

Head's Weekly Newsletter Week 11



Message from the Headteacher

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

Dear Students, Families, Colleagues and Friends

Welcome to this year's eleventh week's newsletter. I hope you enjoy reading it and seeing some lovely pictures of our students' experiences.

For me as the school's Headteacher, it is a bitter-sweet week; on the one hand, we heard from yesterday's announcement that £2.3 billion of "new money" will be added to the schools' budget. This is, undoubtedly, great news. Every little helps! I should therefore be rejoicing in the fact that the financial pressures are gone and we can all focus on education.

Sadly, despite those additional funds, the impact on special schools, and our school within those, is less positive. In fact, the figures released for Liverpool special schools for the next financial year show that the additional funding will not help much at all, with significantly less money being granted to Abbot's Lea than we anticipated or were led to believe we would be getting.

Added to that worry is the fact that the latest council proposals to address SEND Sufficiency, do not, in any way, help us as a school create more capacity or resolve the fact that we have been operating at 120% admissions for a number of years. In such situations, as the Headteacher, I worry a lot.

But "just" worrying never changes things for the better. Action is needed and I am hoping you will all join me in a response to today's LCC Cabinet which agreed to launch a public consultation into SEND Sufficiency options of:

- Creating a Bankview South at Parklands
- Building brand new school for Princes
- Expanding Palmerston (by re-opening its old site at the bottom of our road).

As you can see – there is no mention of how to assist Abbot's Lea School in its ongoing capacity issues. Perhaps, by speaking up together, we can help our city leaders see that our students too deserve and need more?

With kindest regards

Mrs A Hildrey Headteacher

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Staff News: Useful Information and Resources

Key Diary Dates

School Year Calendar

Term Dates for School Year 2022-23 (next academic year) - Term dates 2022-23

Students' school day 9:00am - 3:00pm

<u>Term 1</u>

1 – 2 September – INSET
 5 September – students return
 Ends: 21 October 2022 at 3pm
 Half term: Monday 24 to Friday 28 October

<u>Term 2</u>

31 October – students return Ends: 21 December 2022 at 1:30pm Christmas break: Thursday 22 December to Tuesday 3 January 2023

<u>Term 3</u>

4 January – students return Ends: 10 February 2023 at 3pm Half term: Monday 13 to Friday 17 February 2023

Term 4

20 February – students start Ends: Friday 31 March 2023at 1:30pm Easter break: Monday 3 to Friday 14 April 2023

<u>Term 5</u>

17 April – students return May day: Monday 1 May Ends: Friday, 26 May 2023 at 3pm Half term: Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June 2023

<u>Term 6</u>

5 June – students return
30 June – School Leavers' Date
7 July – Transition INSET
10-14 Transition Week
Ends: 14 July 2023 at 1:30pm
17-18 July – INSET (worked in lieu as twilights throughout the year)

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Key Diary Dates

Key Diary Dates for Term 2 (31.10.22-21.12.22)

| Date | Activity | Notes |
|------------------------|---|--|
| Tuesday 22 November | Friends of Abbot's Lea shared learning session: We will focus on routines, transitions and, specifically preparation for Christmas, which some students find challenging. | Details will be sent for this Zoom. |
| Friday 25 November | 6pm Weekly open assemblies led by Mrs Tobin (Deputy Headteacher) and coffee morning Assembly times: KS4 and 5: 9.30 – 10.00 Primary: 10.05 – 10.35 KS3: 10.40 – 11.10 Coffee morning: 9.30 – 11am | We encourage families to attend where they are able. If there is any topic you would like to hear about or contribute to during the coffee mornings, please advise Dr Sara Mursic at: <u>Sara.Mursic@abbotsleaschool.co.uk</u> |
| Friday 2 December | Christmas Fair | There will be no assembly on this day as we will be getting ready to welcome as many of you as possible to our Christmas Fair! This will take place 12pm – 2pm in our School Hall. There will be a range of experiences on offer, a performance from our school choir and a chance to purchase some beautiful gift for the family. A free re-homing nearly new uniform stall and book stall will be available for those who wish to take some lovely items and give them a new loving home! If you wish to contribute, please send any good quality clean uniform items or good quality books (appropriate for school) ahead of the day. Please note that there will be very limited first-come- first-served parking for only a few cars, so parking in the neighborhood and making way to the school on pedestrian route is advisable. Any families planning to collect their child from school that afternoon earlier than 3pm, are welcome to do so with the prior notification to the office@abbotsleaschool.co.uk Thank you! |

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| Friday 9 December | Christmas Jumper Day | Students are welcome to wear a Christmas jumper or a Christmas accessory and may make a voluntary £1 donation toward Abbot's Lea School charitable fund, raising money for future school trips. |
|--------------------|---|--|
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| Thursday 15 | Christmas Pantomime | Will will be visiting the Epstein Theatre |
| December | trip | to watch Goldilocks and the Three Bears. There will be no additional cost to the families for this trip and all students will be invited. |
| Friday 16 December | Our Nativity Assembly! | Please come and join our Christmas nativity assembly. |
| | Timings for performances will be sent nearer the time but all performances will take place in the morning | |
| Monday 19 December | Christmas Dinners | All students and staff are invited to enjoy a full Christmas Dinner with crackers and the works! |
| Wednesday 21 | Last day of school | School will close at 1pm |
| December | | Students will be given a packed lunch that day prior to leaving. |
| Final week of term | Sharing of Term 2's Learning Journey | Each term, your child's teacher will share with you their learning journey via email. |

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Next Week's Menu

Next Week's Menu

| Week 4 | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|---|--|--|---|
| Main Meal We provide a variety of seasonal hot and cold dishes for children to freely choose from | Homemade Pizza with Wholemeal Pizza Base served with Homemade Wedges and Salad | Homemade Steak Pie served with Butter Glazed New Potatoes and Green Beans | Homemade Tomato and Basil Pasta served with Crusty Bread | Homemade Sausage and Mashed Potato with Onion Gravy, Peas, and Sweetcorn | Fish Fingers with Chips and Baked Beans |
| Alternative Jacket potatoes with tuna and other fillings available daily | Broccoli and Cream Cheese Pasta Bake | Pesto Pasta | Salmon Fish Pie | Cheese and Tomato Toasties | Veggie Sausage Roll |
| Homemade Soup | Carrot and Coriander | Tomato and Basil | Red pepper Soup | Chef Choice | Chef Choice |
| Starchy Food Various bread choices available | Pizza Base | New Potatoes | Pasta | Mashed Potato | Chips |
| Vegetables Salad Bar with Hummus | Peppers | Green Beans | Tomatoes | Peas | Baked Beans |
| Dessert Fresh fruit, selection of low-fat yoghurts and homemade puddings available every lunch time | Fresh Fruit Salad | Cherry Bakewell Slice served with Custard Fresh Fruit | Carrot Cake Yoghurts | Fresh Fruit Jelly Fresh Fruit | Cheese and Crackers Mixed Flavour Yoghurts |

Ask for daily chef specials

All our meat is sourced from local suppliers, we use free range eggs and organic flour where possible. All our fruit and vegetables are locally sourced where possible. Halal options available. Food For Thought is a not-for-profit school meals company owned by it's partner schools. Any surplus is reinvested in the company or returned to its member schools.

GOOD FOOD CULTURE

Please, inform the school about any known allergies or dietary requirements for your child. You can do that by sharing information with the class team or by calling the school office. Thank you

Student of the Week

| Class | Student | Reason why |
|-------------|---------|--|
| Key Stage 1 | | |
| Ireland | lvy | For making new friends in girls club |
| Wales | Harley | For being patient and having excellent manners |
| Key Stage 2 | | |
| Canada | Jack | For hard work in English and trying really hard to remember the types of poetry we are studying. Keep up the hard work Jack! |
| Italy | Jan | For completing all his phonics work independently and brilliant communication. |
| Portugal | Layal | For trying really hard in her new Maths group and talking to staff in class about how she feels. |
| France | Wyatt | For working hard in Science this week. |
| Spain | Troy | For amazing turn taking with bucket therapy |
| USA | Ted | For an outstanding week |
| Key Stage 3 | | |
| Brazil | Adam | For a good start to the week and positive interaction with his activities. |
| Peru | Faye | For great improvement with her communication skills with staff and peers. |
| Mozambique | Jack | For amazing reading this week! |
| Botswana | Anthony | For working exceptionally hard in English and being very supportive and understanding when his friend was in need. |
| Madagascar | Lewis | For doing fantastic engaging in all his lessons, well done Lewis! |
| Kenya | Jojo | For making better choices and following instructions. |
| Seychelles | Daniel | For engaging well with staff when in the yellow and blue zone. Communicating with staff when needing a sensory walk. |
| Cape Verde | Ellis | For settling well into his new maths group and supporting other students. |

Student of the Week

| Key Stage 4 | | |
|---------------------|-----------|---|
| Australia | Lexie | For doing well in your mock exams and making a great start to work experience. |
| Tasmania | Abbie | For making excellent choices and completing work independently. |
| Samoa | Adam | We are so impressed with the efforts he has put in his exams this week, he also read aloud in front of his peers. As well as this he helped a peer complete their work when they were finding the task a little bit tricky. |
| New Zealand | Madeleine | For having another positive week making big improvements in her contributions in class and always bringing smiles and positivity to the class. |
| Key Stage 5 | | |
| Malawi | Joshua | For completing his exams to an amazing standard!! |
| Christmas Island | Alfie | For working hard in Geography accredited learning, producing amazing work and supporting his peers to work to the best of their ability. |
| Fiji | Bobby | For being here every day. |
| PNG | Alex | For welcoming back Mrs Grant and sharing all his news. It was awesome. |

Early Years and Key Stage 1

Ireland class

This week in Ireland class we have been reading 'Peace at Last' and learning what happens at day time and night time. We have spoken about nocturnal animals and why they sleep throughout the day.

We used software on the interactive board to create our own duvet covers for Mr and Mrs Bear in the Peace at Last story. The boys and girls have also enjoyed making moon dough with dry spaghetti and cheerio's to thread and develop their fine motor skills. Ireland class have enjoyed rhyme time to celebrate 'Rhyme week'. We listened to and sang along to a different rhyme every day.

Have a lovely weekend!

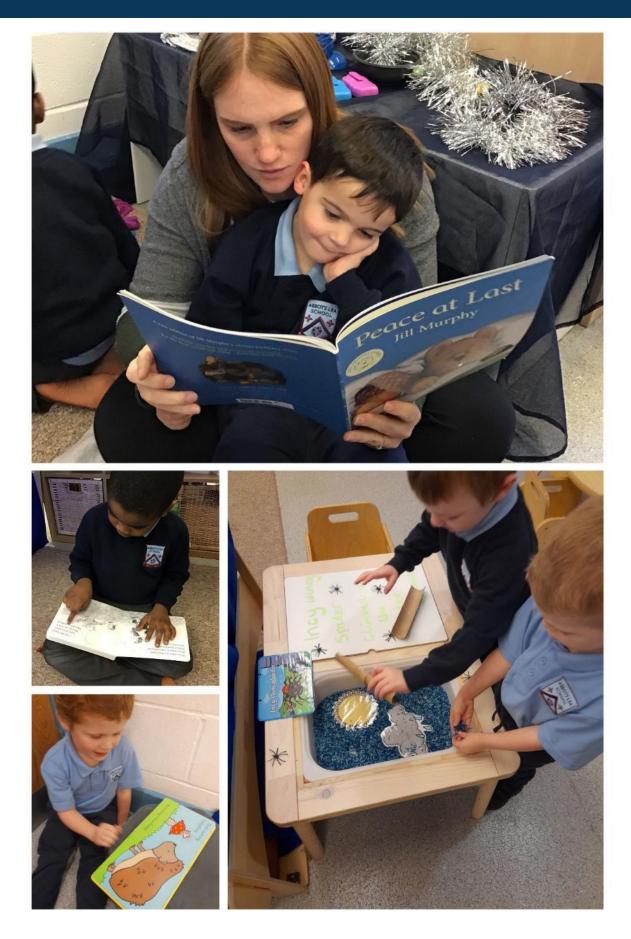
Wales class

This week wales class have been working very hard in learning how to be kind to one another, we have shared the story Superworm and linked this to other areas of learning. All week long the adults in Wales class have been looking out for fantastic examples of kindness, each of the students have earned a special recognition certificate for their kind actions. We have also been sharing lots of nursery rhymes BINGO being a firm favourite!

In life skills we keep working on our independent skills of getting dressed and doing our own coats. The students have worked very hard on this. Lots of art and craft including making rainbows, kindness people and a lovely new display for class. Well done Wales Class have a lovely weekend.







For more information on your child's progress, contact the class team directly. Our Key Stage Leaders and Mrs Tobin can tell you more about our curriculum, with all subject maps available on our website (<u>access here</u>).

Key Stage 2

Canada class

Canada class have had a very busy week. We have continued with our Maths topic, Money. The students have enjoyed our class snack shop and applying their Money skills to everyday tasks...including purchasing their own snack. In Geography, we have continued to look at Cities across the world. The students have enjoyed using Ariel photographs to identify Human and Physical features. In PSHE, we have discussed or VIP's and what makes them special to us. The students' had some wonderful answers. Have a lovely weekend Canada class!

Portugal class

Portugal Class have had a wonderful week!

We have really been enjoying our Phonics and Maths groups, in English we have been sharing our weekend News and wrote our own poem using our 5 senses. In Design and Technology we looked at the features of different vehicles and engaged really well in our PSHE lesson of how to stay safe outside - looking at crossing roads safely. Portugal Class have also enjoyed time on the play park and developing social skills and communication skills by playing games such as 'What's Up?' in class. It has been a lovely week! Have a lovely weekend.

Spain class

Spain Class have enjoyed bucket therapy this week! Practicing turn taking and sharing, Spain have also enjoyed messy play this week! Enjoying the textures of slime and rice. Our class, have done amazing team work this week helping each other make a Mr potato head and a monster!

France class

France class have had a great week. This have been learning about 'Road Safety Week' In English we have been enjoying the book 'The Naughty Bus', we have completed lots of activities around the story book - We particularly enjoyed exploring the sensory tub of beans. In Maths this week we have been learning about subtraction. In food technology we really enjoyed making traffic lights out of different types of melons. We have discussing road safety, In Science we learnt about the importance of reflective materials when out and about at night and designed our own reflective clothing.

Keep up the hard work France Class!

Italy class

This week Italy class were learning about road safety. In food tech we made traffic lights with different types of melons. We painted our own buses in art. We read the naughty bus story and used our inference and prediction skills in English. We have had a wonderful week and look forward to seeing you next week

USA class

This week in USA class in French we learned about body parts, enjoyed yoga and worked really hard in their Life skills about zones of regulation well done USA



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Key Stage 3

Mozambique class

A really good week for Mozambique class this week! In English we have been reading 'The Butterfly Lion' and we have done some work around persuasive writing. In R.E we have been learning about Christians and how they worship.

The class have excelled in their reading this week so a big well done!

Cape Verde class

This week in Cape Verde class we have continued learning about transport in French. Cape Verde Have learnt about anti-bullying and were able to identify what scenarios were bullying and how they would deal with it in an assertive manor. Furthermore, had students the opportunity to continue exploring their personal interests. In English, students began to write their biographies with the research they had collected from their chosen famous person. In Maths, we continued work on converting improper fractions to mixed numbers.

Madagascar class

This week in English we have been learning about non-chronological reports. We have been recognising the features of these reports and planning to write our own. In Maths we are working hard on fractions in our new sets.

In Geography we have been learning about counties. We used the atlases to find our county and the counties that surround us.

Well done Madagascar class for another great week.

Kenya class

This week in Kenya the class completed the following activities:

In English, we have explored other poetic devices and such as personification. In Maths, students have continued to look at the differences between a half, quarter and a third.

For Science, pupils used newton meters to test out which surfaces have low and high friction rates. And finally, for RE we have looked at all types of churches around the world and researched key facts about seven different churches.

As always well done Kenya for all your hard work!

Seychelles class

Seychelles class spent this week watching and reviewing the Hobbit. The students were able to follow and identify different events in the story.

Seychelles students enjoyed PE, during which we focused on passing in Football. The students were learning different techniques of passing such as inside foot - outside foot - receiving the ball to pass etc.

The students of Seychelles class have engaged well in transitioning to different maths classes.

Brazil class

Brazil class learnt about road safety and how to stay safe on the roads.

They studied forces in Science and demonstrated this when using large equipment in the playground. Through reading

The Naughty Bus book, students learnt to recognise the difference between good and bad actions.

Botswana class

We have been doing recounts in English for Thorin Oakenshield from The Hobbit. Continuing Football skills with a qualified football coach. Increasing the skills into a match level quality.

Peru class

Great week for Peru class!

They have worked really hard writing and performing their own poems, using great adjectives alliteration!

Also, we enjoyed using force meters in a science experiment and have been working hard performing and shooting our Macbeth adaptation.



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Key Stage 4

Australia class

Australia class have had an amazing week this week.

Our year 11 students have shown such determination and perseverance whilst completing their mock exams. Whilst our year 10 students joined other classes during the exams to complete a variety of investigations. Those students worked together to combine their accumulated maths knowledge and skills to complete the investigations and give reasoning for their conclusions.

Away from the mock exams, Australia class have continued to develop their knowledge. Students began to develop a crime story in English, focusing particularly on what makes a great story and discussing particular elements including what setting their story would have, what crime would be committed and a resolution to their problem. During ICT the students enhanced their ability to use Microsoft Excel by completing multi - step worksheets that encouraged the students to insert formulas and edit cells. Australia class also continued to develop their physical ability during PE as they learnt how to safety tackle their opponent during Rugby. This linked closely to our science lessons in which we learnt all about what happens when our bodies inhale oxygen and where the oxygen goes.

Have a fantastic weekend, Australia class!

New Zealand class

In New Zealand class this week, we have had some students who have been out of class completing mock exams, well done to all those who've been giving their 100% effort! We have also been learning about storytelling through looking at murder mysteries to use our problem solving skills and solve the mystery.

Tasmania class

Tasmania is sad to announce that Miss Beresford, our teaching assistant in our class, is leaving our school on Friday 18th November to pursue a new career opportunity outside of education. We would like to say a huge thank you to Miss Beresford for her amazing support to the class and to those students who she works closely with. We wish you a fantastic start to your new career and you will be missed greatly by the Tasmania students and staff!

In Food Tech lesson we made lamb skewers. Lots of students in Tasmania class had received special awards for their hard work. Everyone worked tirelessly to ensure everything was washed and put away. We also worked efficiently as a team, helping each other in completing the task.

In PE lesson, we started with some warm up exercises and discussed on the importance warming up our muscles before exercises. We practised our rugby side throw and underarm throw. We finished with a match of dodge ball as we were all keen on a game of doge ball. Everyone tried their best for their team!

For children in need day, we learned about the history of this day. We looked at different Pudsey Bear's appearance throughout the past 36 years. We designed our own version for the 40th anniversary of the Pudsey Bear.

Samoa

This week in Samoa class they have been working really hard on their mock exams.

We are so impressed with their efforts in these exams and so proud of the class as a collective on how well they have done in these and their ability to work in exam conditions!

It really does prove how all their hard working is worth it.

We would also like to mention how proud we are of the class on the delivery of their assembly last week, to stand up in front of a large group of people like they did was so impressive.



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Key Stage 5

Malawi class

This week has been a particularly busy week for Malawi class, students have completed mock exams to an amazing standard with a great effort throughout. Well done everyone!! With having mock exams this week, English and maths lessons have not been as frequent. However, in science, we have focused on atoms and atomic structure which is a tricky topic but students are getting the hang of really well.

In food technology this week, students made a toad in the hole from scratch!! Overall, this week has been a busy but successful one. Well done to all of Malawi class, enjoy your weekend!!

Papua New Guinea class

PNG class have had a very busy week. We have concentrated on road safety week with lots of activities from poster making and awareness to road puzzles plus much much more. Well done to all.

In science we have been learning about forces, in particular gravity. Students were tasked with being given various surfaces and deciding whether a toy car would roll freely or stop. Must say, this activity was brilliant.

The engagement was awesome.

For PE, we have played rugby as part of our teamwork theme we have touched upon this week.

Well done again all.

Fiji class

Fiji class this week have been doing mock exams getting us ready for the real thing in June. We have been looking at things we need to do a little bit more work on. Food Technology we made toad in the hole.

Christmas Island class

This week Christmas Islands class have worked very hard in their mock exams. In their writing and reading English mock exams they practiced skills such as extracting information from a comprehension, using a dictionary and explaining the purpose of different texts.

In ICT they worked on different tasks including creating spreadsheets, organising information and independently using the printer. In food tech the class Tom a turn at creating the classic meal toad in the hole.

In music accredited learning some of the students took part in singling as a chorus and as soloist. In gardening enrichment the class worked at a patch of land to take out weeds, even out the surface and patch holes with compost and bark.

For their English intervention tasks the class have been working hard on a variety of different activities to enhance their reading ability, including tasks focusing on spelling, punctuation and grammar, comprehension and creative writing, independent and guided reading of class book and personal book.

Some students have also been enjoying individual music lessons, with drumming being the most popular choice in Christmas Islands class!



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Useful Information and Resources

Young Person's Advisory Service Liverpool



Chat & Chill

When: Wed, 23rd November, 13:00 - 14:30

Where: YPAS Central Community Hub, 36 Bolton St, Liverpool L3 5LX

Description

The daily drop-in service based at our Central Community Hub offers a safe, comfortable space where 16-25-year olds can gain information, support and advice across a range of different issues. Young people can take part in activities and meet new people in a safe space.

SMARTY'S - open access group for primary school age children

When: Tuesday 22nd November 4:00pm - 5:30pm

Where: YPAS South Community Hub, Lyndene Rd, Liverpool L25 1NG, UK

Description

Smarty's is an open access group for primary school aged children. Smarty's provides a secure, happy and stimulating environment; enabling children to learn and develop attitudes, skills and abilities. Smarty's offers a wide range of activities including creative play, arts, drama, dance and singing etc. Registration will require parent/carers consent. Please contact us to complete a registration pack.

GYRO LGBTQ+ (16-25 years)

When: Thu, 24th November, 6:00pm - 7:30pm

Where: Young Persons Advisory Service, 36 Bolton St, Liverpool L3 5LX, UK

Description

GYRO are award-winning LGBTQ+ groups for young people aged 12-25 who identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender or are Questioning their sexuality or gender identity.

Useful Information and Resources

Upcoming Events

Family training - Routines, Transitions and Changes

When: Tuesday, 22 November 2022 from 12:00-13:00

Where: Zoom meeting

Description

Ahead of the holiday season, we will be talking about routines and support strategies for transition and changes.

Join us, ask questions and learn something new.

