



# The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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**Grove Road**  
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**AL1 1DQ**

13 July 2016

Dear Parents,

## Key Stage 2 Summer Production

The Summer Production of Cinderella and Rockerfella this week was a huge success. Well done to all the junior children and all the teachers and support staff who have worked so hard to make this possible.

## Summer Fair

The Summer Fair at the end of June, despite being one of the wettest on record with torrents of water, raised a staggering £3,200. Well done to all the Friends' Association members for their hard work in support of Abbey School.

## Late Summer Soiree

The date of our next Abbey School fundraising event is now set. **Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup> September 2016** will see the first Abbey School 'Late Summer Soiree'. The event will be held at school from 7.30pm-12am for parents to dance the night away!

Tickets, costing £20, will be available to reserve tomorrow at the School Open Evening (6-8pm) from the **School Library** from a member of the Friends Committee. You will then be able to pay for your ticket(s) via Schoolcomms gateway during the following seven days as there is a maximum capacity of 180. Included in your ticket price will be a glass of Prosecco on arrival, pulled pork bap (veggie option available), auction of promises and a professional DJ. The dress code is 'Dress to Impress'!

All the proceeds of the event will go towards Abbey School to improve the facilities and opportunities we are able to offer the children.

We are asking parents to help us with the following things:

- \* Do you know any companies that could match fund the event?
- \* Do you have any contacts to assist us with the auction of promises, we are looking for big ticket items that will get us all bidding?
- \* Would you like to help support us by assisting with the clear up the following day with a bacon sandwich?

To offer assistance or for further information please contact:

Shirley Anderson [shirleyanderson321@gmail.com](mailto:shirleyanderson321@gmail.com)

Tara McDonald [macmallett@gmail.com](mailto:macmallett@gmail.com)

Katie Medd [kdmedd@hotmail.com](mailto:kdmedd@hotmail.com)

Jo Stewart [Joanna.stewart23@gmail.com](mailto:Joanna.stewart23@gmail.com)



Healthy Schools



## **Open Evening**

The theme of Brazil and the Rio Olympics has been used for our summer term Art Week and Sports Day and will continue through to our Summer Open Evening **tomorrow, 14<sup>th</sup> July from 6-8pm**. The children will be displaying work produced throughout the year in their own class and it is a chance for parents and children to have a look around the whole school and look at the next year's classroom.

A professional dancer from Dance Days will be coming in tomorrow to work with Year 3 and Year 4 to learn two separate Brazilian dances to be performed at the Open Evening and **Year 3 and 4 pupils have been asked to attend to perform between 6-6.15pm**. I am sure that parents will not want to miss the performances to open the evening. **Year 4 should arrive at 6pm in a brightly coloured top, ideally yellow, green, blue or white to represent the Brazilian flag. Year 3 should arrive at 5.50pm in shorts and t-shirt.**

Professor Pango Mango, who last worked with us during Book Week, will be spending the day with Year 5 on Thursday to look at images of Brazil such as the Amazon Rainforest, favelas, football and Rio de Janeiro carnival as a stimulus for poetry. The results of the day will be performed at the start of the Open Evening so **Year 5 have already been requested to attend from 6.15-6.45pm approx.** to perform. After 6.45pm, children and parents can enjoy looking around all the classes.

## **Annual Reports**

The teachers have worked incredibly hard writing reports for every child. These reports went home to every child on Friday and were completed to reflect the year up to the middle of June when the reports were submitted to me for approval and moderation. This legal document must highlight strengths and areas for development for all children. I have read all 210 reports and moderated the phrasing and grading for behaviour, achievement and progress across the school.

As the report states, if there are any queries that parents would like to discuss from your child's report there is an informal opportunity to see the class teacher at our Open Evening. Alternatively, appointments can be arranged via the School Office for a more formal discussion. The class teacher should be the first port of call when discussing the report, which can then be discussed with the headteacher for further clarification if needed. The class teacher will be happy to answer questions parents may have and give examples of the judgements made on your child's behaviour, achievement and progress. In light of Mrs Clerc being on maternity leave I am happy to meet with Year 6 parents from 7.10-8pm if they have any questions regarding the end of key stage assessments.

Could all parents ensure that they have returned their report comments on the additional copy of page 1 by tomorrow. These will then be read and considered or acted upon if necessary.

## **End of Key Stage 2 - Year 6 National Curriculum Assessments 2016**

Summer 2016 was the first year of the new Year 6 end of Key Stage 2 tests in maths, reading and spelling, punctuation and grammar. The tests assessed children against a national standard. This year's tests are the first tests to reflect the new primary curriculum, introduced in 2014. As this is the first year of the new tests the results look different from those of previous years and cannot be compared with them directly.

At the end of Key Stage 2, test results and teacher assessments are reported. For the first time in 2016 the test results are reported using scaled scores, which range from 80-120, where 100 is defined as the "expected standard".

It is important to recognise that the standards in place this year are much higher than those in previous years. Therefore, as the new standard is higher than the old one, fewer children have met the new expected standard than the previous standard, both nationally and locally. The staff and governors are very proud of the Abbey School Year 6 achievements and the test outcomes reflected the Teacher Assessments made by Mrs Clerc, which were externally moderated. These assessments were focused on a strict criteria, which all must be consistently met.

<b>End of Key Stage 2 Year 6 National Curriculum Assessments 2016</b>			
	<b>Abbey School</b>	<b>Herts</b>	<b>National</b>
<b>Reading Test</b> % of Year 6 children working at the expected standard	<b>77%</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>66%</b>
<b>Writing Teacher Assessment</b> % of Year 6 children working at the expected standard or better	<b>80%</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>74%</b>
<b>Spelling, punctuation and grammar Test</b> % of Year 6 children working at the expected standard	<b>90%</b>	<b>76%</b>	<b>72%</b>
<b>Maths Test</b> % of Year 6 children working at the expected standard	<b>77%</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>70%</b>
<b>Each Year 6 child represents 3.3%</b>			

### **Goodbye and Farwell**

Next week we will say goodbye to our SENCO Mrs Tully as her last days are Monday and Tuesday morning and to our Year 1 teacher, Mrs Hare, who will commence maternity leave on Friday. We wish both ladies the very best and they will be greatly missed.

### **New Abbey School Uniform Item**

The photograph shows the newest item of non-compulsory Abbey School uniform currently stocked by Stevensons and available both in the shop and online.

Until now, our polo shirts have not been adorned with an embroidered logo. In the warmer months when the children do not wear their jumper/cardigan the polo shirts without a logo do not look as smart as those schools that have already moved to a logoeo polo shirt.

The new item is far more identifiable and looks incredibly smart. The quality of the Stevensons' polo shirts is superior and long lasting.

In the future Abbey School may phase this item in and become compulsory for Reception children in September 2017. Please take some time to look at the item when you are next in Abbey School as it is on display leading up to the hall from the School Office.



### **Year 6 Leavers Disco**

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July** is the Year 6 leavers event. Year 6 children **only** are invited to this event run, and paid for, by The Friends' Association to mark the end of their time here at Abbey School. **Parents** of Year 6 children are invited to come along to the School Field (or Year 5 classroom if bad weather) for a glass of wine and nibbles while the children enjoy their disco in the hall. Wine/Beer and soft drinks will be provided, however please feel free to bring any other drinks along that you wish for yourself on that night. The evening starts at 7pm and finishes at 9pm. Miss Fenn, Mr Silver and Mrs Kelly will be in attendance and Friends Association members will be in the hall supervising the children, allowing parents to relax and enjoy the evening. No tickets required.

### **Summer Term Eucharist**

All parents are warmly welcome to attend our summer Eucharist in the Crossing at the Abbey Cathedral on **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July at 9.15am** as we say goodbye and good luck to our Year 6 children.

Orchestra children should arrive **directly at the Abbey for 8.30am** with their instruments, including percussionists. Mrs Price will provide music and stands and all children will have ordered their lunch the day before. Please don't be late! Please note that there is a final practice for the orchestra at the usual time next Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July, and all children must have their instruments in school for that, and take them home ready for the morning.

### **Helpers' Tea Entertainment**

Following the Eucharist some children will be performing in the Helpers' Tea. Soloists know who they are. All recorder players and Toots and Doods will need their instrument and music.

### **Last Day of Term**

School finishes at **2pm on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**. The children will have an early lunch from 11-12pm and be in our Leavers Assembly from 12.30pm. **Please note: Children will not be able to be removed during the assembly for an early pick-up as all staff will be in the assembly.**

**Year 6 parents** are invited to attend the **Leavers Assembly** starting at 12.30pm sharp and the front door will be opened from 12.15pm approx. once the lunch hall has been cleared. During this assembly the Abbey Shields for each year group will be awarded. In addition, Year 6 Abbey School awards will be presented to individuals for their hard work, behaviour or achievement in different areas of school life and the curriculum throughout their time at Abbey School. The Friends Association autograph books will be presented to each Year 6 child along with a prayer book from the Governing Body.

### **Home-School Agreement**

The Governors and I have reviewed and updated our Home School Agreement which you have received in your child's report envelope. Please read the agreement through with your child, ensuring that both parents and children understand what is expected from them whilst at school. The agreement should then be signed by a parent or carer and the child and be kept at home for future reference. **Please note that by sending your child to school you and your child/children are, by implication, agreeing to abide by the Home School Agreement.**

### **Mobile Phones**

We discourage the use of mobile phones on the school grounds by children. Children should not bring mobile phones into school unless absolutely necessary. If brought to school by children in Years 5-6 they must be handed to their teacher at 8.55am and they must not be turned on until the children are off the school grounds. Children who will be in Year 5 or 6 in September received in their report envelope our mobile phone use agreement. Children below Year 5 are not allowed to bring a mobile phone to school. The mobile phone agreement has been devised by staff, parents and Governors.

### **Abbey school Job Opportunity**

The Abbey Primary School is looking for a midday supervisor to help with the supervision of children during the lunch break from 11.50am to 1.05pm at an hourly rate of £7.20. Applicants who are interested in either 1 to 5 days per week, please contact Mrs Upton in the School Office for further details 01727 851802 or [admin@abbey.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@abbey.herts.sch.uk).

### **Autumn Term 2016**

School resumes for the next academic year at 8.55am on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September.

Have a wonderful summer.



Miss Emma Fenn  
Headteacher