



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

Headteacher: Miss E Fenn
Telephone: 01727 851802
Fax No: 01727 766991
Email: head@abbey.herts.sch.uk
Website: www.abbey.herts.sch.uk

Grove Road
St Albans
Herts
AL1 1DQ

Dear Parents

Book Week 2-6th March 2015

We have had a very exciting start to Book Week this week, where we are promoting the love of reading, story writing and storytelling with the children. Still to come this week:

Thursday

- Favourite book character dressing up day (Abbey Service as normal)
- Deadline for competition entries

Friday

- Professor Pango Mango poetry workshops for all classes
- Story telling with Krista Pullan for all classes
- 3pm Usborne Book Fair and Year 2/3 Cake Sale

Book Fair

Each child was sent home with a World Book Day voucher last week following their library session which they can use at the school Book Fair on Friday against any book priced at £2.99 and above. There will also be £1 and £2 special offer books that are for sale (no voucher accepted). Krista is very much looking forward to joining with us to celebrate Book Week. The books will be set out on tables grouped roughly in ages. Payments can be made by cash, cheque (made payable to K Pullan) or by debit/credit card. The school will receive a proportion of the sales from the Book Fair, so we could receive books to the value of £75 if there are sales of £250! Books can only be purchased from 3pm by parents and after school by children.

Year 2 and 3 Home Baked Cake Sale

Friday's Cake Sale will be part of our Usborne Book Fair to end our annual Book Week. Year 2 and 3 parents please do get baking as the homemade cakes are a real favourite. Cake/biscuit donations to be dropped off at school on Friday morning; please remember all donations must be **nut-free**, **including** **almond** **essence**.

Lent Eucharist - Thursday 12th March

Our Lent Eucharist will be held in the Crossing on Thursday 12th March at 9.15am. Parents are warmly welcome to attend.





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Sponsored Bounce - Friday 13th March

Our next Friends Association fundraising event will be a 'Sponsored Day' on Friday 13th March. Last year we held a sponsored bounce which proved very popular raising nearly £2,000. Please return your child's signed Bounce Form as soon as possible.

Red Nose Day - Friday 13th March

Friday 13th March is Red Nose Day for those children who wish to dress in red and/or wear their red nose for a £1 charity donation.

Year 5 and 6 Netball and Football Club

Can I remind parents and children that weekly attendance of the netball and football club on a Tuesday is essential to allow the coaches to train the children and then select children to represent the school. I work hard to ensure that there is always a training session on a Tuesday from 3.30-4.30pm, regardless if some children are playing in a match. Yesterday I had four staff at school to train the two clubs and we only had one footballer at school and three netballers. If there is not sufficient interest in the after school club by Year 5 and 6 children I will be forced to open the club to Year 4 children to ensure that the coaches and teachers time is not wasted and that we have a trained squad of children to represent the school in fixtures.

After School Lindees Childcare Consultation Update

Following my newsletter in January to see if parents would be interested in Lindees Breakfast Club providing an after school club. I can confirm that there was not enough parental interest and the club would not be viable.

Reporting of Child Absence

If your child is unwell and will not be attending school, please could you telephone the School Office by 9.30am where a telephone message can be left. Many thanks.

Parent Governor Vacancy

Earlier this week a letter was sent out to all parents via Schoolcomms to ask parents to consider standing for this post. Copies of the documents can be found on the governor's page of the school website. If you would like to stand for election please complete the nomination form and return it to the **School Office by Monday 16th March** marked for the attention of our **School Business Manager, Mrs Lucy Price**, who will be acting as our Returning Officer in this election. Parents who have stood in previous elections are more than welcome to stand again.





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Swimming Success

Last Friday Florie Geurts, Iorwen Ellis, Jemima Samols, Eilidh Dunwoodie and Beth Barker represented the Abbey School in the Regional Primary Swimming Relay teams Finals for the East and South East of England (held in Watford). The fastest schools will be going forward to represent their region at the National finals in June in Sheffield. At this point we don't know if we have qualified or not, but it is very possible as other regions have still to run their events.

Our girls swam in two events in the Medium Schools category which is for those schools with between 50-100 pupils in Year 5-6. In the Freestyle relay the team was Florie, Iorwen, Jemima and Eilidh and they swam very fast in the heats and made the finals (last 8). In the finals the competition was very tight, and the girls came 5th overall, narrowly beaten by Royal Masonic, St Albans High School, St Dominics and Aldwickbury. A great result and an improvement on last year's strong performance.

In the Mixed stroke relay, the team was Florie (Backstroke), Beth (Breaststroke), Eilidh (Butterfly) and Jemima (Freestyle) and again they swam well and made the finals. The girls put everything into the final, and went faster than they had in the heats but were narrowly beaten into second place by Aldwickbury. They were the fastest girls team in Hertfordshire, and the second fastest girls team in the Mixed Stroke event across all the different school categories across the region, which is a great achievement. Especially considering that most of the other schools taking part were independent schools with their own swimming pools. Well done to the girls and their families for supporting them. Fingers crossed for Sheffield!





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Lost Property

A solid silver charm from a bracelet has been handed into the School Office. If this belongs to you, please speak to Mrs Upton.

Headlice

We have had a case confirmed of head lice in Year 5 this week. Can I please ask ALL families to check their children's hair and treat if appropriate? This co-ordinated approach increases the chances of stopping re-infection. Anyone with hair can catch head lice. Children are most commonly affected because they tend to have more head-to-head contact while at school or during play. The risk can be reduced by having long hair tied back, as recommended for school uniform.

There is information on head lice and treatments on the following internet pages:

<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice/Pages/Treatment.aspx>

Many parents choose not to use chemical based treatments; you may be interested in the Bug Busting kit, which can be purchased online, or is available on NHS Prescription. See <http://www.chc.org>.

Sainsbury's Vouchers

We are collecting the Sainsbury's get Active vouchers again and would gratefully receive any vouchers you get given when doing your weekly shop. There is a collecting box in the entrance at school. Thank you very much.

Kind regards,

Miss Emma Fenn
Headteacher

