



# Head's Weekly Newsletter

Issue 15, 18 December 2020



**Mrs Ania Hildrey, Headteacher, [headteacher@abbotsleaschool.co.uk](mailto:headteacher@abbotsleaschool.co.uk)**

Dear Students, Families, Colleagues and Friends,

Welcome to today's issue of my Head's Weekly Newsletter.

As we prepare to reach the end of this '*annus horribilis*', I want to thank you all for your hard work, dedication and devotion to education and to share some of my reflections ahead of the New Year.

The challenges and the trauma of 2020 will be forever imprinted on the history of humanity. We will also look back at it, and despite the horrific loss of life, draw the learning and the hope arising.

The difficulties often seemed impossible to navigate and yet, we always did... With a clear dedication, uncompromising commitment, newly found creativity and adaptations, we have all shown astounding new levels of personal and organisational resilience. I am so very proud of the efforts and genuinely thankful for all of your commitment to education (receiving it, facilitating it and of course delivering it!) at a time when the pandemic has affected all of lives.

Many a plans needed to be changed, be put on hold or abandoned. Many of us are spending Christmas without the loves ones by our side. For the fortunate amongst us, only temporarily....

Reflecting on my own – personal and professional – life this year, a lot has changed, too.

I am neither young, nor inexperienced. I have been a teacher for twenty four years, a senior leader for eighteen, and a Headteacher for the past sixteen. Nothing, however, really prepared me to lead the school community through times such as these...

2020 has taught me a lot about myself and about my vulnerabilities, fears and hidden anxieties. It also showed that, even when I felt I could do very little more, there was more tenacity, resilience and flexibility within than I thought possible and I kept on going – both at home and at work. I know many of you will identify with the same reflections – we are all, after all, different, but also the same!

Christmas time is here now and I want to thank you all for being in my life and making it so wonderful: my amazing team of staff and governors at school, our wonderful students, their fantastic families and all of our friends and supporters.

I hope that, despite Christmas 2020 being unusual, you are able to take the time to relax, rest and recharge ahead of the New Year, which I hope brings you health, happiness and joy.

Merry Christmas to you all!

Mrs A Hildrey  
Headteacher

## 2020-21 Term dates

### School day:

- Students will arrive at school at 8:30am
- Students will leave school at 2:30pm
- End of term 4 (Easter), 6 (Summer) - finish at 1pm (lunch served at school)

### Term 3:

*4 January 2021 – INSET Day – school closed to all students*

Students return: 5 January 2021

Term ends: 12 February 2021

**February break: Monday 15 February 2021 to Friday 19 February 2021**

### Term 4:

Students return: 22 February 2021

Term ends: Friday 26 March 2021 at 1:00pm

**Easter break: Monday 29 March 2021 to Friday 9 April 2021**

### Term 5:

Students return: 12 April 2021

*May Day: Monday 3 May 2021*

Term ends - 28 May 2021

**May break: Monday 31 May to Friday 4 June 2021**

### Term 6:

Starts: 7 June 2021 – students return

**25 June 2021 – Leavers' Day (for Y11, 12, 13, 14) and end of KS5 programme**

*9 July 2021 – Transition INSET Day*

12 – 16 July 2021 - Transition Week

Ends: 16 July 2021 at 1:00pm

*19-20 July 2021 – INSET Days (worked as staff' extended twilight days throughout the year)*

**School holidays: Monday 16 July to Tuesday, 31 August 2021**

## OUT OF OFFICE

School will be closed for the Christmas Holidays from 1pm on Friday, 18 December 2020 until 8.30am on Tuesday, 5 January 2021 (please note that the school will remain closed to all students on Monday, 4 January 2021 which is an INSET Day). Staff' mailboxes will not be attended during this time.

In an emergency please use one of the following options:

- If you are reporting a positive coronavirus test for a student, please send your message to [covid@abbotsleaschool.co.uk](mailto:covid@abbotsleaschool.co.uk) and a member of staff will contact you for further information.
- If your email relates to a safeguarding matter please send to [safeguarding@abbotsleaschool.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@abbotsleaschool.co.uk) and a member of staff will contact you, but please note that there is likely to be a delay to any such response.
- At any time, you can and may wish to consider referring the matter to Careline (24/7) on 0151 233 3700.
- **If you believe that a child is in imminent danger, call the Police on 999.**

All other messages will be responded to on our return to school on Tuesday, 5 January 2021.

# Deputy Headteacher

**Mrs Emily Tobin, Deputy Headteacher**

**E: [deputy@abbotsleaschool.co.uk](mailto:deputy@abbotsleaschool.co.uk)**



Dear Families

On the twelfth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me...

- 12 Teachers nipping to B&M on the way home (to get cranberry sauce – they spend £72),
- 11 Teaching Assistants hiding presents in the boots of their cars,
- 10 HLTAs watching Home Alone and mouthing along “Merry Christmas ya filthy animals!”
- 9 Transport Personal Assistants vowing next year they will cut down on the cards they send,
- 8 School Business Support staff groaning at rubbish cracker jokes,
- 7 Kitchen staff trying to fit everything in the freezer like a game of Jenga,
- 6 members of Strategic Leadership Team deciding on the rota for COVID@ Christmas,
- 5 Key Stage Leaders checking all resources are ordered for Jan 2021,
- 4 Governors ratifying the latest minutes whilst waiting for an Amazon delivery,
- 3 Multi-Disciplinary colleagues calculating the turkey’s cooking time
- 2 External contractors fixing the lights whilst finding tinsel everywhere

**And a Deputy Headteacher who loves all of her colleagues above!**

**Merry  
Christmas**

***“Happy Christmas to all and to all a good night”***

# Head of Autism Research & Development

**Miss Sara Muršić, Head of Autism Research & Development**  
E: [sara.mursic@abbotsleaschool.co.uk](mailto:sara.mursic@abbotsleaschool.co.uk)



Dear Families, Partners and Friends of Abbot's Lea School

As we end our last week of the term, holiday mood is all around. While for most it includes happiness and excitement, some are surely in anticipation of stressful, crowded events. This week, to continue my autism-friendly holiday season advice, I will focus on visitors and crowds.

## **Autism-Friendly Holiday Season (Part 3 – Gifts)**

Use the festive season as a teaching opportunity

Help and encourage your child to give gifts. This provides an excellent opportunity to work on social skills, like thinking of other people's needs and interests, and being kind and helpful. I support my daughter to make gifts for her family and friends. She also looks forward to actually giving out the presents as well.

Wrap up something familiar – play unwrapping ahead of time (sensory activity)

Luke cannot really cope with opening presents, or will unwrap one or two then run away. So we wrap up his favourite big monkey which he always finds funny!

Gift ideas

If family and friends are struggling for ideas for Christmas presents, email them a link to a website of sensory toys or ask for cash which you can put together to buy that (probably) expensive toy!

Avoid marathon unwrapping sessions

Do not feel all the presents have to be opened on Christmas morning in the traditional way. Our son would get so overwhelmed he could not cope, so we find it much easier to give him a few gifts at a time over Christmas and Boxing Day. He opens them all in the end without any tantrums and is much calmer and happier, meaning we all have a far more enjoyable time!

Get gifts ready to go

When we give our daughter a gift, we make sure all packaging is removed, batteries are in, and it is set up ready to use as soon as she has unwrapped it. For someone with limited attention and suspicion of new things it can make the difference between acceptance and rejection.

Enjoy the holiday season!

Ms Sara Muršić  
Head of Autism Research and Development

# Care and Safeguarding

**Ms Alison Twomey, Head of Care and Safeguarding**

E: [Alison.twomey@abbotsleaschool.co.uk](mailto:Alison.twomey@abbotsleaschool.co.uk)



I have recently spent some time reflecting on the importance of fresh starts in schools and never giving up hope that a seemingly impossible situation can be rectified and made good.

There can be times when a situation may seem to have gone beyond the point of repair and the prospect of successfully starting over again too hard to imagine and pointless to pursue. It can seem more sensible to accept defeat, stop trying and agree that things can never be the 'same' again. We can kid ourselves that there is nothing more that can be done or changed; that every possible solution has been tried and has failed.

I believe the key to turning such situations around lies in the endless resilience of students, in the eternal optimism of those adults who support them and in the determination of everyone involved to recognise that hope remains no matter how challenging a situation can appear to be. A mindset that truly believes 'it will work' as opposed to one that declares 'it is impossible to succeed' can be the difference between giving up and fighting on.

I have been so delighted this week that a longstanding belief that something can and will work has proved to be the case. This hasn't happened by accident and those involved know just how much that belief has been challenged along the way. It is thrilling to reach the end of the year on such a positive note and my thanks go to an enormous team of people who have made the seemingly impossible a real life Christmas miracle!

I hope that 2021 will offer us all the opportunity for a fresh start and a less stressful and disrupted year.

Merry Christmas everyone!

# School Business Support

**Mrs Michelle Griffiths, Head of HR**

**E: [michelle.griffiths@abbotsleaschool.co.uk](mailto:michelle.griffiths@abbotsleaschool.co.uk)**



The last newsletter of the year has both come around quickly and also feels like the end of a very long term.

I would like to thank all of our staff for their hard work, commitment and perseverance this term. We have had significant challenges including to the way we work, from physical changes to the school building, timetabling of activities and changes to the curriculum to how lunches are served. In addition, staff had to quickly switch to remote learning when either their bubble was put in isolation, or they were isolating for family reasons. Many staff have told me how difficult they have found it to teach remotely when their natural preference and comfort zone is in the classroom being hands on and surrounded by their students. We have also had staff absences for periods of a couple of weeks and staff have quickly adapted when required to move to support another class.

I would also like to acknowledge the resilience of the students and the way they have adapted to the changes and integrated themselves back into school after their long absence. Well done everyone.

This is the time of the year when people naturally reflect on the previous 12 months and while many may focus on the negatives I think focus needs to be on achievements and what we have learned. At the start of the year probably very few of us had regular meetings on Zoom, never mind prepared lessons that would work remotely and then delivered them. Our skills (and patience) with technology has improved along with our team working skills as working remotely requires different and better communication than when you are able to see your team every day face to face. We even managed to deliver our usual Christmas activities in an adapted way. Everyone should be proud of themselves for this achievement.

At the end of this month, we say goodbye to Mrs Deacon-Smith who has decided to retire from Abbot's Lea School after 27 years, joining her husband who retired at the end of October. We thank her for her commitment over the years and wish her all the best for her retirement and I know she will be greatly missed by both staff and students.

I would like to congratulate Mrs Roberts on being successful in her application for a secondment to the position of Intern Coach from January. Mrs Roberts will support 3 of our KS5 students who are working with Facilities, Catering and IT here in school from January.

I hope everyone has a relaxing and safe Christmas and New Year and we look forward to welcoming you back to school in January.

## School Business Support

**Mr Andrew Cocklin, Head of Finance and Operations**

**E: [andrew.cocklin@abbotsleaschool.co.uk](mailto:andrew.cocklin@abbotsleaschool.co.uk)**



Liverpool City Council have once again provided Free School Meal vouchers for the Christmas period for those families who are entitled to them and hopefully by the time you read this you should have received yours.

The majority went home with students with the remainder being delivered by our School Business Support staff, so my huge thanks to everyone who gave up their own time to support this and deliver vouchers to families across the city.

If you have not received yours,, or if you have a query about them, can you please email me at [andrew.cocklin@abbotsleaschool.co.uk](mailto:andrew.cocklin@abbotsleaschool.co.uk) and I will try to respond as quickly as possible.

Any families not currently in receipt of free school meals but believe they may be entitled, we can do a quick and simple check which takes less than a minute to do. All we need is your date of birth and National Insurance number and we can undertake the check. Once complete, if you are entitled, your respective Local Authority will be updated immediately; there is no form filling for you to complete. We also will not retain any of the information you have provided.

If you wish to undertake the check on your behalf, please contact the school and we will be happy to help.

# Key Stage News and Updates

## Early Years and Key Stage 1 Miss O'Neill

[Maria.O'Neill@abbotsleaschool.co.uk](mailto:Maria.O'Neill@abbotsleaschool.co.uk)



### Ireland

This week we have been like Santa's elves, busy finishing off our Christmas crafts' for our families. We have been having lots of fun playing with the pretend snow, using our trains, animals and people. In music, we have been learning and listening to our "S-A-N-T-A song". In P.E this week, we enjoyed races, dancing, climbing and crawling in our tunnel to our favourite music. During circle time, we watched all of our friend's take part in the nativity and we were super impressed with everyone's hard work. Well Done! Using our fine motor skills, we have been gluing and sticking Christmas wrapping paper ready to help wrap any presents for Christmas. In life-skills, we learnt about our emotions what makes us sad, angry and happy we created our emotion monsters using paint to show how we feel.

We hope you have a lovely peaceful and enjoyable Christmas.

Ireland Class

### Wales

Wales Class have had an action-packed Winter Wonderland week! Elfin the Elf has brought us some amazing activities such as a cardboard gingerbread house for us to colour, The Snowman for us to read and snow dough for us to make our own snowmen with and ingredients for us to make our very own snowmen biscuits! In English we read Pick a Pine Tree and discussed our own Christmas trees and described our favourite Christmas tree decoration. In English, we read The Jolly Christmas Postman and completed the activities within the letters. In PE, we completed a sensory circuit and then had a snowball fight! We all had so much fun! In PSHE, we took part in a Christmas quiz and team building games. We took turns to do this and cheered on our friends. Wales Class also watched our nativity in class, which was amazing! The children worked so hard and were really proud of their efforts. We also watched the other nativities from different zones, which were equally as brilliant. To get us even more in the Christmas spirit we watched a Christmas film and had some snacks and hot chocolate. We had our Christmas dinner in class and the ice cream was a class favourite! We have also been busy in Santa's workshop creating lots' of Christmas crafts for our families.

We have had a fantastic term in Wales Class and are looking forward to welcoming you all back in the New Year.

We hope you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Wales Class Team 🎅



# Key Stage News and Updates

## Key Stage 2

**Key Stage Leader: Miss Sell**

[Lorna.sell@abbotsleaschool.co.uk](mailto:Lorna.sell@abbotsleaschool.co.uk)



### Italy

This week in Italy class, we have been very busy with lots of Christmas crafts and learning about how Christmas is celebrated in the country Italy. We enjoyed decorating a Christmas tree and making our own reindeer cake pops. Well done for an amazing week in Italy Class and a fantastic term. Have a lovely Christmas and I will look forward to seeing you all in January.

### Portugal

This week, Portugal class have enjoyed lots' of different activities! We decorated some Gingerbread biscuits and some pupils enjoyed watching the nativity play, whereas others played Maths games on the IPad. On Tuesday, we had a great time driving around Liverpool city centre to look at some of Liverpool's landmarks. On Thursday, we had fun with our friends during movie afternoon and on Friday,, we enjoyed our last day of school before our break. Portugal class have done really well this week and staff team are wishing them all a great time with their families. Have a lovely time and wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!!

### France

We have had a wonderful festive week in class France. The pupils have enjoyed creating Christmas decorations and cards to take home. They have also written lovely letters to Father Christmas and used their road safety skills to walk to the local letterbox to post them. For English we have learned all about Edgar the Excitable Dragon. The pupils worked hard creating a Chatta board together, which they then used to re-tell the story in their own words. As part of this theme, we also created delicious melted snowmen biscuits which linked to part of the story.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! France class team 😊

### Canada

What an amazing final week to Term 2 Canada Class have had. We have completed so many amazing activities this week, which we all have really enjoyed. On Monday, we watch all of the other Zones Christmas Nativities and had our final Judo session. On Tuesday, we researched ideas using a computer of items that could be on a Christmas list. We then used these ideas to write our Letter to Santa. Within the letter, we explain some of the good things we have done this year to be on Santa's good list. In the afternoon on Tuesday, we finished putting the final layer of Mod Rock on to our coffin masks ready to paint. These have been a massive task for Canada class but they all look amazing. We also made Yule logs to take home to our families to enjoy. On Wednesday, we read the story 'Dear Father Christmas' in English and looked at punctuation used within the letter. We even wrote a letter from the main character Holly to Father Christmas to say thank you. In the afternoon, we carried on making our Yule logs and made crafts ready to take home with us on Friday for our families. On Thursday we had our Christmas film afternoon and we enjoyed popcorn and a little bit of chocolate whilst all watching a film together. On Friday, we played games together as a class and made sure our classroom was all ready for our return in January. Canada Class, as always you have all been amazing! I hope you all enjoy the Christmas break with your families and have a well-deserved rest. We

cannot wait to hear all about what you all got up to during half term when we come back to school. Canada Class Team 🎄

### **USA**

USA have had a lovely final week of term 2. We have finished our Ancient Egyptian masks. They look incredible and USA are so proud of them. We have also finished our Egyptian necklaces and they are equally amazing. We have been completing our gifts for families and it was lovely to see the students taking so much care and attention over making their gifts. We had a lovely Christmas dinner on Wednesday and the students were fantastic at trying the different food items on offer. At the end of the week, we had a lovely time watching a Christmas film with some special treats. Have an amazing Christmas USA,, we can't wait to see you in 2021.

### **Spain**

This week Spain have enjoyed sharing their weekend news with their class and the PE lesson dance session using ribbons. Spain Class have had a week full of Christmas activities including making edible snowmen from giant marshmallows and sweets, decorating yule logs, making edible stick men and creating Christmas Art to take home. Spain Class enjoyed a film afternoon complete with hot dogs and popcorn.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year from Spain Class Team.

# Key Stage News and Updates

## Key Stage 3

**Key Stage Leader: Mr Richard Hodgson**

[Richard.Hodgson@abbotsleaschool.co.uk](mailto:Richard.Hodgson@abbotsleaschool.co.uk)



### Brazil

This week we have had a fun end to the term. We have created our own Kahoot quiz about what we got up to this term and played these as a class. On Wednesday, we had our last P.E session with the LFC coaches and treated to a special surprise when we got a picture with the European Cup, which Liverpool won in 2005. On Thursday afternoon, we had a special afternoon watching Home Alone as a class and enjoying some festive treats. It has been a great last week in Brazil class and we wish everybody a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

### Peru

This week Peru have been bringing Christmas into all of our subjects. We have done independent research, exploring Christmas in different countries and had a circle time to discuss what we found. We also had Christmas themed maths games that Peru class loved! We have done lots of Christmas crafts, code breaking and puzzles, working as a team to work them all out. We are excited for our Christmas treats this week.

### Mozambique

This week Mozambique have been looking at Kevin the Carrot, writing letters and creating posters to help get him home safely for Christmas day. We have been watching clips of Kevin the Carrot and trying to predict what would happen next. We have also been thinking and discussing what we are thankful for this year and how we could help less fortunate during the winter period. Mozambique wrote their ideas on baubles and placed them on the Christmas tree. On Wednesday, Mozambique class went for a wet walk through Sefton Park where we looked at the fairy gardens. We also had the opportunity to decorate our own Christmas Yule logs for our families. Great week for Mozambique.

### Botswana

This week in Botswana, we have been making lots of lovely Christmas crafts. We have enjoyed playing lots of game with one another, showing sharing and caring skills. We have decorated some lovely biscuits this week in food technology. We have had fun in PE, completing circuits and having a relay race. We hope you all have a lovely restful but enjoyable Christmas break! We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!!!

Thanks Botswana 😊

### Madagascar

Madagascar class has had a great week full of Christmas activities. We enjoyed creating Christmas calendars, baubles and gonks. We participated in Christmas quizzes and enjoyed watching Christmas films. Madagascar has worked extremely hard this term. Enjoy your Christmas break and we will see you back in January.

### Kenya

Wow! We cannot believe this is the last week already before Christmas. This week in Kenya class, we have been doing some Christmas related activities such as crosswords, Christmas crafts, colouring and making some Christmas snacks. We made gingerbread men and some rice crispy cakes. We personalised our gingerbread using different colour icing and decorated

them with colourful sprinkles. The class team has been busy making Christmas gonks and baubles for the students to take home. We enjoyed our Christmas dinner in class on Wednesday with a film.

Our students have been making a thank you card for Mrs Smith for her retirement. She is highly missed by the students in this class as the students have been in the same class with her for the past two years. We all hope that she will enjoy every single day of the new chapter of her life where every day is a weekend.

We wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy new year! Have a restful break!

### **Seychelles**

This week in Seychelles, we have had so much fun, we made Christmas chocolate log during our food tech lesson and took them home to show and share with our families. We have enjoyed Christmas crafts and making some lovely cards and decorations! We also enjoyed our last Yoga session before half term and practiced all the different positions we have been learning over the last few weeks. We also celebrated Levi's birthday this week, Happy Birthday Levi! All the students have worked extremely hard this term, well done all of you! We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you all after a well-deserved Christmas break!

### **Fiji**

Fiji class have had a wonderful festive week. We have adapted some of our English and Maths lessons and made them as festive as possible. The students have finished our term 2 guided reading book - The Butterfly Lion. Students described the book as emotional, kind and enjoyable. We have made some lovely decorations to take home to our families and friends, we have enjoyed a visit from LFC Coaches which involved us getting to see the European Cup and we have experienced our second Christmas Jumper day of 2020. We are all very excited for Christmas and a rest from school. We wish all of our students a very Merry Christmas and a Wonderful New Year. We cannot wait to welcome you all back for Term 3- Fiji Class Team.

### **Cape Verde**

This week Cape Verde have been learning remotely. We have enjoyed zoom sessions with pupils and learnt some really fun facts about the staff in a "guess who" quiz. We completed an artwork challenge and discovered that even with exactly the same instructions, we all interpreted them differently and drew something unique.

Cape Verde staff team would like to wish all our students and families a safe and very merry Christmas and we look forward to seeing you all in the New Year. Merry Christmas!

# Key Stage News and Updates

## Key Stage 4

Key Stage Leader: Mr Lyons

[matthew.lyons@abbotsleaschool.co.uk](mailto:matthew.lyons@abbotsleaschool.co.uk)



### Australia

It has been a really great last week in Class Australia this week. Students have really enjoyed doing a Christmas crafts and foods. We also really enjoyed a Life Skills trip to McDonalds as a fun way to end the term. We trust that everyone will have a restful and safe Christmas. Regards Class Australia.

### Samoa

This week Samoa have had a really fun last week in class. We completed a Christmas themed maths booklet, every pupil worked really hard on this booklet! We also recorded our nativity scenes, Francis read a poem and Anthony read a nativity scene. Well done these 2

Tuesday we had our Christmas snack making day. Each teacher from KS4 swapped classes so the pupils in Samoa class got to make 4 different snacks. All the treats looked amazing well done guys!

We had our trip out to McDonald's. Each child worked on their life skills and managed to communicate to the staff in McDonald's and get their order. All the staff are very proud of the pupils!

We hope everyone has had an amazing term and we hope everyone had a lovely Christmas! Stay safe and well.

Love Samoa Class Team 😊

### Papua New Guinea

For the last week of term PNG have been busy completing lots' of different activities! Firstly, the class completed the space unit for their science qualification by producing a PowerPoint that persuades others why their chosen planet is the best planet to live on. As well as this, on Tuesday, PNG spent the day making and creating festive treats such as gingerbread houses, snowmen made out of marshmallows and Christmas wreaths using cornflakes.

Once again, LFC came to visit and came in with a great surprise! - The cup that was won during the Liverpool game against Istanbul. The class had a picture with the cup (Paul Connor was particularly mesmerized by this!)

Finally, Thursday was also a great day as PNG class were able to choose as a treat whether to have a McDonalds or KFC and watch Christmas movies (staff were also included!).

Well done PNG ! I hope you have a lovely time over Christmas and New Year!

### New Zealand

A very varied and busy week for New Zealand, this last week of the term. We have continued working on our maths skills and finished our science study of forces and speed. We have also had a fun day making edible, Christmas treats and decorations for home. Looking forward to treat day and Christmas Films to round the week off. Enjoy the Christmas Break everyone!

### Tasmania

For our last week in Tasmania class, we have been doing lots' of fun Christmas activities for our learning. We have taken part in Christmas scavenger hunts in Maths and made lots of festive food for us to try in class and take home for our families. We really enjoyed making a Christmas chocolate log with snowman decorations! We also made edible Christmas wreaths,

marshmallow snowman and truffle Santa Claus. The staff in Tasmania class are very proud of all the hard work that our students have put in this term and wish them all a very "Merry Christmas" with their families.

## Key Stage News and Updates

### Key Stage 5

**Key Stage Leader: Mr Ryan Mason**

**[Ryan.Mason@abbotsleaschool.co.uk](mailto:Ryan.Mason@abbotsleaschool.co.uk)**



#### **Christmas Island**

This week in Christmas Island, we have been discussing and exploring the student's options for when they leave Abbots Lea School. We also took a small group of students out to buy provisions for a leaver party for a couple of students in the key stage who will be beginning their supported internships in the New Year. We held the party in the old sensory garden that our students have been working hard in all term to make it look nice. We wish everyone in school and at home a very merry Christmas (Island)."

#### **Malawi**

This week Malawi class have continued enjoying Christmas themed activities! We watched all the key stage nativity plays on Monday. They were all fantastic! Well done to all the students! For the rest of the week we completed some Maths and English lessons and played Christmas games, including Christmas class fortunes! The students' hard work on the sensory garden really paid off on Thursday, making it possible for the keys stage to enjoy a Christmas party there. The students really enjoyed the afternoon, they organised everything themselves from the music to the putting the gazebo up. Everyone, really did make a huge effort and should all be very proud of themselves.

Have a lovely Christmas break everyone and we look forward to seeing all the students back in the New Year!

Malawi class team



## Data Protection Lead

Mrs Kim Adair

E: [kim.adair@abbotsleaschool.co.uk](mailto:kim.adair@abbotsleaschool.co.uk)



### TIPS FOR A DATA SECURE FESTIVE SEASON

Make sure you leave a clean desk behind before leaving for the holidays, ensuring any confidential information is safely secured, or destroyed to stop it falling into the wrong hands.

Store away electronic devices such as laptops and mobile phones. Leaving these devices exposed on desks can lead to a potentially damaging data breach.

If you are working from home over the festive period, password protect laptops and tablets to safeguard any information stored on them.

Start thinking about those New Year's Resolutions. Keep your paperwork under control, secure and reduce the risk of an information security breach.



# Happy Birthday!



## **Primary Department:**

Charlie 18 December 2014  
Bobby 19 December 2012  
Andrew 20 December 2009  
Michael 26 December 2011  
Archie 04 January 2011  
Alice 04 January 2013  
Olivia 05 January 2010  
Jamal 05 January 2012  
Ansel 06 January 2013

## **Secondary Department:**

Mason 20 December 2008  
Dylan 27 December 2006  
Kyle 04 January 2007

We wish you all a **Wonderful Birthday** and have fun!





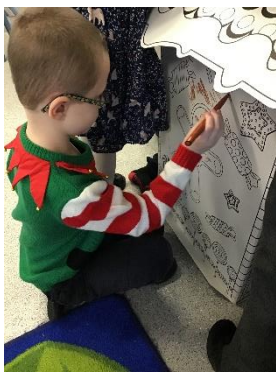
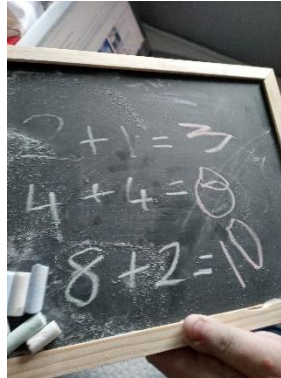
## Students of the Week

Early Years and Key Stage One		
Ireland	Harley	for working towards his independent life-skills
Wales	Ted	for bringing the story 'The Jolly Christmas Postman' to life!
Spain	Josh	for always being happy and being a good friend
Cape Verde	Tunji	for fantastic engagement via zoom all week
Tasmania	Rhys	for excellent home learning
Italy	Imogen	for being a kind friend to everyone in Italy class
Portugal	Archie	for always keeping positive and trying hard!
France	Maxi	for always being a kind friend and helping others
Canada	Jack	for always trying hard in his work
USA	JoJo	for working incredibly hard in Maths
Key Stage Three		
Brazil	Martin	for being a good sportsman when playing football with the LFC coaches
Peru	Hayden	for his enthusiasm and participation in our maths games this week
Mozambique	Mohamed	for always working hard in lessons and always being a kind friend
Botswana	Bupe	for producing lovely art work this week and always be a kind member of our class
Madagascar	William	for excellent reading
Kenya	Jack	for making better choices this week, good listening and following staff instructions
Seychelles	Levi	for being kind and sharing with his friends
Fiji	Mann	for working extremely hard academically throughout term 2 and has recently scored full marks in his Maths Assessment. He is a kind and caring member of Fiji class and we are all very proud of him!
Key Stage Four		
Australia	Kieran	for always working hard in class
Papua New Guinea	Al	for being an all-round great student who is always polite and hard working
New Zealand	Nicholas	for an outstanding effort this week, especially in maths where he really went the extra mile. Well done Nicholas
Samoa	Anthony	for getting involved in the class social times
Malawi	Shaquille	for engaging really well in future career choices
Christmas Island	Chloe	for being very supportive to her peers and for being a great example to other students on a class outing

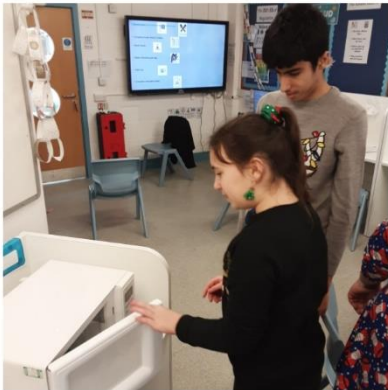
## Week 15 Photos













**A VERY MERRY**  
**CHRISTMAS**  
**and Happy New Year!**