which we subscribe to, where a team of school leaders visit and carry out a review of aspects of the school such as curriculum and teaching and learning. We know that it is always important to work with these partners to identify our next steps for improvement as we continuously strive to develop.

Recent sporting events such as sports day, have provided the opportunity for pupils to display their ability and commitment, which has been fantastic to watch. We've also had many pupils help out our partner primaries in the Trust with their sports days, where they have shown exemplary conduct and leadership.

Opportunities such as the Battlefields visit to Ypres and surrounding areas, where our pupils laid a wreath from APS at the Menin Gate evening memorial service, again showing the respectful nature of our pupils and staff. Further visits to Bletchley Park, Oxford Natural History Museum/Pitt Rivers Exhibition, The River Cole, as well as Duke of Edinburgh expedition and PGL experience, have shown the many positive and determined qualities of those who participated. I express my gratitude to our staff who have given up their time in school, evenings and weekends.

Finally, congratulations to all pupils who attended our annual awards evening this week. It was a great opportunity to recognise and celebrate academic achievements across the curriculum.

The staff at Abbey Park wish you well for the summer and anticipate another good year working with you and the community in September. Pupils have been reminded of how to stay safe over the summer break and we look forward to their return in September.

Best wishes,

Mr Young

Library Round up

Well, what can I say, I have been the Librarian at Abbey Park School for nine months and what a lot has happened!

When I first started, we were initiating our **Accelerated Reader** scheme which required a lot of work. Labelling and organising every book in the library would not have been possible without the help and support of some of our amazing team.

I took part in my first ever **Swindon Youth Literature Festival**, which was an amazing opportunity to meet some fantastic authors, as well as some wonderful librarians.

World Book Day was a chance to celebrate with the **Avid Readers Tea Party** and of course getting the whole school involved with our '**Dress your Door**' competition.

Two of our Year 10s started a weekly book club, we also have a termly staff book club and now host the tabletop games club afterschool as well.

In between all of this we managed to update the **LRCs décor** and added a splash of colour, brought in some greenery and added a sofa, cushions and beanbags! All in an effort to make the library as welcoming and relaxing as possible.

We have also played host to **Bert's Books**, Swindon's only independent book shop, twice. Something I hope we can do again next year as it is a wonderful chance for pupils to browse and purchase books, while also raising funds for the library.

Dress your Door competition



Avid Readers Tea Party



Before



After



Bert's Books



Looking Ahead

Although most of us are looking forward to a quiet relaxing summer holiday, the library never stops. Once the pupils have ended their term, I will be back in school doing a stock take to make sure everything is ready for September.

I will also start planning ways to raise funds for the library to increase and improve our stock. We will continue to host the Table Top Games Club and our Pupil Book Club.

Within the library itself, I am hoping to continue on building a welcoming safe space for all our pupils. We were lucky during the transition days to have many of the up-and-coming Year 6s pop into the library. They gave very positive feedback, with quite a few saying they can't wait to come in September.

Swindon Youth Festival of Literature

We have also been busy organising the next SYFL (Swindon Youth Festival of Literature). Our headline opener will be non-other than Dame Jacqueline Wilson, which will be held at the Wyvern theatre in November. We will then have Ash Dickinson, Jennifer Bell and Steve Cole at school throughout the week.

Winners of the SLA

This will be the 16th year that the festival has run. The SLA (School Librarian Association) have celebrated the efforts of our festival by choosing it as one of the nominees for their community award.

This is a celebration of our commitment to bring a love of reading, of authors and all things book related to the secondary and primary schools of Swindon. We hope this acknowledgement of what Kate Murphy and her team do will make this one the best one yet.

We were up against two other projects, both of which were amazing, so we were extremely surprised to have won. This is a real feather in our cap and one that wouldn't have been achieved without the support of all the librarians and the secondary school headteachers.

For more information about the festival you can check out our new website at <https://www.swindonyfl.co.uk/>



Learning Resource Centre

Summer Reading Challenge

Throughout the holidays the school is running a Pupil Summer Reading Bingo Challenge. Details can be found on Show My Homework. Pupils can read and review books, blogs, magazines, newspapers and articles over the holidays to earn house points for the next academic year.



APS SUMMER READING BINGO 2023

Earn a reward point for each book you read over the summer!
When you have completed as many challenges as you want to, complete this form:

1. Read a book set in a different country, ideally written by someone from that country (<i>Read your way around the world</i>)	2. Read a book that you borrow from the public library, or an audiobook/ebook from the Borrowbox App (free) https://www.borrowbox.com/	3. Read a novel or non-fiction book linked to climate change or animals under threat of extinction (<i>Read your way through a changing planet</i>)
4. Read historical fiction or a non-fiction book on a topic in history that interests you (<i>Read your way through history</i>)	5. Read a book on our recommended reads list (On Satchel One) or suggested via #booktok	6. Read a biography or autobiography; or a book linked to mental health; or a novel that explores relationships (<i>Read your way through human experience</i>)
7. Read a science fiction book or a non-fiction book / magazine or newspaper article about space or astrophysics (<i>Read your way through the universe</i>)	8. Read a newspaper / magazine or blog of your choice. (<i>Read your way through different text types</i>)	9. Read a book / newspaper or magazine article with a <u>number</u> in the title, or linked to maths concepts (<i>Read your way through numbers</i>)

Why not complete the challenge with them. It could be a way to spark your own interest in reading and offers a great opportunity to spend some time chatting with your children and sharing some brilliant books. If you're not sure what books to read have a look online or pop into a book shop and ask. Booksellers love nothing more than chatting about books and sharing their favourite reads!

For any information or advice on reading and book selection please feel free to message me
Bowien@abbeyparkschool.org.uk

Enjoy the summer and Keep Reading!

Miss Bowie

Librarian

Learning Resource Centre

Buying books

In the library we try to keep a wide variety of books and authors, however it is impossible to stock everything. If your child enjoys reading it can be difficult to keep up with buying them books, especially in the current economic climate.

So here are a few tips to keep costs down:

- Join your local library, it is free to join and you can borrow up to 16 books at a time.
- While at the library, many have a withdrawn section where you can take as many books as you can carry for £1.
- Charity shops often have a book section, the bonus is you can return them when you have finished and support a good cause.
- Discount book shops such as The Works offer a wide range of books at discount prices.
- Online WoB (World of Books) is a secondhand book shop which offers books at a reasonable price and offers free delivery in the UK.

Useful information

Libraries

Where to find your local library.

North Swindon Library

Orbital Retail Park, Thamesdown Drive, Swindon, SN25 4AN

01793 707120

northswindon.library@swindon.gov.uk

Current opening hours

- Monday - 2.00pm - 6.00pm
- Tuesday - closed
- Wednesday - 10.00am - 2.00pm
- Thursday - closed
- Friday - 1.00pm - 5.00pm
- Saturday - 10.00am - 2.00pm
- Sunday - 11.00am - 3.00pm

Central Library

Regent Circus, Swindon, SN1 1QG

01793 463238

central.library@swindon.gov.uk

Current opening hours

- Monday - 10.00am - 5.30pm
- Tuesday - 10.00am - 5.30pm
- Wednesday - 10.00am - 5.30pm
- Thursday - 10.00am - 5.30pm
- Friday - 10.00am - 5.30pm
- Saturday - 10.00am - 4.00pm
- Sunday - closed

Shops

Bert's Books

54 Godwin Court, Swindon, SN1 4BB

07949 190977

bert@bertsbooks.co.uk

Opening hours

- Monday - 8.30am – 5.30pm
- Tuesday - 8.30am – 5.30pm
- Wednesday - 8.30am – 5.30pm
- Thursday - 8.30am – 5.30pm
- Friday - 8.30am – 5.30pm
- Saturday - 8.30am – 5.30pm
- Sunday - 10.30am – 4.00pm

Waterstones

3 Canal Walk, Swindon SN1 1LD

01793 436465

www.waterstones.com

Opening Hours

- Monday 9.00am – 5.30pm
- Tuesday 9.00am – 5.30pm
- Wednesday 9.00am – 5.30pm
- Thursday 9.00am – 5.30pm
- Friday 9.00am – 5.30pm
- Saturday 9.00am – 5.30pm
- Sunday 10.00am – 4.00pm

Term 6 has been a busy one at Abbey Park with athletics and rounders season drawing to a close and hosting Abbey Park's annual sports day.

Swindon Athletic Trials

Several of Abbey Park pupils competed in Swindon Athletic Trials with Anubis M-Z & Abigail H going on to represent Wiltshire at the South West Championships in Exeter. All the pupils who competed did brilliantly and did Abbey Park proud!

Swindon School Athletics Championships

Many of the pupils also competed in the Swindon School Athletics Championships and again displayed their talents across multiple events. Overall, over 50 pupils competed for KS3 & KS4 with the final standings of:

6th - KS3 Overall
2nd - Yr 9 Girls
6th - Yr 9 Boys
6th - Yr 10 Girls
6th - Yr 10 Boys

Girls rounders

The Girls rounders fixtures have finished with some great results and final league positions against other local schools. A special mention to the Year 9 team who finished top of their pool and finish on an undefeated 4 game streak.

Boys Cricket

The boys have also had a successful cricket season with a new development team. The team have enjoyed playing fixtures against other local schools and look to continue developing their knowledge and skills into next season.

Sports Day

Abbey Park has also held its annual sports day on the penultimate week of term. This was a great success with the whole school watching some amazing sporting talent. Results were very close between the 4 houses but Newton came away with the win with 1266 points. Well done, Newton house!

1st place - Newton - 1266pts
2nd place - Austin - 1157pts
3rd place - Churchill - 1110pts
4th place - Ennis - 1020pts

It was lovely to see the whole school participating in sport and showing great team work and determination throughout the events.

Overall, APS PE has had another successful year with many pupils still continuing to amaze us with their talent and skill. Special highlight being the U13 boys winning the County Cup Final & U16 Boys Football winning the Swindon Schools League Cup.

We would also like to congratulate Charlotte H for winning the APS PROUD Sport award. Charlotte has been tremendous this year by representing the school in many sports teams and has shown lots of determination and effort within all her lessons.

The PE department wish everyone a safe & lovely summer holiday. We look forward to seeing you all in September for the new netball and rugby seasons and wish Year 11 pupils good luck on their new journey.

Happy Holidays!

The PE department

Free sanitary products

We continue to have a ready and available supply of free sanitary products in school for pupils, made available by funding from the Department for Education.

We have tampons, sanitary pads, period pants and reusable pads available all of differing styles to suit individual needs. These resources are free and available for any of our pupils and their families.

Please contact your child's Pastoral Support Assistant, or they can come to Mrs Jackson's office (downstairs green wing) or Mrs Pursey's office (downstairs red wing) to collect.

Unrestricted access to these free sanitary products is something we as a school feel passionately about. Please do let us help keep the cost of living down by making use of these free resources before the summer break.

RSE Parental Consultation 2023

We recently wrote to you on 27th June regarding our annual parental consultation for the school's Relationships and Sex Education (RSE). The purpose of the consultation is to share with you our RSE Policy and our curriculum approach and to seek your feedback. We would like to thank all parents and carers who have already taken time to submit responses and complete the questionnaire.

The online consultation closed on 10th July and I will share the data and outcomes with you shortly once these have been analysed.

Finally, thank you again for taking part in this consultation; we really value the feedback from parents and carers.

Mrs Jackson
Head of PSHCE

School Uniform Donations

Do you have any pieces of branded Abbey Park uniform lying around that are still in good condition and could be used by someone else? Perhaps they no longer fit or you no longer need it. Are you just not sure what to do with it? If so, we might be able to help you!

Pre-loved uniform will be put to good use by supporting our pupils and their families. We are looking for donations of branded Abbey Park uniform, specifically blazers and ties but we will happily take trousers, shoes, jumpers and PE kit too.

If you do have any items you no longer need, then please drop them in at reception. All we ask is that donations are in good condition and have been cleaned.

Many thanks in advance for any support you might be able to offer.

Mr Stubbs
Assistant Principal

Thank You

We wish staff moving on to new ventures all the best and thank them for their work here at Abbey Park School

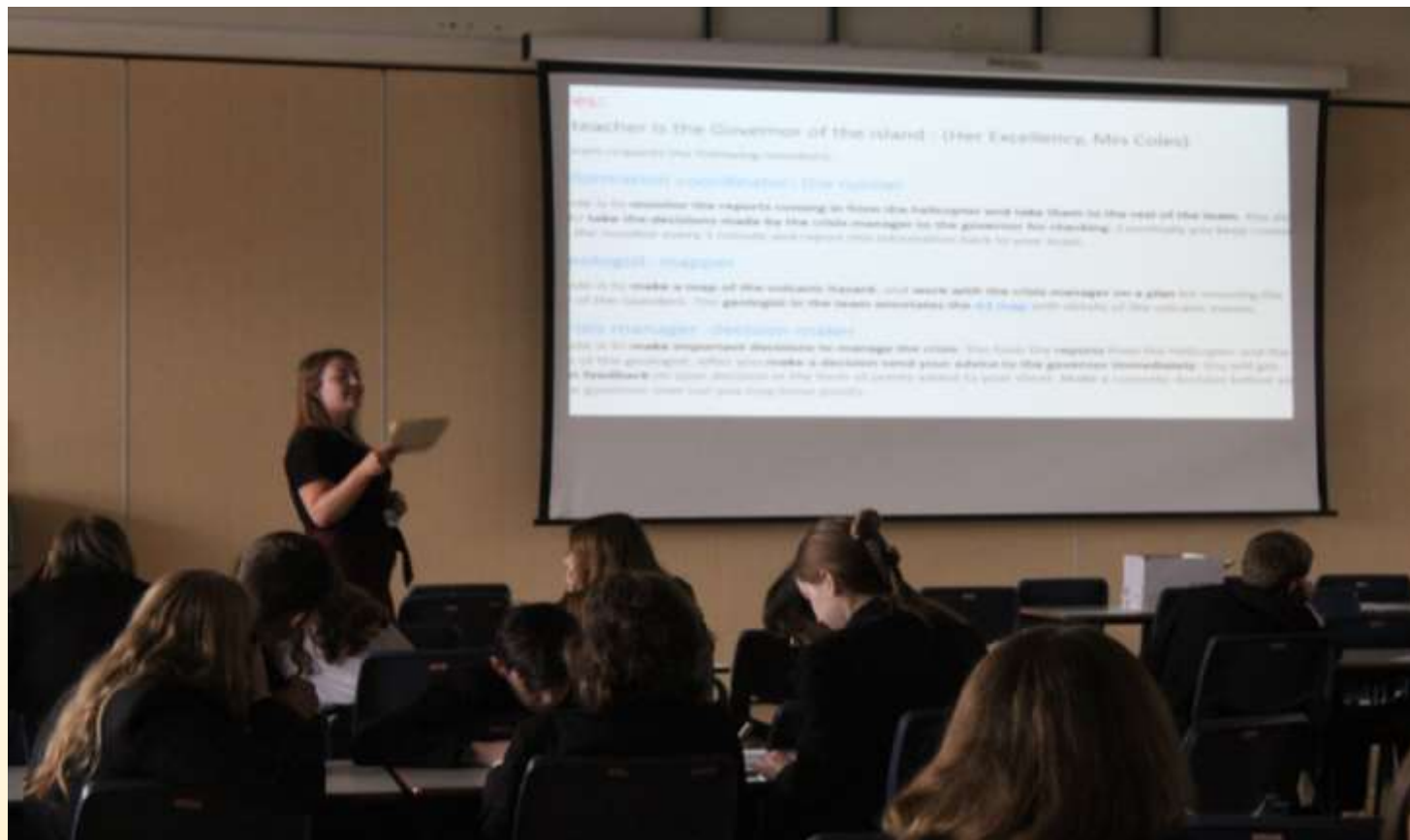
<i>Staff leaving</i>	<i>Subject/Role</i>
Mrs McKeeman	Teacher of MFL
Mrs Griffiths	Curriculum Leader for Art
Mrs Hoon	Curriculum Leader for DT
Mr Spurr	Teacher of Science
Mrs Wood	Teacher of MFL
Miss Bradford	Teacher of English
Mr Hopwood	Teacher of Humanities
Mr Shaw	Teacher of Maths
Miss McAdam	Pastoral Support Assistant
Mrs Allen	Teacher of Business Studies
Ms Parsons	Teacher of DT
Miss Diaz-Butcher	Pastoral Support Assistant
Dr Bamford	Teacher of Science

Welcome

Welcome to new staff joining Abbey Park School

<i>Staff joining</i>	<i>Subject/Role</i>
Mrs Cote Lobon	Teacher of MFL
Mrs Preece	Curriculum Leader for Art
Mrs Nind	Curriculum Leader for DT
Mr Wells	Teacher of Science/PE
Mrs Sam	Teacher of MFL/DT
Mr Thorn	Teacher of English
Miss Carr	Teacher of Humanities
Miss Burgess	Teacher of Maths
Mrs Edmonds	SEND CO
Mr Bouteiller	Teacher of Business Studies
Miss Templeman	Teacher of DT
Mrs Czekanska	Teacher of Science
Mr Russell	Teacher of Science/PE
Mrs O'Brien	Teacher of KS3 Intervention
Miss Taylor	Teacher of Humanities
Miss Ashbury-Semmens	Pastoral Support Assistant

On Tuesday 27th June, Mrs Coles from Lydiard Park Academy joined us to deliver a taster A level Geography session. It was a great opportunity for pupils to get an idea of what A level Geography is as well as having a go at a decision-making activity, working together in a fast-paced scenario to choose appropriate geographical decisions.



BBC 100 Media Workshops

During Term 3 and 4, 30 Year 9 pupils took part in a BBC media project facilitated by a film producer from IntoFilm.

The workshop introduced how to plan a story board for film considering image, narrative and music. Core concepts of media language were also taught including camera shots and technique as well as evaluating the impact of the media upon audiences.

Abbey Park submitted six films in total for the competition and we are pleased to announce that the film by Evie W was one of 5 films selected by the UK panel. The film can be seen on the following link: <https://www.intofilm.org/news-and-views/articles/bbc-share-your-story>

Evie's film was entitled 'The Legacy of Heroes' and outlined her Great-Grandfathers service in the war.



Many congratulations to all the pupils who participated and to Evie for her film's success and the award of the national selection.

Laura Hunter

Vice Principal



The Eco Committee is very pleased to tell you that Abbey Park School have been successful in meeting the requirements for the Eco-Schools Green Flag Award for 2022-2023.

The Eco Schools reviewer commented that our application showed that young people in our school are aware of environmental issues and are committed to being active and creating positive change. The Eco Committee and Pupil Council thoughtfully reviewed and discussed three areas to create a detailed Action Plan for the use of Outdoor Space, Energy and Water Conservation. This included linking different curriculum areas with one another. It was noted that the Eco Committee produced a wide variety of activities, from the Tutor Plant Competition to the creation of Bugingham Palace.

Congratulations in particular to Gaby P, Toby R, Candence C, Madelyn C, Austin S, Josh J and Spencer K for all your extra-curricular commitment.



Eco -Code

- Whenever possible walk, scoot, cycle .
- When anything is not in use make sure to turn it off because you're wasting electricity .
- Make sure to put your rubbish in the bin .
- Pick up litter .
- Looking after bugs and nature in our area.
- Bringing water bottles to refill not plastic ones .
- Planting trees .
- Eco tips
- Saving paper by reducing our photocopying .

Eco School Winners

Congratulations on keeping your classrooms healthy! The Eco School pupils enjoyed your entries.



ECO SCHOOLS WINNERS

Mrs Dyer, Mr Lyons, Mr Stroud
Miss Peele and Jamie C
Lili-Mae M 7JWO



Fundraising

Race for Life 2023

ABBEY PARK SCHOOL HAS RAISED A TOTAL OF

£1,192.00

Well done to everybody who has participated in their PE lessons this week, and thank you for your generous donations!



Duke of Edinburgh

I would like to congratulate the current Y9 Duke of Edinburgh pupils for passing their DofE expedition assessment weekend.

There was a significant difference between their practice and the assessment which showed their ability to learn from mistakes and then to act on constructive feedback. Camp craft and personal preservation significantly improved and that was shown when extra time was taken to get camp ready and tidy before having free time. Pupils took more time looking at the map and making justified choices as to which paths to take, which led to them being very efficient at getting to camp on day 1 and to their final destination on day 2. Navigation was even aided by some pupils taking the time to learn at home how to read more advance compass bearings.

A big thank you to Mr Quant, Ms Antal, Mrs Lloyd, Dr Bamford, Mrs Parsons and Mrs Dyer who assisted over the weekends.

Mr Bates

PE teacher



Annual Art Show

We were delighted to welcome parents, pupils and staff to our Annual Art show. This year's Year 11 pupils showed us determination and skill in their Art and Photography projects. The quality of work was beautiful and engaging.

We would like to wish our pupils good luck in their creative journeys and lives.

Mr Sanghera and the Art Department



Year 7 Maths trip to Bletchley Park

On Wednesday 5th July, 39 Year 7s went to Milton Keynes to visit Bletchley Park where they took part in a workshop about coding and ciphers. Coding activities (and challenges!) included; Morse Code and Transposition Ciphers.

We had a tour around Bletchley Park, and as well as learning about the rich and significant history behind the park, we were fortunate enough to see and use an enigma machine. We were able to visit the various bunkers and see the equipment and historical figures from WW2. We visited the memorial of the Polish men and woman involved in the code breaking operations.

Ms Anthony

Maths Department



Year 10 fieldtrip to the River Cole

On Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th July, the Year 10 Geographers completed fieldwork at the River Cole. The pupils (some literally) got stuck in like ducks to water! We measured the width, depth and velocity of the river as well as assessing the sediment there too.

Katy from the National Trust provided an invaluable talk to the pupils about the conservation and management they are doing both in the river and around the estate which will ultimately affect the river flow.

Now we are back in lessons, we have started the write up so pupils are prepared to be examined on this next year.

Mrs Graham

Humanities



Year 9 trip to Battlefields



After arriving safely in France, we made the quick journey east and were soon in Belgium for our action-packed itinerary led by our tour guide, Bob.

We were all very moved by Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, explored a trench system at Bayernwald, purchased Belgian chocolate at Peter de Groot and ate a lovely meal at Pacific Eiland before representing the whole of the Abbey Park community and laying a wreath at Ypres during the Menin Gate Last Post Ceremony. The day started with blue sunny skies and a good breakfast ready for our next adventure to the Somme.



It was a warm and sunny day on the Somme and we trekked through fields following footsteps of WW1 heroes and stopped off for reflection at Newfoundland Memorial park. All enjoyed a quick break and an ice cream at Ulster Memorial, before heading to Lochnagar Crater.



We began our last sunny day on Saturday with a stunning yet sombre visit to two cemeteries. The first, Langemarck German Cemetery followed by Tyne Cot CWGC. We paused for more reflection and a minutes silence, as we laid the second of our two wreaths, representing the APS community. We later visited The Firing Post at Poperinghe and of course found time for ice cream. After a safe tunnel crossing, we arrived back at APS ahead of schedule.



Thank you to ALL pupils who engaged, listened and represented Abbey Park commendably during our three-day trip. A special mention to Mrs Kerr for her wonderful enthusiasm and for leading the trip so well. We hope pupils made lots of memories and have really learnt about the sacrifices made during WW1.

Year 10 trip to London Galleries

We had a lovely day exploring the South Bank and Galleries on Friday. Pupils took location pictures and explored the art at the Tate Modern and Tate Britain.

When we asked pupils which Gallery they preferred the Tate Britain came out on top, definitely worth a visit.

Special thanks to Mrs Boakes, Miss Bowie, Ms Redondo, Mr Stroud, Miss Brazell and Mr Sanghera.



Year 7 & 8 trip to PGL, Liddington

We took 165 Year 7&8 pupils away from the 14-16th July to PGL in Liddington for a fun packed adventure enrichment residential.

The focus was to develop pupils' teamwork, social skills, resilience and of course our PROUD values. We wanted pupils to step out of their comfort zone by trying new activities and being independent away from home.

The pupils experienced 8 activities in total which included canoeing, giant swing, vertical challenge, archery, archery tag, survivor skills, zip wire and Jacobs ladder. Each of the activities brought their own element of challenge which pushed our pupils to their limits. They all did amazingly well in all aspects of the weekend and we were very proud of how they conducted themselves.

We hope to make the PGL trip a regular occurrence on the school calendar as well as building our enrichment offer next academic year for other year groups.

Mr Maddern
Assistant Principal



Year 8 trip to Pitts River and Natural History Museum Trip, Oxford

Pupils had a cultural saturation on Friday at the Pitts Rivers Museum and Natural history Museum. As well as enjoying the environment, they drew, recorded and photographed their experiences.

Special thanks to Mrs Boakes for organising trip, Miss Brazell, Mrs Harewood and Ms Jones for enthusiasm/support.



At Abbey Park we are committed to ensuring a culture of safeguarding in our school and it is paramount in all we do. We hope that our termly safeguarding update will give you an overview of our approach, offer some useful guidance and information and inform you of what your child is learning in school about how to keep themselves safe. For more information about safeguarding, please look at our website.

What does Safeguarding look like at Abbey Park?

At Abbey Park School we follow the Government policy document 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'. This is statutory guidance for all schools in England to follow and comply with. It has recently been updated and therefore our safeguarding policy has been updated to reflect this. You can find this on our safeguarding section on the school website. Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is **everyone's responsibility**. Everyone who comes into contact with children and their families has a role to play in making sure that children grow up having the best life chances. In order to fulfil this responsibility effectively, all adults should make sure their approach puts the child at the centre of the decision making and that the best interests of the child are always considered. We believe that it is in the best interest of our children to have opportunities to learn how to stay safe both in and outside of school. Our safeguarding themes are woven into lessons across the curriculum, into assemblies and throughout daily life in school. Here are just a few examples of how we teach safeguarding at Abbey Park:

- Dedicated safeguarding team in school every day
- Pastoral support for each group.
- Emotional Literacy Support Assistants (ELSA's) and Pastoral Support Assistants who have specialist training in supporting a child in their social and emotional needs
- Members of staff who have completed basic mental health training
- Mental health pupil ambassadors
- Mental health staff ambassadors
- A dedicated mental health lead – Mrs Stevens
- Wellbeing Wednesday each Wednesday Tutor time looking at how to look after mental health
- Assemblies and lessons taught throughout the year, including but not extensively, anti-bullying, equality, diversity, fire, sun, children's safety, exploitation, sexual harassment and violence and online safety.
- PHSE curriculum covering how to be healthy, having healthy relationships and developing emotional literacy
- Online safety curriculum
- RSE (Relationships and sex education) curriculum
- Weekly tutor time reminders about staying safe in school and our expectations

If you need any support with your child, please contact a member of the safeguarding Team.

Designated Safeguarding lead	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	SWIS - Social Worker in School
			
Mrs Stevens	Mrs Bulpitt	Ms Redondo	Mrs Nia Turner

Contact details and circumstances – always keep us up to date!

It is vitally important that we have the correct contact details for every parent/carer. If you change your phone number, e - mail or move house, please let the admin team know or update it on Arbor. We also need at least two emergency contacts for your child.

We also ask that you keep us up to date with any changes in your personal circumstances that may impact your child.

Email – admin@abbeyparkschool.org.uk

Useful contacts:

Swindon MASH (Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub) if you have concerns about a child and want to speak to a social worker - 01793 466903 or email swindonmash@swindon.gov.uk

If you have concerns that a child is at immediate risk of harm, please call the Police on 999
School Nursing team – for support to help children with their physical, mental and emotional well-being and referring to other specialist agencies.

Tel – 01793 465050 or email snn@swindon.gov.uk

Online safety guidance for parents - <https://swgfl.org.uk/>

Assembly and PSHE this term:

During term 6 pupils have had assemblies about general safeguarding, what makes a good leader, world refugee day, sports day, perseverance, staying safe over the summer and house assemblies.

During PSHE this term pupils have been learning about the following topics:

Year 7	Drugs education – Drugs and the law, legal drugs, smoking and vaping and their effects.
Year 8	Health and wellbeing, eating disorders, body image, self-esteem and e-safety and social media safety.
Year 9	Health and wellbeing – Families and parents, types of abuse, gender and sexuality, conflict resolution and relationship changes, healthy sexual relationships (statutory)
Year 10	Careers, Information and guidance on further education

Online safety: Each term we will add online safety guides for parents. All of these guides can be found on our website under the safeguarding section.



- Reporting tool
- CEOP
- Child line
- NSPCC
- The dock – online
- The police
- Parents/carers
- Mrs Stevens – via e-mail

Where to get help over the summer

How to stay safe over the summer



Water Safety Code



All pupils have had assemblies on what to do in emergencies over the summer and how to have fun but be safe in the community.

With the arrival of the lighter evenings and the summer holidays fast approaching, it is also important to remind pupils of how to keep themselves safe when both online and out and about.

The Safer Internet Centre have produced a guide for keeping online habits and interactions healthy:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/staying-safe-online-in-the-summer-holidays>

The Child Mind Institute has produced the following tips for a successful summer break:

<https://childmind.org/article/strategies-for-a-successful-summer-break/>

Follow this link for some helpful summer safety tips: <https://www.what0-18.nhs.uk/parents/carers/stay-safe-summer-tips-and-advice>

Have a happy and safe summer!

Term 1 Curriculum Map - KS3

‘Potential into Performance’

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
English	Literature and Context: Beowulf	Literature and Context: Frankenstein	Literature and Context: Of Mice and Men
Maths	Place value, axioms & arrays, factors & multiples, order of operations	Percentages, sequences, forming & solving equations, forming and solving inequalities	Volume & surface area, FDP, probability
Science	Cell & Particles	Electricity & The Periodic Table	B1 Cell Biology & Skills
MFL (Spanish & French)	Spanish - Mi Vida	Spanish - Mis Vacaciones	Spanish - Somos Asi
	French - La rentrée	French - Vive les vacances	French - Mon monde à moi
Humanities (Geography, History, Philosophical Think- ing (PT) & Sociology)	Geography - Exploring Britain	Geography - Restless earth	Geography - Living World (AQA Unit)
	History - Introduction	History - no History as the topic is Ge- ography	History - Trenches and the rise of Hitler
	PT - Exploring Britain	PT - Restless earth	PT - The impact of religion in the modern world
Computing & Media	Introduction to secondary school & Microsoft Word	Computer Components	Data representation
Design Technology (DT) and Food Preparation & Nutrition (FPM)	DT - Graphics	DT - Graphics	DT - Graphics Food
Visual Arts and Photography	Introduction to drawing	Peace Project	Consumerism & Stencil
Performing Arts (Drama & Music)	Drama - MODULE 1: Intro to Drama- Module exploring the place and pur- pose of Drama as an art form	Drama - Commedia Dell Arte	Drama - Hillsborough
	Music - Graphic Scores	Music - Africa	Music - Live Lounge
PE	On rotation - netball, gym, rugby, basketball, dance	On rotation - netball, gym, rugby, basketball, hockey, fitness	On rotation - netball, fitness, rugby, trampolining, basketball, tag
Personal, Social, Health & Economic (PSHE)	Transition/Welcome to Abbey Park	Global issues & discrimination	British Rights & Values: Living in the wider world

Term 1 Curriculum Map - KS4

'Potential into Performance'

	Year 10	Year 11
English and Media	20th & 21st Century Literature: An Inspector Calls	Shakespeare: The Merchant of Venice.
Maths	Foundation - Perimeter, area & 3D forms, graphs Higher - Perimeter, area & 3D forms, solving quadratics and simultaneous equations	Foundation - Algebra & shape Higher - Circle theorems, algebra
Science	B4 Bioenergetics C2 Bonding, Structure & Properties of Matter	C6 Rates & Extent of Chemical Change B5 Homeostasis & Response
MFL (Spanish & French)	Spanish - ¡Desconéctate! French - Qui suis-je?	Spanish - TBC French - TBC
Humanities (Geography, History, Philosophical Thinking (PT) & Sociology)	Geography - Challenges of Natural Hazards History - Medicine in medieval England, Renaissance medicine 1500-1700, Medicine from 1700-1900 PT - Christians Beliefs Sociology - Introduction	Geography - Changing Economic World History - Medicine in medieval England, Renaissance medicine 1500-1700, Medicine from 1700-1900 PT - Religion, Peace and Conflict Sociology - Paper 2: Crime and Deviance
Business, Computing and Media	Business - Enterprise & Entrepreneur Computer Science - Computer Systems & Programming Media - Introduction to key concepts: Media Language and Representation	Business - Computer Science - Media - NEA creation Component 2 section A – Television crime drama
Design Technology (DT) and Food Preparation & Nutrition (FPM)	DT - Theory: New & emerging Technologies FPM - 3.2.1 Macronutrients 3.2.3 Nutrition and health Food skills	DT - NEA FPM - NEA 1
Fine Arts and Photography	Fine Arts - Fine Art- Technique workshops, Karl Blossfeldt, Georgia O'Keefe	Fine Art
Performing Arts (Drama & Music)	Drama - Component Three 100, Introduction to the play '100' by reading through the script Music - Rudiments of Music Treble/Bass Clef, Note Lengths, Chords, Scales, The Elements of Music	Drama - Portfolio Music - Listening activities and practice questions
PE	On rotation - badminton, football, netball, fitness, dodgeball, rugby	On rotation - netball, badminton, table tennis, handball, fitness, dodgeball, rugby, football
Personal, Social, Health & Economic (PSHE)	Global issues, incl. terrorism	CEIAG: Living in the wider world (next steps)

School Calendar

Term 1

Friday 1st & Monday 4th September	Inset Days
Tuesday 5th September	Pupils return to school Y7 - arrive from 8.15am through pupil gate Y8 - 11 arrive between 10-10:15am and go to tutor base
Thursday 7th September	Whole school individual photos
Tuesday 12th September	School closes at 2.05pm to prepare for the open evening
Tuesday 12th & Wednesday 13th September	Abbey Park School open evening for Y5 & 6
Tuesday 19th September	Y11 'Key to Success' evening
Wednesday 20th September	Y11 trip - Science Museum, London
Friday 22nd September	Y9 trip - Dodgeball Tournament, Warminster
Wednesday 27th & Thursday 28th September	Abbey Park School open morning 9.15-11.15am for Y5 & 6 (pre-booked)
Thursday 28th September	Y7 Tutor consultation evening
Thursday 5th October	Y9 trip - Bath University
Monday 9th - Friday 13th October	Well-being week
Thursday 12th October	Y11 Mock Interview Day
Tuesday 17th October	Y11 trip - Media, London Character Champion Pizza Party - 12pm Learning Resource Centre

School Calendar



Abbey Park School Terms and Holidays 2023 - 2024



September 2023							October 2023							November 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3							1			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
							30	31												

December 2023							January 2024							February 2024						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	31					26	27	28	29			

March 2024							April 2024							May 2024						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		

June 2024							July 2024							August 2024						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31	

INSET Days 1st and 4th September, 10th and 17th November, 10th February, 3rd June and 19th July
Lunchtime Finish 20th December and 18th July

Bank Holidays 2023/24 UK

25 December '23	Christmas Day	29 March '24	Good Friday	27 May '24	Spring Bank Holiday
26 December '23	Boxing Day	1 April '24	Easter Monday	26 August '24	August Bank Holiday
1 January '24	New Year's Day	6 May '24	May Day Holiday		

Pupils return to school

Y7 - arrive from 8.15am through pupil gate

Y8 - 11 arrive between 10-10:15am and go to tutor base