



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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Dear Parents,

Signing Children into School

As you know, the school day starts at 8.55am after which point the classroom doors are closed. If your child arrives after 8.55am, please bring them in person to the main entrance of school to ensure that they enter the school building and we can take over responsibility of your child. We can also be informed of the reason for the late arrival and be aware in case the child is distressed. Any child arriving after 8.55am will be marked as late in the electronic register together with the minutes late.

Children arriving at school after 9.10am will need to be signed into school by a parent in case of evacuation. Arrival after 9.10am may be recorded as an unauthorised absence. School lunches can be ordered between 9.10-10am from the School Office, otherwise a home packed lunch will be required.

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, the School Office must be emailed, told in person or telephoned by 9.30am, otherwise it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence.

Curriculum Letters

The year group specific Curriculum Letters, emailed out via Schoolcomms last Friday, are now all available on the school website: <http://www.abbey.herts.sch.uk/parent-information/curriculum/>

Parents' Evening – Tuesday 9th and Thursday 11th February 2016

Parents' Evening will be on Tuesday 9th and Thursday 11th February. The School uses an easy-to-use online appointment booking system. Mrs Tully, our SENCO, is available on Tuesday 9th February and appointments can be made to see both your child's teacher and Mrs Tully if your child has Special Educational Needs.

These meetings are for parents only. There will be no supervision for school age or pre-school children on site. Appointments will run strictly on time to allow parents to organise childcare arrangements off-site, potentially with other parents. Year 2 appointments will be run by Mrs Kendall on Tuesday 9th February and Mrs Easby on Thursday 11th February from shared notes so it does not matter which teacher you meet with.

Appointments can be made from Wednesday 27th January from 7am and will close on Tuesday 9th February at 7am. Should you wish to make any changes after 7am on Tuesday 9th February, please contact the School Office. Please do not swap appointments between parents. Please visit <https://abbeyprimaryschool.parenteveningsystem.co.uk> to book your appointments. Everything you need can be found on the school website on the Parent Information tab, followed by Key Information and then Parent Consultation Evenings. Please login with the following information: Child's legal first name, Child's surname and date of birth.

If you are unable to attend the set evenings. A 10 minute consultation to meet with the class teacher can be arranged via the School Office after February half term. Please note, this appointment will be 10 minutes still.



Healthy Schools



Junior Apprentice

The Christmas Fair was a huge success and a fantastic £4,000 was raised, which is our highest amount to date. All of the money raised allows the Friend's Association to upgrade our school facilities for the children, including the wonderful new playground equipment named 'The Buffalo House' by the children.

All the Year 6 Junior Apprentices worked incredibly hard at the Christmas Fair and were all rewarded with sweets in assembly today. The winning team were Winter Wonderland which included Charlotte Johnson, Bea Hardy, Xanthe Elliot and Amelie Windsor-Williams who made the highest profit of £91.92 –well done girls!

Volunteer Meetings

The volunteer meetings have been very successful. Parents wishing to help in school must attend a Volunteer Meeting to discuss the Volunteer Policy, Code of Conduct, Child Protection and strategies to use when hearing children read and supporting learning. The meeting lasts 30 minutes and if there are parents in Year 5 and Year 3 that wish to assist with swimming on a Friday afternoon this term or next please contact the School Office. **The last volunteer meeting will be Friday 5th February at 1.15pm.**

Midday Supervisory Assistant Job Opportunity

Abbey Primary School is looking for an additional midday supervisor to help with the supervision of children during the lunch break. The hours are 11.50 am to 1.05 pm at an hourly rate of around £7.30. We would be delighted to hear from applicants who would be interested in working Tuesday and or Wednesday. You would be joining a supportive team and working with well-behaved and friendly children. Please contact the School Office on 01727 851802 for further details.

Netball Team Success

The Year 5 and 6 girls who represented Abbey School in the netball team this week played really well and worked together as a team, playing two matches this week. Mondays match against Maple was a close match, especially as at half time it was 4-4. The final result was 9-6 to Maple but we were pleased with how we played and our goal scoring. The following day we had a fantastic win against Sandridge Primary School and scored 13 goals! Well done to Soiphia Pole, Xanthe Elliot, Ruby Fermor, Kati Lewis, Jemima Samols, Scarlet Gardiner, Iorwen Ellis, Mili Branston, Helena Young and Hannah Barker.

Key Stage 2 Sports Fixtures

For those of you who have children in Year 4, 5 and 6 who play in sporting fixtures after school such as netball, football and cross country. Please notify the School Office before 3pm if you have made any last minute alterations to your child's travel arrangements to and from the fixture to ensure that we hand your child over to the correct responsible adult. We print off the permission list from Schoolcomms and take note of the travel arrangements listed.

Wet Playtime Games Wanted

When it is too wet to play outside at break times the children remain in their classroom and have wet playtime games and activities. If you have any Lego/construction surplus to requirements Year 5 would be keen to add it to their resources along with any board games suitable for the older children. Year 6 enjoy drawing during wet plays and are always looking for scrap paper and would be delighted to receive any surplus art resources or unwanted/discontinued paper, perhaps from places of work.

Future Important Diary Dates

Wednesday 27th January	Sign up for Parent Consultations via Parents Evening System from 7am
Tuesday 2nd February	Year 6 SATS/School Journey Meeting 2.30-3.20pm in classroom
Wednesday 3rd February	Year 1 Phonics Meeting 2.45-3.20pm in classroom
Thursday 4th February	E Safety talk for parents only 6pm – 7.15pm in school hall. Tickets £5 via Schoolcomms
Friday 5th February	Year 2 SATS Meeting 2.45pm–3.20pm in classroom
Monday 7th March	Book Week (Alice In Wonderland theme)
Wednesday 9th March	Parent Governor Forum 7 – 8.30pm in the school hall
Tuesday 9th February	Parent Consultations 3.40 –7.30pm in the hall (parents only – no children)
Thursday 11th February	Parent Consultations 3.40 –6.30pm in the hall (parents only – no children)

E Safety Talk for Parents (parents only)

As advertised on the spring term diary dates, we will be hosting an E Safety talk by Hertfordshire Advisor, Kate Stockdale. E Safety information **for parents** can be found on our school website: <http://www.abbey.herts.sch.uk/parent-information/key-information/esaftey/>. Tickets are available via Schoolcomms at £5 each to go towards the cost of the guest speaker. E Safety week is the following week here at school, which includes a national annual Internet Safety Day. **This talk is not suitable for children.**

Book Week 7-11th March 2016

We have an exciting Book Week planned for next half term, where we aim to promote the love of reading, poetry and storytelling with the children. The theme is Alice in Wonderland which celebrated her 150th birthday in 2015 and we are still enthralled by her spell - or rather, the spell cast by Lewis Carroll when he wrote the much-loved children's book in 1865.

Monday 7th March

- Alice in Wonderland whole school theatre production
- Library competitions all week

Tuesday 8th March

- Professor Pango Mango poetry workshops
- Shared reading between classes

Wednesday 9th March

- Professor Pango Mango poetry workshops
- Book Week singing

Thursday 10th March

- Lent Eucharist in the Abbey 9.10am (parents welcome)
- Pantastic! A tale of twisted knickers from traditional tales and fairy stories for Reception, Year 1 and 2 by Hilary Greatorex

Friday 11th March

- Dressing up day as favourite book character - £5 Usborne book voucher for best costume in each class
- Story telling with Krista Pullan from Usborne Books
- 3.20pm Usborne Book Fair and Year 2/3 Cake Sale

Have a wonderful weekend.



Miss Emma Fenn
Headteacher