



Head's Weekly Newsletter

Week 13



Message from the Headteacher

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 and welcome to December!

The festive season is all around the school and if you have visited the school today for our Christmas Fair, or popped by any day this week, you would have seen Abbot's Lea House Reception adorned by the tree, the garlands and the lights – the place looks stunning and feels amazing!

We may not have had our weekly assemblies or a coffee morning this week, but the number of visitors to the school was vast:

- At the start of the week, we held our **Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 Stay and Play sessions** for Ireland and Wales classes – thanks to all of the families who joined us – it was lovely to see you and I am so glad you have found it helpful. Your feedback about your children's progress has meant so much to us all. Thanks to Mrs Hattersley and Mrs Cooney as well as their amazing teams, for hosting and for their exceptional work each and every day!
- We end the week, with today's **Christmas Fair 2022!** – an event typically hosted on a Saturday, but with a consideration to our staff' work-life balance, we have decided that a Friday would be more manageable on this occasion. The students had fun and we welcomed numerous families and friends to the school, to enjoy Santa's grotto, the globe, donkeys and a spot of shopping. My favourite contribution this year must be our Abbot's Lea Choir – I was impressed when hearing the repertoire planned and shed a tear or two in yesterday's rehearsal. The artists were simply phenomenal! Thanks to Mrs Tobin for leading the choir – not an easy task!

As we approach the end of Term 2, please note the remaining festive (and other) key diary dates, including next Friday's Christmas Jumper (or accessory) Day!

With kindest regards and warm wishes,

Mrs A Hildrey
Headteacher

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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

Term 1

1 – 2 September – INSET

5 September – students return

Ends: 21 October 2022 at 3pm

Half term: Monday 24 to Friday 28 October

Term 2

31 October – students return

Ends: 21 December 2022 at 1:30pm

Christmas break: Thursday 22 December to Tuesday 3 January 2023

Term 3

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 2023 at 1:30pm

Easter break: Monday 3 to Friday 14 April 2023

Term 5

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

Term 6

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)

Key Diary Dates

Key Diary Dates for Term 2 (31.10.22-21.12.22)

Date	Activity	Notes
Friday 9 December	Christmas Jumper (or accessory) Day	Students are welcome to wear a Christmas jumper or an accessory and may make a voluntary £1 donation toward Abbot's Lea School charitable fund, raising money for future school trips.
Friday 9 December	Weekly open assemblies led by Mrs Tobin (Deputy Headteacher) and coffee morning Assembly times: 9.30 – 10.00 – KS4 and 5 10.05 – 10.35 – Primary 10.40 – 11.10 – KS3 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: Sara.Mursic@abbotsleaschool.co.uk
Thursday 15 December	Christmas Pantomime trip	We will be visiting the Epstein Theatre 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! Timings for performances will be sent nearer the time but all performances will take place in the morning	Please come and join our Christmas nativity assembly.
Monday 19 December	Christmas Dinners	All students and staff are invited to enjoy a full Christmas Dinner with crackers and the works!
Wednesday 21 December	Last day of school	School will close at 1pm 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.

Next Week's Menu

Next Week's Menu

Week 6	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Meal We provide a variety of seasonal hot and cold dishes for children to freely choose from	Vegan Ravioli in Homemade Tomato Sauce served with Crusty Bread	Homemade Pizza served with Wedges and Beans	Homemade Chicken Tikka Curry served with Basmati Rice and Mango Chutney	Spaghetti and Meatballs in Tomato Sauce topped with Cheddar Cheese.	Fish Fingers served with Chips and Garden Peas
Alternative Jacket potatoes with tuna and other fillings available daily	Spanish Omelette	Roasted Red Pepper Quiche	Vegetable Stir Fry	Quesadillas	Veggie Sausage Roll
Homemade Soup	Chef Choice	Tomato and Basil	Broccoli and Cheddar	Chef Choice	Chinese Sweetcorn
Starchy Food Various bread choices available	Ravioli Pasta	Pizza Base	Basmati Rice	Wholemeal Pasta	Chips
Vegetables Salad Bar with Hummus	Tomatoes	Beans	Broccoli	Carrots	Garden Peas
Dessert Fresh fruit, selection low-fat yoghurts and homemade puddings available every lunch	Fresh Fruit Salad	Shortbread Biscuits	Sponge Cake topped with Jam and Whipped Cream	Apple Flapjacks	Cheese and Crackers
	Fresh Fruit	Fresh Fruit	Yoghurts	Fresh Fruit	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

Class News

Student of the Week

Class	Student	Reason why
Early Years and Key Stage 1		
Ireland	Amiya	For creating a beautiful mark making picture
Wales	Sam	For using language independently!
Key Stage 2		
Canada	Alfie	For respecting and understanding other cultures.
Italy	Archie	For being such a kind and caring friend.
Portugal	Elodie-Bleu	For always seeing the positive side of situations and including others during play.
France	Georgie	For working really hard with Miss Greenlees to make a Christingle.
Spain	Daniel	For initiating more conversation with staff and sharing his feelings well.
USA	Bobby	For helping other Students with Phonics
Key Stage 3		
Brazil	Amy	For working hard during Maths and showing a good understanding of fractions. Being a kind friend.
Peru	Jac	For always being willing to help those around him!
Mozambique	Immy	For fantastic writing in English this week!
Botswana	Nathanael	For independently completing a piece of English work describing Gollum from The Hobbit
Madagascar	Lewis	For engaging in all his lessons this week. Well done!
Kenya	Ryan	For great participation during this week's PE lesson.
Seychelles	Callum	For working extremely hard, bonding with others and overcoming challenges on a daily basis.
Cape Verde	Theo	For engaging well in maths and his home learning.

Class News

Student of the Week

Key Stage 4		
Australia	Jimmy	For working independently during lessons and using an appropriate voice level in the classroom.
Tasmania	Leighton	For showing excellent effort in lessons and making sensible choices.
Samoa	Maksymilian	Maks's relationship with his peers has really developed this week. He has been showing his tarot cards and been doing readings in his personal interest time.
New Zealand	Joseph	For always giving 100% both in and out of class and setting an excellent example.
Key Stage 5		
Malawi	Nicholas	For working hard in all lessons, especially in science this term.
Christmas Island	Tom	For having an amazing can-do attitude and working on his social interaction skills with staff, greeting them in the morning and independently asking for help.
Fiji	Dominik	For taking part in all his lessons and staying positive
PNG	Ciaran	For coming into School determined to work and trying his hardest no matter what obstacle he comes across.

Class News

Early Years and Key Stage 1

Ireland class

Ireland class have had a lovely week. We have made hand print wreaths with paint and dabbers to celebrate Advent starting. The boys and girls have enjoyed making Reindeer food with seeds, oats and dried cranberries for our Christmas Fair on Friday.

On Tuesday we had our weekly music session with Chris and sang along to the nursery rhymes he played on the instruments. Ireland class have been developing their mathematical language this week through engaging with activities which promote language such as 'lots' 'more' and 'the same'. We have used the counting bears to develop our counting skills. Have a fantastic weekend!

Wales class

This Wales class have been celebrating National Tree Week by completing a range of activities such as a tree hunt in the forest and a fine motor skills activity threading string onto our trees to decorate them.

Wales's class have started talking all about Christmas starting with making Reindeer food for the Abbots Lea Christmas Fair.

We would like to thank all of our parents who attended our Wales Class stay and play we had such a great time and enjoyed meeting all of you! Have a lovely weekend, Wales Team.



Class News

Key Stage 2

Canada class

During our week in Canada class we have been learning about respecting each other's feelings, we also worked with LFC coaches, during science we looked at the changes within materials. We have enjoyed making Christmas activities for our Christmas Fair and we are also excited to watch the school choir.

Portugal class

Portugal Class have had a wonderful week. We did so well in Music and learned how to play Jingle Bells on the hand bells. In Design and Technology, we used our designs to build our own vehicles using K'Nex, Lego and Blocks.

We really enjoyed our trip around Liverpool City Centre to look at the landmarks to link to our Geography lesson. We ended the week with a beautiful Christmas Fair to start the celebrations of Christmas. Have a lovely weekend.

Spain class

This week in Spain Class we have enjoyed using our turn taking skills during our structured play such as Mr Potato Head, magnetic shapes, elephant ball pop and flying rocket.

We have continued to listen to and sing along to our jolly phonics songs and shape songs. We have enjoyed looking through toy catalogues and choosing toys for our letters to Santa. We have had lots of fun outdoors and enjoyed all the amazing activities at the Christmas Fair.

France class

France class have had a great week. We have been learning all Advent and that it is the beginning of the church year. We had fun in Art - creating Christmas Wreaths, the classroom looks very colourful and these will be coming home at the end of term.

In Food Technology, we learnt about and then created our own Christingles - the sweets did not last very long but thankfully we managed to take some pictures.

In English, we have been busy writing letters to Santa and will be posting them soon! In Maths, we have started to learn about money, we have had lots of fun turning our class into a shop and the students have taken it in turns to be shop keeper. We have been using are skills and pretend money to pay for our snack. Keep up the hard work France class!

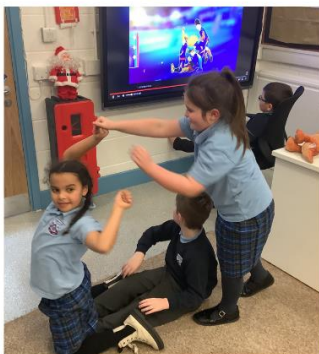
Italy class

This week in Italy class we have spent lots of time enjoying sensory with friends. We have also been learning about advent and the meaning of Christmas. We had lots of fun writing our letters to Santa and really enjoyed all the different activities in our Christmas fair. Italy class have also made individual 'all about me' books which tell our friends everything that we like and dislike. We would love it if you could send in some family photographs for the children of Italy class to share with friends. We hope you have a lovely weekend, it was great to see so many of you at our Christmas fair.

Class News

USA class

It's been a busy week in USA class! This week the students have continued their measurement work in Maths. We've been looking at meters by measuring the distance we can jump. In Science we've been comparing the suitability of materials to create an umbrella. The students tested different materials to see if they are waterproof and chose which one would be best for their umbrellas. We're all very excited for the Christmas fair on Friday! Keep up the hard work USA!



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 ([access here](#)).

Class News

Key Stage 3

Mozambique class

Another great week for Mozambique! We would like to highlight the high quality of writing that has taken place in English this week! Students have focused on informal writing, formal writing and diaries. Well done everyone!

Cape Verde class

This week in Cape Verde we have been studying our poetry and personification in English, with our new poem 'Snow and Snow by Ted Hughes'.

In preparation for our Christmas Fair, we have decorated some Christmas cake to sell and some Christmas cards.

Cape Verde have really enjoyed playing table tennis in class, thank you Mr Plant for trusting us with your table.

Madagascar class

Madagascar class have been planning and writing poetry this week in English. We used the description words created when reading 'The Owl Who Was Afraid Of The Dark'. We used our word bank of words to create a diamond shaped poem. In Geography we used our atlases to locate London and greater London. We talked about how London has changed over time. On Friday we celebrated our Christmas fair. The students in Madagascar enjoyed making cards to sell to their parents. Have a lovely weekend.

Kenya class

This week Kenya class have completed the following activities:

In English, we have recapped over the use of the past tense and started learning about the main features of a biography. For science, the students worked in teams and carried out an investigation which looked at what shape of plasticine would sink the quickest. In RE, pupils learnt about the different denominations of the Christian faith and the similarities and differences between them. And finally, Kenya class created and decorated Christmas cards to sell at the Christmas fair.

As always well done Kenya for all your hard work!

Seychelles class

Seychelles have had a fantastic week!!

Seychelles have begun the Christmas festive feels. In class we have designed fun Christmas tree cards using pom poms, string and wool.

The students enjoyed the Christmas spirit in the class, singing songs and talking about their favourite Christmas movies.

In English, Seychelles were able to use Adjectives to describe the characteristics and appearance of Gollum in the Hobbit.

Brazil class

The theme of the week is 'Advent'. During one of their English lessons, Brazil class students wrote letters to Santa Claus. They made peppermint flavoured chocolate bars during Food Technology and had fun crushing candy cane sweets to sprinkle over the top. In preparation for the school fair, students made Christmas cards during an Art lesson. Mid-week students had fun decorating their classroom and Christmas tree!

Class News

Botswana class

Hello! The students in Botswana class have had a great week.

They have spent lots of lesson time reading and writing about The Hobbit. This week They have been focusing on describing the character Gollum. We have also reached the half way point of the book, the students can't wait to hear the ending.

Botswana class have also been getting crafty. The class have been making Christmas cards and Christmas tree ornaments ready to be sold at the Christmas fair. Speaking of the Christmas fair, all the students had a great time, we're really getting into the Christmas spirit! A performance by the school choir was a particular highpoint of the day.

The class have been continuing to learn about different churches around the world. The students learnt about different denominations of the Christian faith as well as the different types of churches they attend.

We hope that everyone has a great weekend and we're looking forward to having everyone back in next week to continue learning and participating in Christmas activities.

Peru class

Peru class have focused on The Snowman in English lesson and concentrated on improving their own sentences.

In science we all enjoyed conducting an experiment about water resistance, using cylinders and plasticine.

In P.E we seen great improvement of our football skill set when they were put to the challenge of a competitive match.

Peru have been on the countdown to December this week and have welcomed their class advent calendar, while starting to prepare for their Christmas celebrations!

Class News



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Class News

Key Stage 4

Australia class

Australia have had a lovely week beginning our festive celebrations.

The class began to get into the festive mood this week by working hard to design and decorate wooden decorations to be sold at our annual ALS Christmas fair.

Our week started with a fantastic Food Tech lesson in which we learnt how to create Quick Fried Rice. The class worked together to follow a recipe which asked the students to use their knowledge of boiling, handling and chopping raw ingredients. After tasting, there were outstanding reviews all round – one student even stated that our recipe was “better than a takeaway”!

In English, we focused on using our inference skills to explore two separate extracts. After reading an extract from “From Travels in West Africa”, the students split into groups and used role play to further develop their understanding of the characters from the text. Further on in the week, the students were provided with a more recent extract from Mud, Sweat and Tears (2011) and were tasked with finding similarities and differences between the two.

In Math's, the students developed their already existing knowledge of adding and subtracting two digit numbers using the column method. Students looked at questions in both number and word forms.

Students continued to develop their Rugby skills in PE through learning how to safely tackle players on the other team and gain control of the ball through various games and drills.

Thank you for an amazing week Australia class, have a great weekend!

New Zealand class

This week in New Zealand Class we have been extending our knowledge of fractions, through the use of visual learning via the computer webcam.

In PE we further developed our Rugby skills as the class learned the safe method of tackling during a game.

Tasmania class

Tasmania has had a busy week!

In English, we continued studying the 19th-century poem – A Railway Carriage. We learned how the poet uses key images to present ideas.

We also analysed the poem more closely on its use of metre (pattern of beats) and rhyming couplets.

We practised on some SPaG on verbs, subjects and capital letters to improve our English grammar.

In Maths, we practised our time table and tried to recite it as a class. We also recapped on finding multiples and common multiples of numbers. We practised on finding factors of a number which led onto finding common factors between two numbers.

In Food tech, we made egg fried rice with bacon, mushrooms and peas. Everyone worked really hard and enjoyed tasting the food. Some of us even tried using chopsticks!

In PE, we warmed up with some stretches. We learned how to tackle safely in rugby. We followed the rules of ‘Eyes on thigh, cheek to cheek, wrap your arms, drive with the legs.’

In science, we learned more about circulatory system. We explore how the structure of a capillary allows it to carry out its function effectively and what happens to blood as it passes through the lung capillaries.

We made some Christmas tree decorations for our upcoming Christmas fair. We have put our Christmas decoration up in the class to welcome December!

Class News



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Class News

Key Stage 5

Malawi class

This week has been busy for Malawi class; however, it has been a great week of learning. In maths this week we have been focusing on scale factor and enlargement of shapes. Then moved onto working out the area and perimeter of the enlarged shapes. In English this, the students started the week by looking at different types of texts and focused especially on instructions. The class then moved onto the next topic of arguments and debates, where the class had some brilliant debates. On Friday this week we had Abbots Lea's Christmas Fair!! Malawi class helped host the fair and did amazing! As well as helping out the class had a great time going around the fair.

Papua New Guinea class

Amazing start to Advent for PNG. The class have done research on what Advent is, where did it originate from and why do people celebrate Advent. This led to us creating and designing our own Christingles and Christmas Wreaths. In PE we practiced our catching and throwing skills with hand eye coordination and muscle memory. A busy week for our hard-working PNG class. Well done PNG!

Fiji class

Fiji class this week have had a lovely week on Monday in food technology we made afternoon tea for our class and Papua New Guinea. English, we done a recount of our weekend news and film reviews. Maths we have been looking at time and digital and analogue clocks. We also set up the class Christmas tree and made Christmas crafts.

Christmas Island class

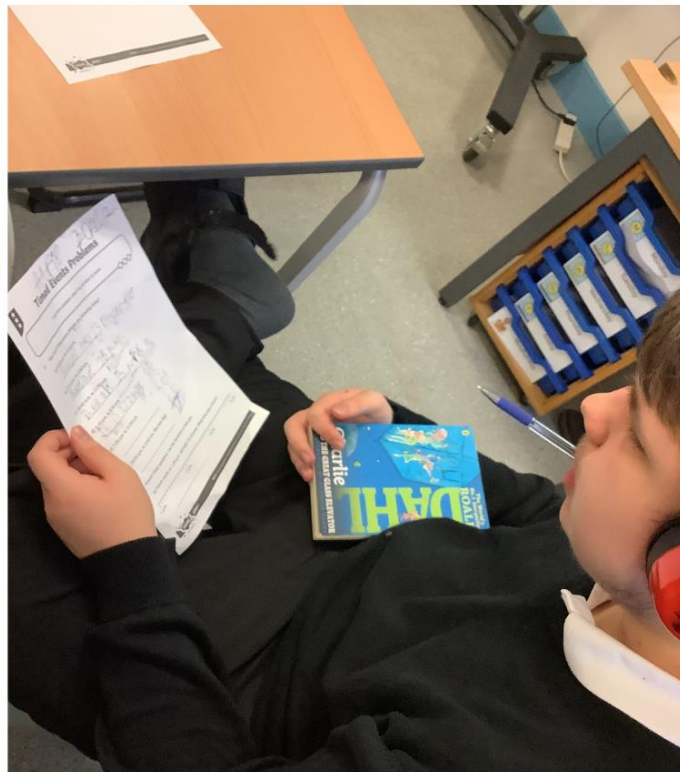
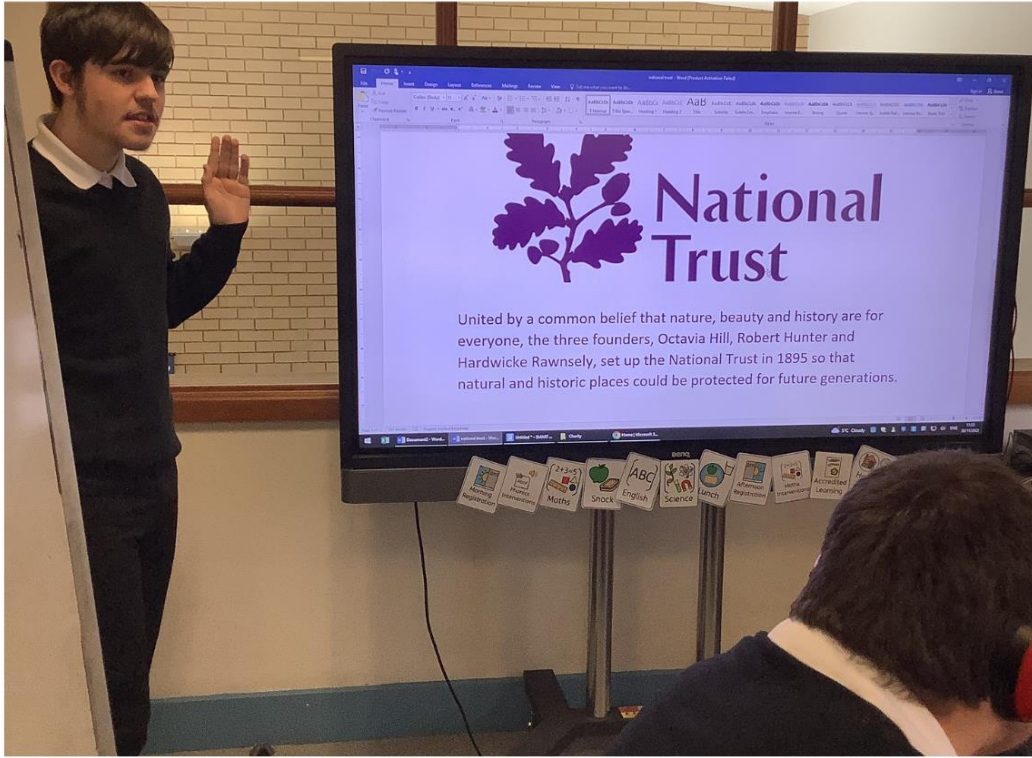
We have had a jam-packed week in Christmas Islands. We have started our Christmas celebrations by working together to decorate a Christmas tree and the classroom, also creating our own snow globes and snowflakes.

We also had a great time at the Christmas fair, with some of our students bringing their families to enjoy the festivities. In maths lesson Christmas Islands class focused on converting time from a 24-hour clock, 12-hour clock, analogue and time in words.

In ICT they practiced entering data into excel and using the formula function. In English students brainstormed different layout features of text eg. Paragraphs, headings, subheadings and were presented a power point on how these features can be used to organise a text. Next, students read a text as a group and found layout features.

The class completed a variety of English intervention tasks throughout the week, including independent reading, group reading of the class book 'Alice in Wonderland' and completed a comprehension about "living on the ice". They answered different questions to reflect what they had learnt from the text. In Science lesson Christmas Islands class used the periodic table to draw electron diagrams of the first 20 elements of the periodic table. In PSHE students presented their PowerPoints about different well-known charities, and in Geography accredited learning they read aloud their presentations about a country of their choice, these included countries as far away as Sweden, France and Italy!

Class News



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Useful Information and Resources

Young Person's Advisory Service Liverpool

CRISIS DROP-IN'S

Across 3 Community Hubs



YPAS North Hub
Croxdale Road West,
L14 8YA

YPAS Central Hub
36 Bolton Street,
L3 5LX

YPAS South Hub
Lyndene Road,
L25 1NG

We can support you through times of crisis

- STRUGGLING WITH YOUR MENTAL HEALTH?
- YOU OR YOUR CHILD ARE IN A CRISIS?
- FEELING LONELY & ISOLATED?
- NEED A LISTENING EAR?
- NEED A SAFE SPACE?

YPAS
Young Person's Advisory Service

Liverpool CAMHS
Please see our website for the latest times

CRISIS DROP-IN'S

Across 3 Community Hubs

YPAS North Hub
Croxdale Road West
L14 8YA

Monday: 9am - 8pm
Tuesday: 9am - 8pm
Wednesday: 9am - 8pm
Thursday: 9am - 8pm

YPAS Central Hub
36 Bolton Street
L3 5LX

Monday: 9am - 8pm
Tuesday: 9am - 8pm
Wednesday: 9am - 8pm
Thursday: 9am - 8pm
Friday: 9am - 8pm
Saturday: 1pm - 6pm

YPAS South Hub
Lyndene Road
L25 1NG

Monday: 9am - 8pm
Tuesday: 9am - 8pm
Wednesday: 9am - 8pm
Thursday: 9am - 8pm

YPAS
Young Person's Advisory Service

Liverpool CAMHS
Please see our website for the latest times

Chat & Chill

When: Wed, 7 December 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: Wednesday 7 December 4:00pm – 5:45pm

Where: YPAS North Community Hub, Croxdale Road West, Liverpool L14 8YA

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: Tuesday 6 December 4.30pm – 6.00 pm

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

Friday 9th December - Christmas Jumper Day



Students are welcome to wear a Christmas jumper or a Christmas accessory on Friday 9th December.

Students may make a voluntary £1 donation toward Abbot's Lea School Charitable Fund, raising money for future school trips.

