



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

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Dear Parents,

Today's **Groovy Shoes and Crazy Hair day to support Grove House Hospice** was indeed a sight to behold! The children raised over £170 for this worthy charity. We will be supporting this charity again on **Wednesday 1st July by performing in a Lunchtime Concert at St Peters Church**. The school orchestra, senior recorders and Year 6 soloists will be performing. Offers of help to walk with children and drive large instruments, stands, etc would be much appreciated by Mrs Price. We will leave at 11am on the day. Children must wear their smartest uniform as on the school photograph day. (Please note: The junior recorders, Year 3 recorders, choir and school band are not performing in this concert) The school band, however, will perform at the Summer Fair next Saturday. The School Band should arrive at school by 11.45am, no school uniform needed. The School Band will play from 12.00-12.15pm.

Saturday 20th June - Alban Pilgrimage

Children are invited to be part of the colourful Alban Pilgrimage on Saturday 20th June. There are lots of costumes to fill and flags to hold. **Registration is at 9.15am at St Peter's Church.**

Last week's Alban Day here at school raised £158.75 to support St Albans Cathedral in its major development project, 'Alban, Britain's First Saint: Telling the Whole Story.' We have donated this amount online and are thrilled to see we were the first to support, please go to www.mydonate.bt.com/events/albansangels for more information.

Monday 22nd June - Whole School Photograph

The whole school photograph will be taken on Monday morning and it is important that all children are present. The next photograph will be in 2020! Children must wear correct, clean and smart school uniform for the photograph. Girl's socks should be white, boy's socks should be grey. Girls may wear either skirt/pinafore dress/trousers/tailored shorts and polo shirt, or a light blue and white checked summer dress. Polo shirts **must** be worn with the school cardigan or sweatshirt. Fleece are not to be worn for the photograph. The only badges to be worn on the sweatshirt, jumper or summer dress are the Abbey Shields.

Girl's hair accessories must be in line with school uniform rules, and therefore tied back with white or blue accessories. All school shoes must be clean, black and polished as these may be visible in the photograph.





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District Sports

Congratulations to our Key Stage 2 District Sports squad who competed on Tuesday and Thursday this week against twelve St Albans schools of a similar size. Children in Year 3-6 were chosen to represent their school following trials in sprint, relay and long distance track events and high jump, long jump and throw field events.

The Year 6 100m relay teams (pictured) sprinted to success with the boy's team winning the boy's event and the girl's team coming second in their event. The boys relay squad consisted of Will Austen, Ben Hawker, Dubem Okoye and Aidan Tanner. The girl's team consisted of Beth Barker, Lydia Edwards, Florie Geurts and Abby Simpkin.



Dubem and Will came first and second in their Year 6 boys 100m sprint heats and both boys went through to the final. Dubem was thrilled to win the Year 6 boys 100m sprint race and the action shot below shows him striding to the finish line.



Other District Sports successes include Lydia coming a close second in the Year 6 girls 100m sprint. Beth coming second and Aidan beating his personal best in the Year 6 600m race (a whopping one and a half laps of the running track!) Alistair Lechartier-Rutter came first in his Year 4 80m sprint heat and went through to the finals.

All of our children did their very best and showed exceptional sportsmanship to their competitors as well as towards their squad. Well done to our Year 6 athletes not previously mentioned: Islay Meadows, Charlotte Ramsey and Allie Snailham. Year 5 athletes: Hannah Barker, James Burden, Oliver Chow, Lucas Manning, and Jemima Samols. Year 4 athletes: Ollie Colman, Sai Fisher and Hannah Read. Year 3 athletes: Nathan Beetlestone, Henry Johnston, Shannon Ryan and Pippa Samols. A selection of photographs from the events will shortly be on the school website.





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Swimming Team to Sheffield

This weekend, five Year 5 and 6 girls Beth Barker, Eilidh Dunwoodie, Iorwen Ellis, Florie Geurts, and Jemima Samols are travelling up to Ponds Forge Swimming Pool in Sheffield and will be representing not only the school, but the East of England in the Primary School team relay National Finals. The Abbey School is swimming in the medium sized schools category and will be up against mixed teams of girls and boys combined.

Both relay teams qualified and will swim against the best twenty-four schools in the country, many of whom are independent schools with their own pool and regular swimming practice, so this is a great achievement and a first for the Abbey School after just missing out on qualifying for Nationals last year.

The freestyle relay team is Eilidh, Florie, Iorwen and Jemima and they'll be swimming first on Saturday afternoon. Then the Medley team will have their chance to swim. Representing the school will be Florie (Backstroke), Beth (Breaststroke), Eilidh (Butterfly) and Jemima (Freestyle). Think of them on Saturday afternoon and wish them all good luck!

Abbey School Logoed Swimming Hat

New this term, we will be selling brand new Abbey School logoed swimming hats. The hats have been professionally made and are printed on both sides and are of good quality. The girls swimming in Sheffield on Saturday will be clearly visible in these hats! The hats will be for sale from the School Office for £3. We have 21 of these hats for sale. We will continue to sell the original blue hats for £1.



Wednesday 24th June - Key Stage 2 Summer Music Evening

Our annual Summer Music Concert will be held on Wednesday, 24th June, from 7pm - 8pm approx. in the School Hall. This is a non-ticket event and I am looking forward to watching the entire Year 3 class perform, showing us what they have been learning during their Wider Opportunity recorder lessons, as well as performances by the school orchestra, choir and solo performances.

Saturday 27th June - Summer Fair

The Summer Fair is on Saturday 27th June from 12-3pm. We hope that you will all be able to attend and support. **Friday 26th June will be a non-uniform** day to support the Summer Fair. Children may come to school in non-uniform in return for bringing in a bottle for the bottle tombola or a large bag of sweets.

Raffle Tickets to support the Summer Fair have been sent home with your children. If these could be returned as soon as possible. Cheque payments are welcome and should be made out to "Friends of Abbey JMI School". A named tin will be left in the school library to deposit any monies in sealed envelopes OR preferably post into the Friends post box.



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Hampers Donations - We are making up two hampers for the raffle this year and are asking for families of children in all years to contribute to these. Our preference is for a small cash donation so we can purchase a few more substantial items but would also be grateful for items to be included in the hampers. Please place donations in an envelope marked 'Hampers' in the Friends' Post-box on the wall in reception opposite the School's office this week.

Pre-Owned Toys and Books - The pre-owned toys and book stall are always very successful and this would not be possible without your support. Donations of books (not children's) and pre owned toys especially dressing up/dolls and accessories/action men/transformers will be gratefully received from next week.

Thursday 2nd July - Home-baked cake sale and second-hand uniform sale

This term it falls to **Year 4, 5 and 6 parents** to bake and provide the delicious homemade nut-free cakes. The Friends are always grateful for donated uniforms to go into the second-hand uniform sale. Please hand in unwanted, clean uniform items for the next Cake and Uniform sale to the School Office. We welcome all kinds of items in good condition, especially items with the school logo or sports hoodies and Reception aged clothing that new parents may be able to purchase in advance of September. Those of you who are current Year 6 parents, without younger siblings, who will no longer have a need for your child's uniform we would happily rehome any items that are of good condition, with life still in them at the end of the term.

Thursday 2nd July - Year 6 Leavers Disco

The annual disco for Year 6 pupils and their parents will be on Thursday 2nd July from 7-9pm. This is a free non-ticket event and Mr Silver and I are looking forward to seeing all the children in the school hall enjoying the disco and entertainment, whilst the Year 6 parents enjoy a glass of wine in Year 5 classroom or on the field if the weather is fine. The disco will be supervised by volunteer Year 5 parents and wine and crisps will be provided by the Friends' Association to say thank you to the children and parents for their support to the Friends' Association over their child's time in school. Please feel free to bring a bottle.

Sports Day and Sports Week

This year's Sports Day has a theme of Alice in Wonderland. This year, Alice in Wonderland is 150 years old. Sports Day is planned to be on Friday 10th July, with the 17th as a reserve date. **If the 10th is to be cancelled due to inclement weather, a decision will be made by 11am and communicated to parents via SchoolComms. Key Stage 1 Sports Day will be from 12.30-1.45pm. Key Stage 2 Sports Day will be from 1.45-3.20pm.**

Entrance for parents attending, will be via the school field car park gate. The orchard gate will not be opened until 3pm. The school day will end at 3.20pm for all children. The children will have an early lunch from 11.30-12.30pm and will be outside for their Sports Day only.



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Parents are welcome to come along to support children. The children will be seated under the trees in the shade and supervised by staff for their relevant Sports Day. **Can I respectfully ask that parents do not cross the track to see their child or stand at the end of the race track, but stay opposite in the chairs that will be put out for their use. Crossing the track to talk to the children interferes with the smooth running and organisation of the day.** The children and parents are encouraged to show a sportsman like attitude towards the events. Please note that the judge's decision is final.

The theme of Alice in Wonderland will also be used for our **Summer Open Evening on Thursday 16th July from 6-8pm**. The children will be displaying work based on this story and will be representing eight of the main characters involved in the book.

In advance of Sports Day, we will have a **Sports Week** where class activities will be conducted on **Thursday 25th and Friday 26th June**. These days will be led by Mrs Cole (PE coordinator) and Mr Morgan (Sports Coach) with support from the Year 6 Sports Leaders and Bronze Ambassadors. KS1 activities on these days will be skills based. KS2 activities will be athletics based. Children will wear their normal PE kit on these days and the points from these activities will go towards the points scored on Sports Day itself.

Key Stage 1 will receive a letter telling them which Alice in Wonderland character they are representing, and thus which colour T-shirt they need to wear on Sports Day. Key Stage 2 can see from the table below which character correlates to their House, and therefore which colour they need to wear. The colours for the T-shirts were chosen primarily from the characters costumes. **All children should wear their normal PE kit shorts and trainers with their coloured T-shirt on Sports Day.**

If you cannot provide the correct T-shirt (even if it is turned inside out) please let your class teacher know in advance of the day and a coloured band will be given to wear over their white PE T-shirt. T-shirts must be predominately the correct colour and identifiable to the child and staff.

Key Stage 1 Team	Colour T-shirt
March Hare	Green
Alice	Blue
Cheshire Cat	Yellow
Playing Cards	Red

Key Stage 2 House	Key Stage 2 Team	Colour T-shirt
Matthew	Mad Hatter	Green
Mark	White Rabbit	Blue
Luke	Dormouse	Yellow
John	Queen of Hearts	Red

Both Sports Days will begin with a warm up routine. Sports Day will allow all children to participate in an obstacle, relay and sprint races. The race events will be organised and run by Mrs Cole (PE Co-ordinator) our Year 6 Sports Leaders and Bronze Ambassadors. **Please can you ensure that your child has trainers, a named water bottle and a sun hat in school on Friday 10th July. Sun cream must be applied before your child comes to school.**



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Key Stage 2 Production Tickets

Tickets for the Key Stage 2 performance of "Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies" will be available from the School Office from 8.45am on Tuesday 23rd June. Tickets are free. Initially, each KS2 family is entitled to two tickets (either two for Wednesday **or** two for Thursday **or** one for each night) which will allow everyone a fair chance of obtaining tickets for the performance of their choice with a hall capacity of 160 seats. The hall has a fire safety capacity and only those parents with tickets will be allowed entry to the performances. Children of any age will require a ticket to watch the performance.

Any remaining tickets will be available on a first come, first served, basis from 8.45am on Tuesday 30th June, with a maximum of two further tickets if available. If during the week of the 23rd June you are unable to come into school, you can email your request for two tickets to Mrs Upton from Tuesday 23rd, but please not before this date. This email must only detail a request for the initial two tickets. Further ticket request on the second allocation day a week later must be made in person.

Please note, there will not be parking for buggies inside the school (hall or library) due to ensuring that fire exits are clear. No parents will be allowed to stand at the back without a ticket. As always, a polite request that if you choose to bring a toddler they must have a seat (restricted view likely) and a ticket and we ask that our actors are able to have our full attention.

Key Stage 2 Production

All Key Stage 2 children will perform in both performances and Key Stage 1 children will watch the performance at the dress rehearsal. Both performances will hold a retiring collection for Oxfam Nepal Earthquake Appeal. The Year 6 children will have the speaking parts and all junior classes will participate in the production. All 120 junior children will be needed in school at 6pm on Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th July for a 6.30pm start and an approx. finish time of 8pm. The Wednesday night performance will be filmed by Steve Batt again to allow parents to enjoy the performance and purchase a nonprofit making DVD of the performance to treasure.

Key Stage 2 Production DVD

Parents can enjoy the performance without worry about filming as large numbers of audience filming with iPads and cameras can affect the viewing enjoyment of other parents and distract our actors. The DVD costs have been kept as low and simple as possible: One DVD for £12 or 2 DVDs for £20, or 3 DVDs for £30. See attached order form.

Best wishes,

Emma Fenn
Headteacher