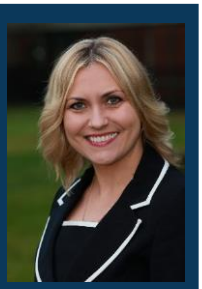
Head's Weekly Newsletter

Issue 29, 30 April 2021



Mrs Ania Hildrey, Headteacher, headteacher@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

Dear Students, Families, Colleagues and Friends,

Welcome to today's issue of the Head's Weekly Newsletter. I thank every staff member for their hard work and congratulate every student on their efforts and achievements this week.

This week was the first one, in many weeks, with a closure of one Bubble due to a positive Covid-19 case communicated to us by the Public Health England on Sunday. We wish the staff member affected a speedy recovery, whilst thanking the families for supporting the home-based learning, which has been taking place this week. The students in Spain Class are returning to school on Tuesday, 4 May 2021 and we look forward to welcoming them back!

I also personally hope that the coming (long!) weekend will not result in my needing to contact anyone at all regarding any new Covid-19 diagnoses – let us all continue to take the control measures advised to us all very seriously. That said, please do keep an eye on the Parentmail emails, website updates and social media posts, as that will be the only way we will be alerting you to any incidents impacting you during the long weekend.

Moving on, we have now put together our short term action plan for strengthening further our school's provision in light of the feedback we have received from Ofsted Pilot and I share here the areas we will work on in Term 5 and 6 of this year on the next page.

Highlighted items:

On page 3 I share with you the snapshot of families' views about the best time of the **next year's school day** – thank you for your views and we will work with this information to make the best decision for the school's community in the coming days.

On page 4, I continue to invite you to help us shape our next **School Development Plan** – considering we only had 8 responses to-date, could you please help me figure out the best way to gather views from more families? Thank you in advance!

For the **families of current Year 6s** – could you please let me know if you would engage with a short **"summer school"** if it was possible for us to put it together? No promises made, but I am appraising and checking feasibility and demand at this stage.

Lastly, I wish you all a very restful long weekend – may it bring you joy and happiness!

Kindest regards

Mrs A Hildrey
Headteacher

OFSTED PILOT – LESSONS LEARNT AND NEXT STEPS

Clearly presented and well-triangulated strengths:

1. **Safeguarding** is highly effective at Abbot's Lea School

2. **Personal Development:**
   - All students are very well supported by the staff at Abbot's Lea School
   - All students are supported very well to become confident and to achieve the highest levels of independence possible
   - Staff are forensic in identifying students' needs, and precise in designing the programmes of personal development and support

3. **Behaviour and Attitudes**
   - Abbot's Lea School is a calm learning environment
   - Students like it here and they feel safe
   - All students are well behaved
   - Learning is rarely interrupted and when that happens, students are supported by the staff who use systems of positive behaviour support consistently

4. **Employability**
   - Employability is an integral part of the school's vision and a key feature of the curricular provision from Early Years to Key Stage 5
   - Employability curriculum is well structured, carefully planned and effectively delivered
   - Employability curriculum and specific programmes of study are highly effective in preparing all students for their next stages of education, employment and training

For consideration/clearer presentation through evidence and triangulation:

1. **Planning of the curriculum:**
   - Clarity of planning of curriculum to ensure clear setting out of the sequencing of learning (particularly where students with SEND follow an individualised programme of learning)
   - Making clear key knowledge that students are expected to learn and remember
   - Ambition in preparation for next steps in learning for all students (including, but not limited to those most academically able)
   - Students' understanding of other religions and cultures (especially in Primary Department)

2. **Leaders overview of Quality of Education across the school:**
   - Holding teachers to account in ensuring that all students learn and remember as much as they can

We are already working on the two points given to us for professional consideration, with the focus on making even more specific our sequential planning of learning across the five key stages, and highlighting the knowledge that our students acquire, retain, broaden and apply. This will be prioritised in Terms 5 and 6 of this year, with a view of being prominent and at the forefront of our teaching of the "A" of our ASD Model © (academic studies) next year!

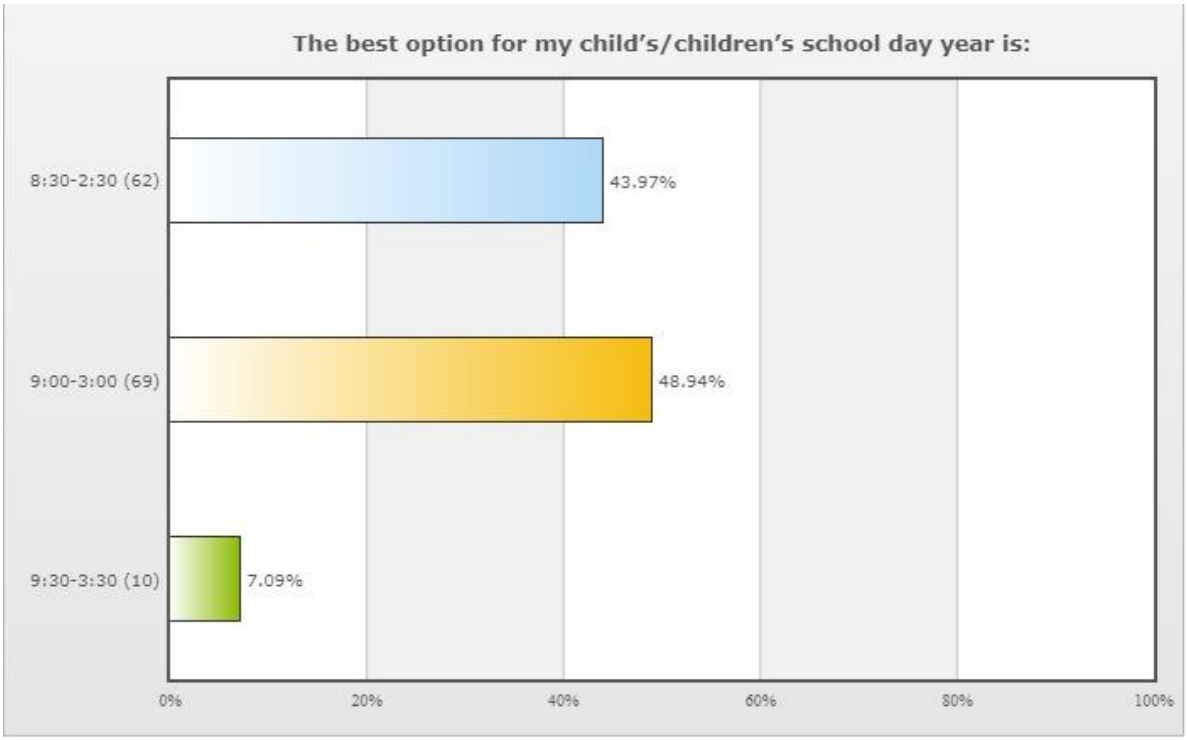
INFORMATION BOARD

NEXT YEAR'S SCHOOL DAY

Thanks to all those who shared their views regarding our school day times next year – I really appreciate your input and your personal preferences.

We had a brilliant response rate of 52% of the whole school community wih the 141 responses, showing that:

- 62 families preferred a school day of 8:30-2:30,
- 69 families favoured 9:00-3:00, and
- a minority of 10 families saw 9:30-3:30 as the best option for them.



This demonmstrates that, unsurpringly, our school community is very diverse (in every way), with no one system of a school day being ideal for all. This makes whatever decision we take, ideal for some, and suboptimal for others.

We will make a decision that works best for the operation of the school as a whole, whilst taking into account the broad parental preferences shared (it is therefore very unlikely that the least preferred option of 9:30-3:30 will be considered).

I will keep you posted as soon as we have made a decision.

VACANCIES

We have a number of vacancies available at Abbot's Lea School – please find a link to the website for details: http://www.abbotsleaschool.co.uk/vacancies/

COVID-19 RISK ASSESSMENT

Our risk assessment has been updated and can be found on our website: http://www.abbotsleaschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Risk-Assessment-v24-26.4.2021.pdf

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2021-24 CONSULTATION

We have only received 8 responses to our SDP 2021-24 consultation (thank you!!!)

How else can we reach you and other families to gain your views? Let us know via feedback@abbotsleaschool.co.uk please.

Our School Development Plan 2018-21 is coming to an end this year and so, the staff have been busy evaluating our successes to-date and identifying areas for future development.

Now that we have all been back at school for a few weeks, I would like you to please imagine the next few years and tell me, what would you like Abbot's Lea School to:

- **START** doing to make it the best school for you (or your child)
- **STOP** doing as it makes your (or your child's) time at school not as good as it could be
- **CONTINUE** doing as it simply works very well for you (or your child)

We look forward to hearing from you and we ask you to submit your responses via either:

- Completion of the form attached (to be returned to Reception or to feedback@abbotsleaschool.co.uk)
- Completion of the survey – https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/SDP2021-24/
- Recording of a video message and sending to: feedback@abbotsleaschool.co.uk
- Phone call to Kim Adair, Head's PA who can write down your suggestions.

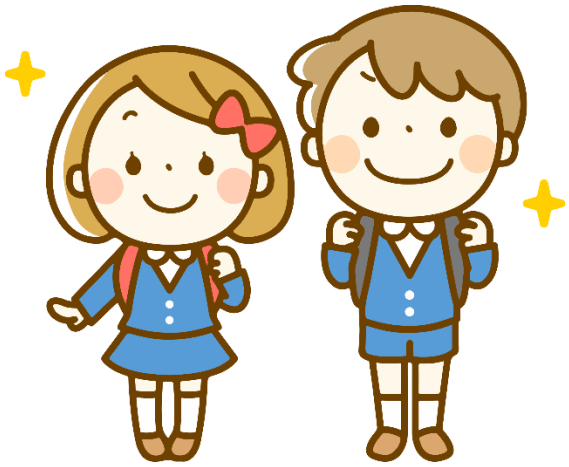
The consultation will last until 19 May 2021.

DFE YEAR 7 SUMMER SCHOOLS

Schools have been invited to consider using one-off funding for running short programmes, called summer schools, for current Year 6 students, moving to Year 7 in September, to help them feel at ease with starting the secondary school. Whilst the main aim of this programme is for schools which are not "through-schools", we are keen to see if this might be something we could put together for a week or two in late July/early August for the existing Year 6 students and any students joining our school in September into Year 7. Would this be of interest to the families of current Year 6s? Please email Kim Adair, my PA, to express interest: kim.adair@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

Please note that we will only run this programme if the funding is sufficient and if sufficient numbers of suitably qualified school staff wish to take part in this outside of their contracted working time. This is therefore just an exploratory message at this stage and not a guarantee of an offer of such provision.

SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP



Our nearly new second-hand uniform shop is available to all families, where you can purchase any item for just £1.

All items will have been washed (unless donated new with tags) and we will only sell items, which we believe to be in very good condition.

We have Sweatshirts, Jumpers, Polo Shirts, Shirts, Trousers, Shorts and Blazers all in various sizes.

Please contact our Family Adviser, Lisa Sharpe on lisa.sharpe@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

2020-21 Term dates

STUDENTS' SCHOOL DAY:
8:30am – 2:30pm

Term 5:

Starts: 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
Term Ends: 16 July 2021 at 1:00pm

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

2021-22 Term dates

STUDENTS' SCHOOL DAY: 8:30am – 2:30pm – under leadership team's review

Term 1
INSET – 1, 2, 3 September 2021
6 September 2021– students return
Ends: 22 October 2021 at 2:30pm
Half term break: 25-29 October 2021

Term 2
1 November 2021 – students return
Ends: 22 December 2021 at 1pm
Christmas break: 23 December 2021- 4 January 2022

Term 3
5 January 2022 – students return
Ends: 18 February 2022 at 2:30pm
Half term break: 21 – 25 February 2022

Term 4
28 February 2022 – students return
Ends: 8 April 2022 at 1pm
Easter break: 11-22 April 2022

Term 5
25 April 2022 – students return
May day: Monday 2 May 2022
Ends: 27 May 2022 at 2:30pm
Half term break: 30 May – 3 June 2022

Term 6
6 June 2022 – students return
24 June 2022 – Leavers' Day (for all students in Year 11 and above who leave ALS in 2022), including Leavers' Ceremony on Friday, 24 June 2022 at 1pm (open to families of leavers)
8 July 2022 – End of Year Awards Ceremony (open to families of all students staying at ALS)
11 – 15 July 2022 - Transition Week (students grouped in next year's classes)
Ends: 15 July 2022 at 1pm
Summer break: 15 July – 31 August 2022 *(see below for start of school year 2022-23)*
INSET – 18, 19 July 2022 (worked in lieu during the academic year)

Academic year 2022-23

Term 1
1 – 2 September 2022 – INSET
5 September 2022 – students return
Ends: 21 October 2022
Half term: Monday 24 to Friday 28 October 2022

Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Emily Tobin, Deputy Headteacher

E: deputy@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

Dear Families

As we continue to work on growing our Supported Internship offer at KS5, we relentlessly contact businesses to ask them whether they could offer such placements (or would consider offering such placements).

This work has been harder than ever over lockdown, as so many businesses struggle to keep afloat and to support their existing employees.

If you know of any companies that might be interested in supporting Abbot's Lea School by offering a placement please do contact our job coach, Mrs Roberts rebecca.roberts@abbotsleaschool.co.uk and she will be delighted to talk to them!

Warmest wishes for the coming week,

Mrs Tobin
Deputy Headteacher

Head of Autism Research & Development

Miss Sara Muršić, Head of Autism Research & Development
E: sara.mursic@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

Dear colleagues, families and friends of Abbot's Lea School

The week is all about creativity. We are completing our Liverpool Heartbeat Art Competition and we welcomed Mr David Kelly from Awards for Young Musicians. During his visit, he met with several students who told him what music means for them. I was surprised to hear so many powerful and inspiring messages from our students. It made me want to know more about the connection between autism and music. Here is what I found:

Music has been identified as a strength in people with Autism. Many studies reported positive effects of music on emotional engagement, social interaction, communication and parent–child relationships (for example, 1 and 2), suggesting that musical activities in a therapeutic context can promote measurable positive changes in children with ASD.
This study, published in 2018, provides the first evidence that 8–12 weeks of individual music intervention can indeed improve social communication and functional brain connectivity for young autistic population.

Our school, in collaboration with Awards for Young Musicians, will provide 7-10 weeks of music tuition for a group of students, together with funding for instruments and group activities to promote social interaction and talent development.

I am very proud of our students, their incredible passion and creativity. I am sure their music talents will be celebrated in the future as well. We are ready for their adult music careers. The Autistic Musicians Protection Society (AMPS) is a representational organisation that offers free support, assistance, awareness and representation for all musicians, family, professional industry and others who encounter autism spectrum disorder (ASD) as part of their daily lives.

The stage is yours!

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

Online safety is perhaps the most common theme running through my newsletter articles and I have to revisit the subject yet again due to some current concerns. In recent weeks there have been some distressing national and local messages that have been posted online with the intention of causing alarm and distress to young people and their families. I make no apologies for, once more, revisiting the steps that families can take to ensure their children are safe when using the internet:

• If children, young people or adults are aware of harmful online content they can report it: https://reportharmfulcontent.com/. The police should be contacted by ringing 101 (999 in an emergency) if there is concern a crime has been committed or could be committed.

• Children and young people who are distressed by online content should be encouraged to share their concerns with their family and a member of staff at school. It is important that children, young people and adults don't forward harmful content to others as this can create further unnecessary alarm and distress.

• Children and young people should be advised that not everything they read online is true and some are deliberate hoaxes that are created with the aim of causing distress. They should also be aware that posting harmful online messages, including hoaxes, is likely to be a criminal offence under the Malicious Communications Act 2003.

• Children should be aware of helplines that can support them, including NSPCC Childline 0800 1111

• Professionals and families can seek support from the NSPCC when they are worried about a child by ringing 0808 800 5000

• Families can also ring the NSPCC Advice Line on 0808 800 5002 for advice on apps, sites and games and online safety.

• The NSPCC and 02 also offer a service for parents to help them ensure parental controls are in place. In addition, the NSPCC Net-aware offers further advice to families about online activities.

• Families should talk regularly to their children about respectful and responsible online behaviours to encourage and ensure they are acting appropriately.

• The London Grid for Learning provides excellent advice to families about 'scary challenges'.

• Children and young people should be advised how to ignore Block, Report and Ignore any inappropriate messages they are sent. Each online platform often has advice as to how to do this.

• Children and young people should consider installing the BBC Own It APP as that helps them consider their own online behaviours.

School Business Support

Mr Andrew Cocklin, Head of Finance and Operations

E: andrew.cocklin@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

I had a really positive meeting on Thursday with 6 of our Key Stage 5 students. This was the start of our project to create a sensory garden for all of our students to use, which is being funded via a grant from TransPennine Express.

All the students engaged fully with the meeting, came up with some amazing ideas and put real thought into how we can make this work. Most importantly, they focused on how we can make it inclusive for all, and remember everyone is different and might want to use the area differently from other people.

The students' and I have homework to ensure that we can get this project moving and our next meeting in two weeks will be in the proposed area for the sensory garden to help add life to their ideas.

So, a huge thank you to Nathan, Lewis, Hamza, Leon, Huw and Luke for their time, energy, ideas and support.

School Business Support

Mrs Michelle Griffiths, Head of HR

E: michelle.griffiths@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

This week we say goodbye to Miss Ludlow in Tasmania Class who is leaving us this week for a new role.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind people about numerous vacancies we are currently recruiting for - deadlines are 7 May and 14 May 2021.

Key Stage News and Updates

Early Years and Key Stage 1
Miss O'Neill

Maria.O'Neill@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

Ireland

Ireland Class have had a lovely week. We have been learning about Shapes in our Maths lessons and have used 2D shapes to make different mini beasts. We have been focusing on The Very Hungry Caterpillar and have done sequencing of the story, cutting and sticking of different pictures from the story and counting how many fruits each day the Caterpillar ate! We enjoyed playing different instruments in our music lesson and we have learned a new rhyme this week called Wind the Bobbin Up and have made a Full English Breakfast in Food Tech to link to our Brunch topic for this term! Have a lovely weekend.

Wales

Wales class have had an amazing week this week. In English, we have researched ladybird facts and used Chatta to share them and created fact files! In Maths, we have been using the balancing scales to weigh different items in grams and order them in weight order. Some of us also explored equivalent weights! In Science, we have had fun investigating a real life ladybird. We counted the ladybird's spots using a magnifying glass, measured it and explored if it weighed more or less than a gram. In Food Tech, we tasted all the items that we have on heathy full English breakfast. We also made scrambled egg and observed the eggs cooking in the microwave. In RE we explored the celebration Ede. We listened to a Chatta made by one of our parents explaining how they celebrate at home. In PSHE, we discussed things we have in common with our friends in class. We also discussed that it is ok for us to like different things too.

We have had a brilliant week this week and are looking forward to the next

Have a lovely weekend and Bank Holiday Monday

Wales Class Team

Key Stage News and Updates

Key Stage 2
Key Stage Leader: Miss Sell
Lorna.sell@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

Italy

This week Italy Class have been continuing to learn about multiplication in maths. We have been using cubes to create our own arrays. In English, we have been learning about Fairy tales. This week was the story of Rapunzel, we discussed how Rapunzel would feel about being locked in the tower and made chatta boards to sequence the story. We have been continuing to learn about coastlines, we learnt about the seaside in the past and compared it to how the seaside is now. We also learnt about what objects would sink and which would float if they were in the sea. In art, we finished decorating out seashells previously made. We have also been learning about the swimming pool and what we can expect on our trip to the swimming pool next week. Well done for a fantastic week Italy!

France

We have had a really busy week in France class this week. On Tuesday we started our swimming lessons a week earlier than expected!- thanks to France class families for being so flexible with this change and having the swimming kits ready. The pupils have all thoroughly enjoyed their lessons this week and have made so much progress! It has been wonderful to see their confidence in the water increase and their swimming skills develop over the last few days. As well as our swimming lessons' we have been busy learning more about our Coastlines topic. This week we have looked at seaside's from the past and present identifying features we saw on our visit to New Brighton. On Thursday we also continued our 'quick meals' food technology topic and made some delicious Spaghetti on toast. The students developed their cutting and spreading skills as well as their food hygiene and safety awareness. Keep up the hard work class France!

Canada

This week in Canada class we have been having lots of fun. We have been practising making our own snack by making toast and collecting fruit and drinks ourselves. This is helping us become more independent. We also started a new athletics unit in PE! This was so much fun; we learned to control a ball on a racket, sprint across the hall, jump hurdles and complete an obstacle course! In life skills we discussed how important the emergency services are and what each one does to help us, and how important it is to call 999 in an emergency. We have also made pinch pots in art as part of our project on coastlines and we decorated them with seashells. It really helped develop our fine motor skills as we moulded the clay. We cannot wait to paint them! We are also continuing with our maths work on multiples of 2, 5 and 10 and are going to be using Chatta to sequence the fairy tale of Rapunzel! Canada class have worked so hard and the class team are really proud ☺ Have a lovely weekend!

USA

USA have had a brilliant week. We have been asked to enter a competition showing what we think the Heart of Liverpool is. We are so excited by this and researched the different sights in Liverpool to give us some ideas. We also continued to look at our times tables in Maths and we were amazed by how well the students could remember their times tables from last week. In P.E we continued to look at Athletics and did a really fun obstacle course in the hall. The students had to use and develop their balancing skills and planning skills to go through the course. In English, we have been looking at Hansel and Gretel.

We made a Chatta board as a class and then used this to write the story in our own words. The students work was absolutely amazing and we could tell how well they had listened to the story. In Life Skills, we have continued to look at our rights. The students decided what rights they thought were most important and came up with their own that they thought should be added. We have also done food technology this week and we made spaghetti on toast. The students loved this and some had two lots! Have a lovely bank holiday weekend USA.

Spain

Spain class have been learning from home this week. We have been learning about our topic Coastlines. The pupils have been learning to recognise features of coastlines then reading and writing some key vocabulary they might use. In Maths, the pupils have been focusing on division. They have completed some practical activities by sharing objects into groups of two, three and four. A daily LifeSkills challenge has been completed each day too. Well done Spain class for engaging so well in home learning!

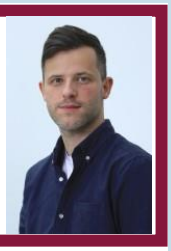
Portugal

This week in Class Portugal, we have been swimming! We have been most mornings and we have been really good at swimming on our fronts and our backs! Some of us even jumped in! We worked very to go underwater and pick up the brick!
In class, we made some pictures of the seaside using real sand! We also learnt all about how waves were made!
We look forward to another fun week of learning next week!

Have a lovely weekend! ☺

Key Stage News and Updates

Key Stage 3
Key Stage Leader: Mr Richard Hodgson
Richard.Hodgson@abbotsleaschool.co.uk



Brazil
This week in Brazil, the students have continued with persuasive writing. We have looked at conjunctions, how beneficial they can be when we are writing persuasively. The students took part in a History lesson looking at the history of anaesthesia, given a location on a map and had to hunt on our field to find different information pieces on anaesthesia. The students then arranged these in chronological order on a timeline. It has been a positive week of learning in Brazil class and we wish everybody an enjoyable bank holiday weekend."

Peru
This week in Peru class, we have been looking at conjunctions in English, and how we can expand our persuasive sentences. We played conjunction games in groups; giving our other class friends a word in which they had to expand upon. During Maths, we have been looking at tally charts and bar charts creating our own tally charts to ask our friends in class and creating a bar chart with our results. In our project work this week, we have designed our own potion bottle looking back at previous designs and changing them to make our final potion bottle out of clay. Have a lovely week and we, hope the sun is out for us! See you all Tuesday for our four-day week. Peru team

Botswana
This week in Botswana class, we continued our theme of 'Potions' in our project work. We painted the potion bottles we made out of clay last week and mixed different solids and liquids to create our very own potions. In Maths, we continued to learn about statistics and drew our pictograms and bar charts. In PE, we have been doing hockey and learning how to control the ball when dribbling it around cones - we finished the lesson by having a relay race! We have also been on a sensory walk around the school grounds this week, where we identified what we could hear, smell, feel and see.

Mozambique
A great week in Mozambique class. In literacy, we have continued with our persuasive writing topic and focused on extending our sentences by using conjunctions and continuing to use persuasive language. In maths, we have continued learning about statistics and writing questions from data presented. We have also continued our potions topic this week and have looked in more detail at solids, liquids, gases and explored medicine used in the mediaeval times. We have also made our own potion bottles out of clay and then painted them. In P.E,, we have continued to work on our dance routines and in Life skills we learnt all about life skills and how it has an impact on the environment. We also made flapjacks using Fairtrade ingredients. Hope you all have a lovely bank holiday weekend!

Madagascar
This week class Madagascar have been exploring how they might obtain employment. Students have explored the interview and application process. With students' engaging in role-plays pretending to be the interviewee and interviewer. Students looked at behaviours expected in an interview before looking at application forms.

In Maths, students have continued to practice extracting data from tables and creating bar charts and in English students have continued the theme of persuasive writing. Students have written letters and engaged in a balance discussion to argue the point whether school uniform is a positive or negative thing. Students raised some interesting, valid, mature points. In science, students have looked at signs, symbols and the information they portray in particular warning symbols for harmful substances found around the home.

Kenya

Kenya have worked really hard this week. In English, this week we have continued looking at persuasive writing. We worked in groups to create our own radio adverts and created an advert for 'our city encouraging tourists to come and visit. In Maths, we finished learning about bar charts and have moved onto exploring line graphs, we are finding this tricky but we will get there with more practice. Our topic this term is 'potions' and we are continuing to explore 'changes of state' between Solid's, Liquids and Gases. In Life Skills this term, we are exploring 'The Environment'. This week we discussed the issue of Global Warming, what the issues are around this and what we can do as individuals to help prevent the issue getting worse. The students created fantastic posters and leaflets about the issue. We ended our Life Skills lesson by planting our own 'Sunflowers' that we will look after for a few weeks in school before bringing them home. We learnt that plants and trees are an important way of helping to prevent Global Warming as they absorb Carbon Dioxide. Mrs Wong ordered us some new board games for our classroom, we have had lots of fun working on our Social Communication Skills, Monopoly and Cluedo have been a huge hit.

Keep up the hard work Kenya!

Seychelles

This week in Seychelles has been a busy one. We have continued with reading the Hodgeheg and finding out what mischief he has been up to. We created a fantastic menu using creative writing that a hedgehog would like. Some of the ideas included spider pieces with wood louse corpses and chopped up fruit for a main meal and dessert consisted of blended up slugs and berries with dog food. We had lots' of more amazing ideas.

In Maths, we have been completing tally charts, bar charts, asking our class friends about their favourite things and rolling a dice to see if the number 6 on a dice is rolled the most.

During PE, we went outside in the lovely sunshine and continued to practise our hockey skills weaving between the cones and then passing it to our class friends. Then we finished our hockey with a friendly game finishing on a draw.

For our food technology lesson this week, we created a mint yogurt and practised our chopping skills. Some of us liked the yogurt plain and others enjoyed it with the mint taste, we even had a comment of it tasting like toothpaste.

Fiji

Fiji class have been super busy all week. We have worked really hard in Maths and have now moved onto line graphs. The students are able to draw and plot line graphs, read information from line graphs and discuss similarities and differences. In English, we have looked and conjunctions and clauses. The students have discussed which conjunction fits the sentence and then added it to their work. The aim is to make our writing more interesting. The students have done really well. Finally, in science, we have looked at safety labels and why they are important. The students have used their homework to find different safety labels in their homes. We have then designed our own labels for Alice's bottle labelled "drink me" that we found out in the wooded area at school.

Cape Verde

Week 2 has flown by in Cape Verde! We have continued looking at data and statistics in maths and have discovered lots' of different ways to work out averages, some are quite tricky, but we persevered and can now work out the mode, range and mean from a set of data. In English we have been looking at comprehension, grammar and our answering question that have sparked a good debate such as "what is better for listening to music: earbuds or headphones?" and if college athletes should be paid or not. In art we have designed and created clay pots, we are looking forward to painting them over the next week once they are dry. Hope you all have a good bank holiday weekend

Key Stage News and Updates

Key Stage 4
Key Stage Leader: Mr Lyons
matthew.lyons@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

Australia

This week students have been having a go at mock exams. The students have had a go at their English, Maths and ICT. The students have done really well taking on this new challenge and experience we are really proud of them.
We have also had fun this week making perfect plant salad in Food Technology and getting outside to do football, dancing or going for a walk as part of PE.

Samoa

This week we have been looking at line graphs. The pupils can all now confidently insert data onto a line graph and estimate where other data may be on the graph.
In English, we continued reading Frankenstein and wrote questions for a friend about the chapters we have read. For Science and Project,, we have been on a learning walk and drew flowers we saw on the walk. The pupils then labelled the properties of the flower, and what they need to grow.
For food tech we made Healthy Burgers, everyone really enjoyed making them...and eating them. We looked at where foods come from around the world and identified the countries on a map.
For Life Skills we started to make our art creation inspired by our heroes, we have been planning this for a few weeks, so all the pupils were excited to start it.
We hope everyone has a lovely weekend!
Samoa Class Team ☺

New Zealand

Students this week have made great progress in science, re-visiting the nervous system and answering questions about how electric impulses travel around the body. Maths has been interesting as students design their own surveys and present their data. They have chosen graphs and pie charts to present their data. Our ICT Task has focused on The Tourist Board in Liverpool and students have put together an itinerary for two visitors to the city. The students have "booked" hotels and priced up a 5-day stay, including theatre visits, restaurants, and of course, football ground tours! Well done everyone, a very productive week!

Tasmania

This week in Tasmania class, we have been learning about finding the perimeter and area of rectangles and triangles. The students worked really hard to learn this skill in their Maths lessons and practiced on mini whiteboards. In Food Technology, we made chocolate banana sticks. The students chose their own toppings and edible eyes to create their own characters. The students then named their creations and evaluated them. We carried on with our allotment project, learning about insects. We categorised which ones are friends, and which are pests to gardeners.

Papua New Guinea

The focus, in PNG this week has been mocks. In all subjects such as English, Maths and ICT students have completed a test in exam conditions. This practise has been vital for the students as it has shown them how to deal with a change in the classroom but also has prepared them for when they come to do the actual test.

PNG class have also looked at completing another unit for their functional skills science qualification by completing a booklet on the solar system. As a class, we also took part in a discussion on whether violent video games should be banned. Finally, LFC have visited PNG and looked at the importance of empathy towards other people and their circumstances.

Well done PNG for finishing your mocks and have a lovely weekend!

Key Stage News and Updates

Key Stage 5
Key Stage Leader: Mr Ryan Mason
Ryan.Mason@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

Christmas Island and Malawi

This week in Key Stage 5 we have being doing mock exam papers in preparation for the real exams that he students will be doing in the summer. Everyone has made a huge effort and lots' of our students have done really well. In food tech this week, we made chicken noodle soup. Joslin said that it smelled "exquisite". Lots' of our students tried the soup and really enjoyed it. A group of our students had a meeting with Mr Cocklin to discuss plans for the sensory garden that we cleared before Christmas, planning what we would like to do with the space.

Supported Internships

This week is an exciting week for one of our Interns, as Aiden turns 18 today! Happy Birthday!

During his working week this week, Aiden has assisted our ICT Manager in checking the office areas for ICT needs and updates. He has also been sorting through boxes of IT equipment to reuse and recycle.

Liam has continued cleaning and washing the school buses, on top of his usual daily tasks, which he completes independently.

Staff had reported back to me how much they have noticed Adam's confidence growing when he is serving dinners. Well done, Adam, keep up the good work.

We continue to focus on the next steps and plan to practise the journeys to college in time for September!

Primary Department
Joshua on the 4 May
Anthony on the 6 May

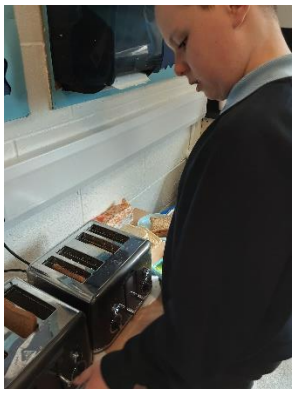
Secondary Department
Ciaran on the 6 May
Aiden on the 30 April

We wish you all a **wonderful birthday** and have fun!

Student of the Week 29

Early Years and KS1		
Ireland	Rhys	for being caring and excellent transition
Wales	Wyatt	for using his emotional regulation toolkit when he was in the yellow zone
Nurture Provision		
Spain	Noah	for engaging in zoom during home learning
Cape Verde	Shasiah	for following the golden rules
Tasmania	Alex	for using Jamboard to record facts about the Immune System
Key Stage 2		
Italy	Charlie	for being a kind friend and playing along with others at lunch time
Portugal	Ansel	for trying really hard in swimming!
France	Oliver	for excellent progress and effort in swimming lessons!
Canada	Andrew	for progressing amazingly in phonics. He can write all phase 2 tricky words and CVC words! Well done Andrew.
USA	Olivia	for growing in confidence every day
Key Stage 3		
Brazil	Finley	for having a great attitude towards learning and solving problems in a calm way
Peru	Achille	for trying hard in maths
Mozambique	Maddie	for creating a fantastic collage in literacy to identify the features of an advert
Botswana	Jack	for trying hard to participate in lessons in the classroom
Madagascar	Harry	for coping with change and proving he can be adaptable
Kenya	Patrice	for being a very kind and helpful member of the class. Keep it up Patrice!
Seychelles	Jimmy	for amazing creative writing in English
Fiji	Jacob	for being a superstar all week. He has ensured he has asked for help when he needed it and has followed our golden rules all week. Well done, Jacob
Key Stage 4		
Australia	Dominik	for showing resilience in his exams
PNG	Paul	for always being a polite and enthusiastic member of PNG class
Samoa	Githan	for his hard work during Phonics and reading
New Zealand	Nicholas	Well Done Nicholas, you have put a huge amount of effort into your work this week and completed assessments, showing great detail in your answers
Key Stage 5		
Malawi	Shaquille	for being a great role model for other students in the key stage
Christmas Island	Chloe	for getting full marks in her mock English exam

Week 29 in Pictures



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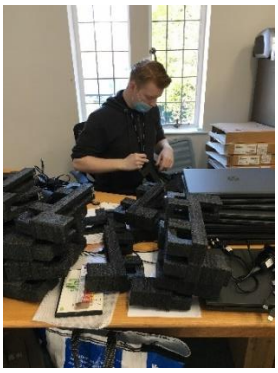

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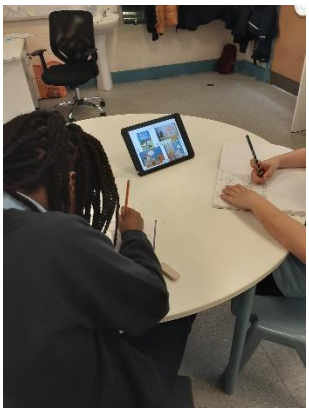
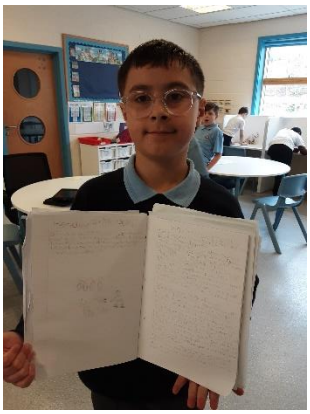
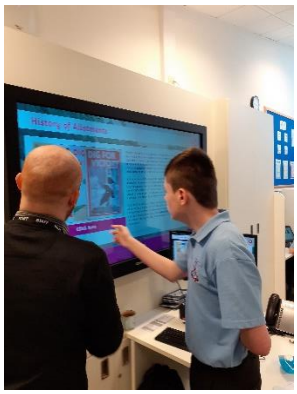
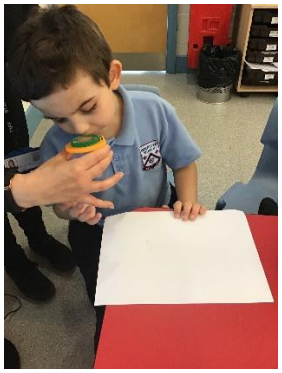
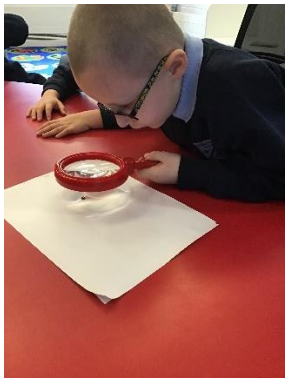
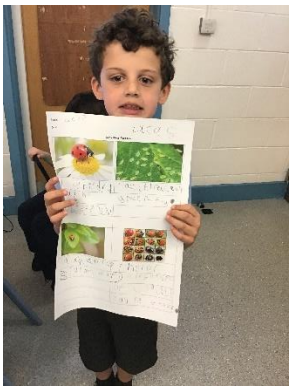
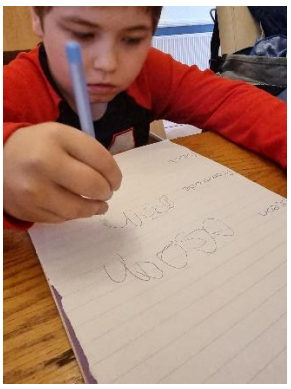



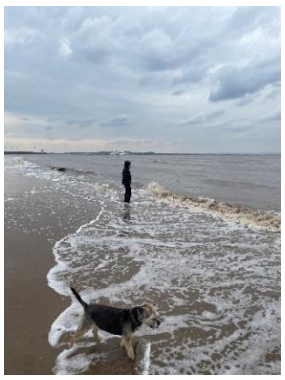
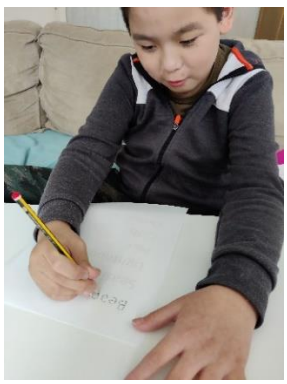


Library





FRAMING THE LANDSCAPE