



Head's Weekly Newsletter

Week 20



Message from the Headteacher

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

Dear Students, Families, Colleagues and Friends

Welcome to today's newsletter. Did you know that this week marks a half-way point in the school year? Time flies, doesn't it?!

We had another busy week here at ALS, with the key event being a three-day National Autistic Society Accreditation visit. I want to thank all staff, students and families for their engagement in this process and share with you some interim feedback received from the inspectors.

The external specialists were highly praising of the staff' professional practice and our students' response to all teaching and support interventions. The same team were here three years ago and they said that the positive changes to the school are evident everywhere!

They were impressed with the high quality of teaching across the school, and seemed in awe of the strength of staff' knowledge of the students, their interests and support needs. Relationships were evidently a strength, too and the assessors referred to this in both "staff-student" sense and when sensing the general "atmosphere" in the school.

They were amazed at how the school has progressed its holistic provision agenda over the past 3 years (since the last accreditation visit) and recognised that this is especially commendable in light of the Covid pandemic which has resulted in many schools pausing their innovations and development.

They have praised the fact that we have not and that all of the developments are palpable in a joint working between the various experts in the school.

Most crucially, they saw clear evidence of our students thriving. They spoke to the students, sought their views and their families' experiences and concluded that the students are and feel safe here and that they are benefiting greatly from the specialist support we offer them.

Superb examples of communication, sensory support, positive behaviour support, assessment processes (initial and ongoing), staff CPD opportunities, family support and liaison, as well as students' and families' voice and views were scrutinised, showcasing the best of Abbot's Lea!

I wish you all a fantastic and well-deserved weekend!

Kind regards

Mrs A Hildrey
Headteacher

Contents:
[Head's Foreword](#)
[Key Diary Dates](#)
[Useful](#)
[Information and](#)
[Resources](#)

I have always practised an 'open door' policy and so I really encourage you to take advantage of this – please contact me whenever issues arise – and whilst I have had to put a temporary stop to my open invitation for you to just come in to say 'hello', I continue to welcome direct communication via my personal email address: headteacher@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

Key Diary Dates

School Year Calendar

Term Dates for next academic year:

<http://www.abbotsleaschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Term-dates-2023-24.pdf>



**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 1pm

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 1pm

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 1pm

17-18 July – INSET (worked in lieu as twilights throughout the year)

Key Diary Dates

Key Diary Dates for Term 3 (4.1.2023-10.2.2023)

Date	Activity	Notes
Monday 23 January – Friday 3 February	KS4 swimming	Key Stage 4 students will have swimming lessons during this fortnight. The class team will advise you as to your child's day for swimming and what they need
Friday 27 January	Girls' Football Tournament	Any secondary students who would like to take part should share their interest with Mr Hodgson or Mr Lyons. Class teams will ask students to share their interest when we return in January The tournament is at Greenbank Sports Academy - 10.30am to 2.30pm.
Friday 27 January	Weekly open assemblies led by Mrs Tobin (Deputy Headteacher) and coffee morning Assembly times: 9.30 - 10 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
Monday 30 January	Healthy Child Programme	The students in Year 9 will complete a health questionnaire with the school Health Team
Friday 3 February	Weekly open assemblies led by Mrs Tobin (Deputy Headteacher) and coffee morning Assembly times: 9.30 - 10 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
Monday 6 February – Friday 10 February	Children's Mental Health Awareness Week (Class Choice)	Class teams will be running suitably pitched activities in classes which will enhance our constant commitment to supporting children's mental health
Monday 6 February – Friday 10 February	National Apprenticeship Week	The students will be learning about apprenticeships and will have chance to talk to employees who followed this route

Key Diary Dates

Wednesday 8 February	Research Cafe	<p>Voices of Inclusion – Dr Clare Woolhouse Join us in a discussion about children and young people and the ways we are exploring their experiences of inclusive education.</p> <p>02:00 PM – registration: https://us02web.zoom.us/join/joinmeeting/register/tZMvucu-ggz8sEtHn22wyz3g_3dO7_QdtR1A8</p>
Thursday 9 February	Merseyside Schools Ten Pin Bowling Event	Any secondary students who would like to take part should share their interest with Mr Hodgson or Mr Lyons. Class teams will ask students to share their interest when we return in January. The event will take place 10.30am to 1pm Hollywood Bowl, Edge Lane
Thursday 9 February	History Theatre Workshop KS3	Key Stage 3 will be treated to a dramatic workshop to enhance their history learning
Friday 10 February	Valentine's Day - Bring A Loved One To Lunch	There will be no assembly this week as we prepare to welcome you for lunch. Details will be shared when we return in January
Friday 10 February	Last day of school for students	School closes at 3pm for the February half term break and opens again on Monday 20 February

Assemblies

Assemblies are facilitated by Mrs Tobin (Deputy Headteacher.) However, each week a different person or class will lead the assembly. When your child's class leads the assembly, their teacher will contact you in advance to let you know.

Weekly Attendance Reports

There is clear evidence that strong attendance at school links to strong educational outcomes for students. Mrs Hildrey set out in her letter last week the processes regarding student attendance. Each Friday you will be sent your child's attendance data so that you can support the school in ensuring it remains as close to 100% as possible.

Student Progress Reports

You will receive a mid-term progress report (21 February 2023) and an end of year report (5 July 2023) for you child. This report will summarise progress in all areas of the curriculum as well as providing a summary of the qualities your child displays at school

Next Week's Menu

**FOOD
FOR
THOUGHT**

Primary Lunch Menu



Week Commencing 30/01/23

Week 5	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Meal We provide a variety of seasonal hot and cold dishes for children to freely choose from	Homemade Chip shop Curry Sauce with Basmati Rice, Green Beans and Mango Chutney	Homemade Spaghetti Bolognese served with Fresh Garlic Bread	Sausage and Homemade Mashed Potato with Gravy and Peas	Homemade Chicken and Leek Pie served with Herby New Potatoes and Seasonal Veg	Homemade Battered Fish with Chips and Minted Mushy Peas
Alternative Jacket potatoes with tuna and other fillings available daily	Feta and Vegetable Pasta	Veggie spring Rolls with Sweet Chilli Sauce and Salad	Cheese and Tomato Panini	Homemade Quiche	Veggie Burger in a Bun
Homemade Soup	Chef Choice	Chinese Sweetcorn	Chef Choice	Chef Choice	Chef Choice
Starchy Food Various bread choices available	Rice	Spaghetti	Mashed Potato	New Potatoes	Chips
Vegetables Salad Bar with Hummus	Green Beans	Broccoli	Peas	Carrots and Broccoli	Mushy Peas
Dessert Fresh fruit, selection of low-fat yoghurts and homemade puddings available every lunch time	Apple and Oat Crumble with Pouring Cream Fresh Fruit	Homemade Rice Pudding served with Strawberry Jam Fresh Fruit	Iced Sponge Cake with Custard Fresh Fruit	Fresh Fruit Salad Yoghurts	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.

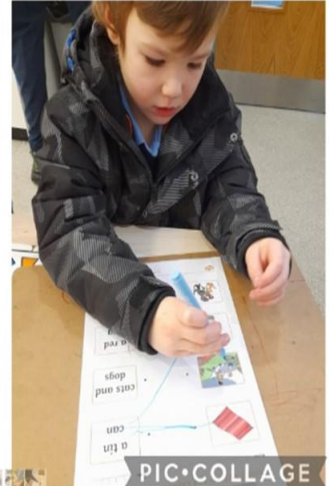
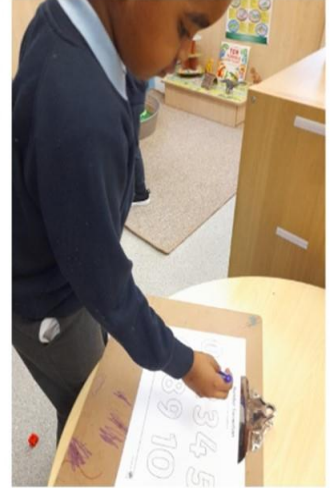
Food For Thought is a not-for-profit school meals company owned by it's partner schools. Any surplus is reinvested in the company or returned to its member schools.

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

Class News

Ireland Class



Class News

Wales Class



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

Italy Class



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

Portugal Class



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

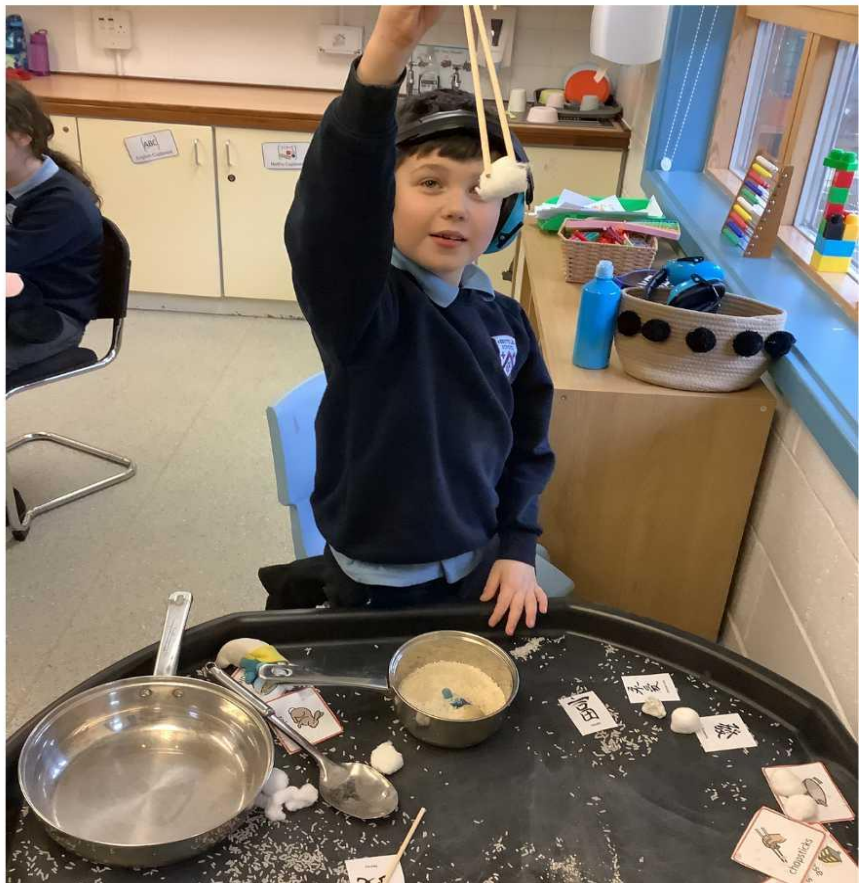
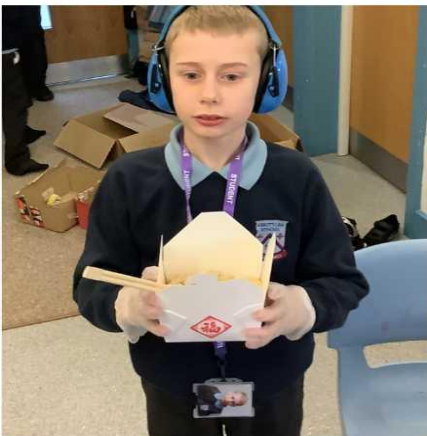
Spain Class



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

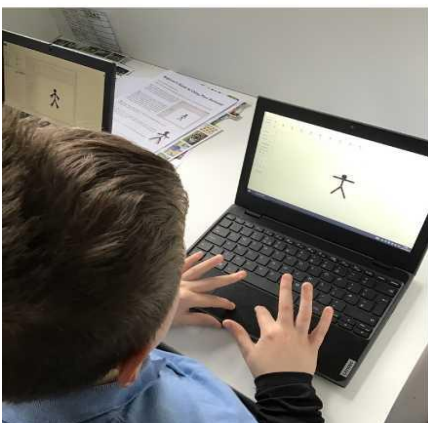
France Class



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

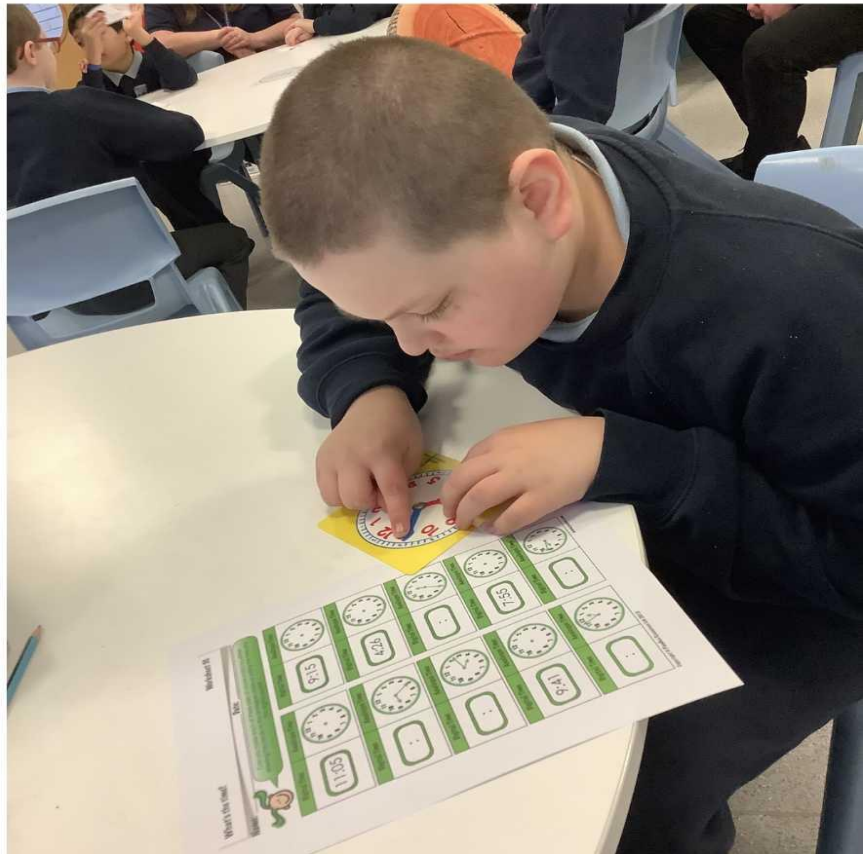
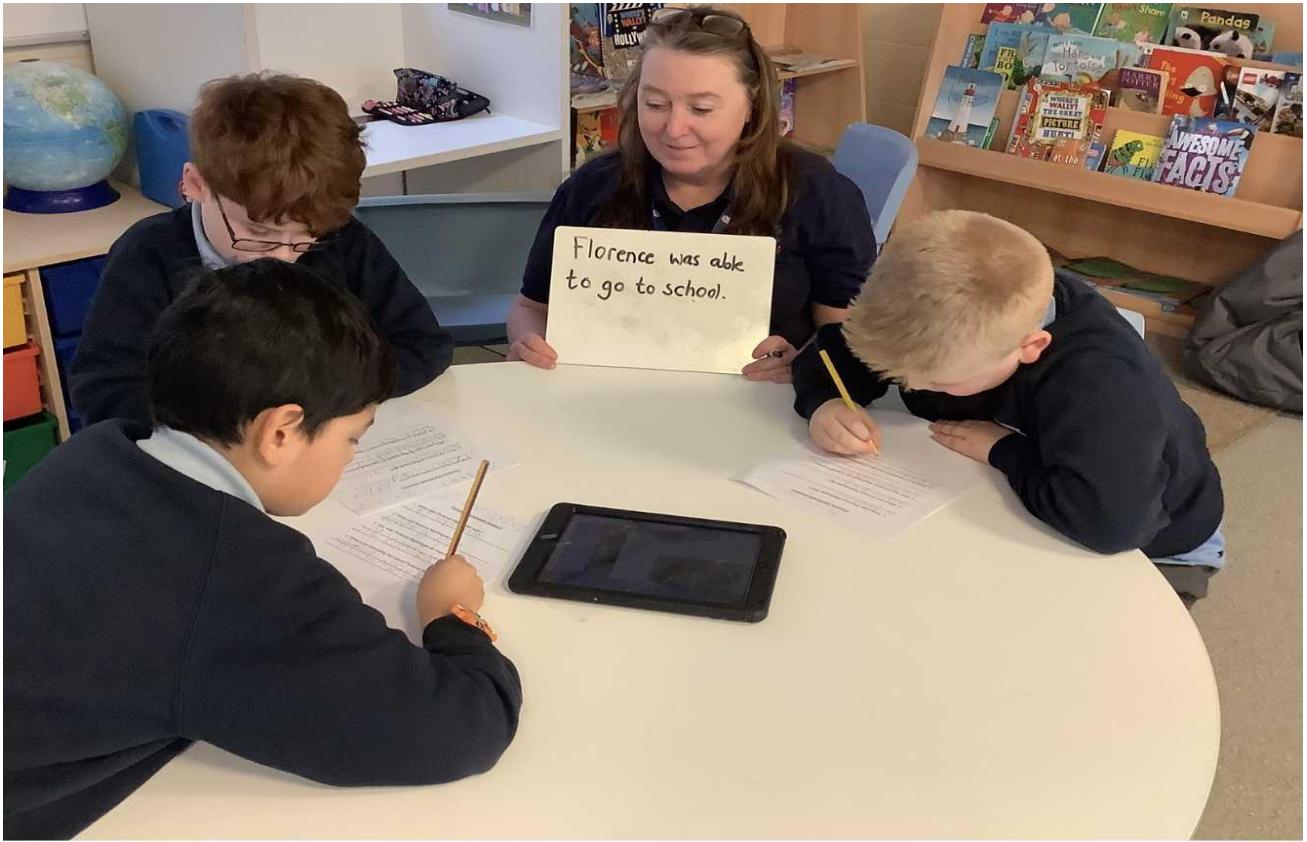
Canada Class



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

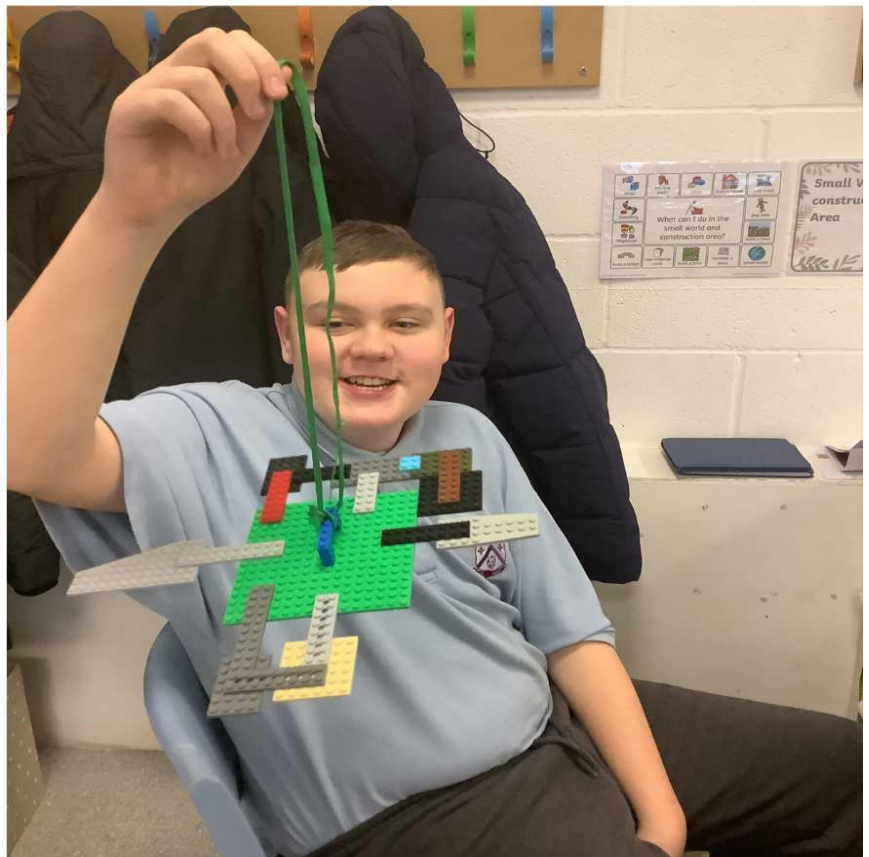
USA Class



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

Brazil Class



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

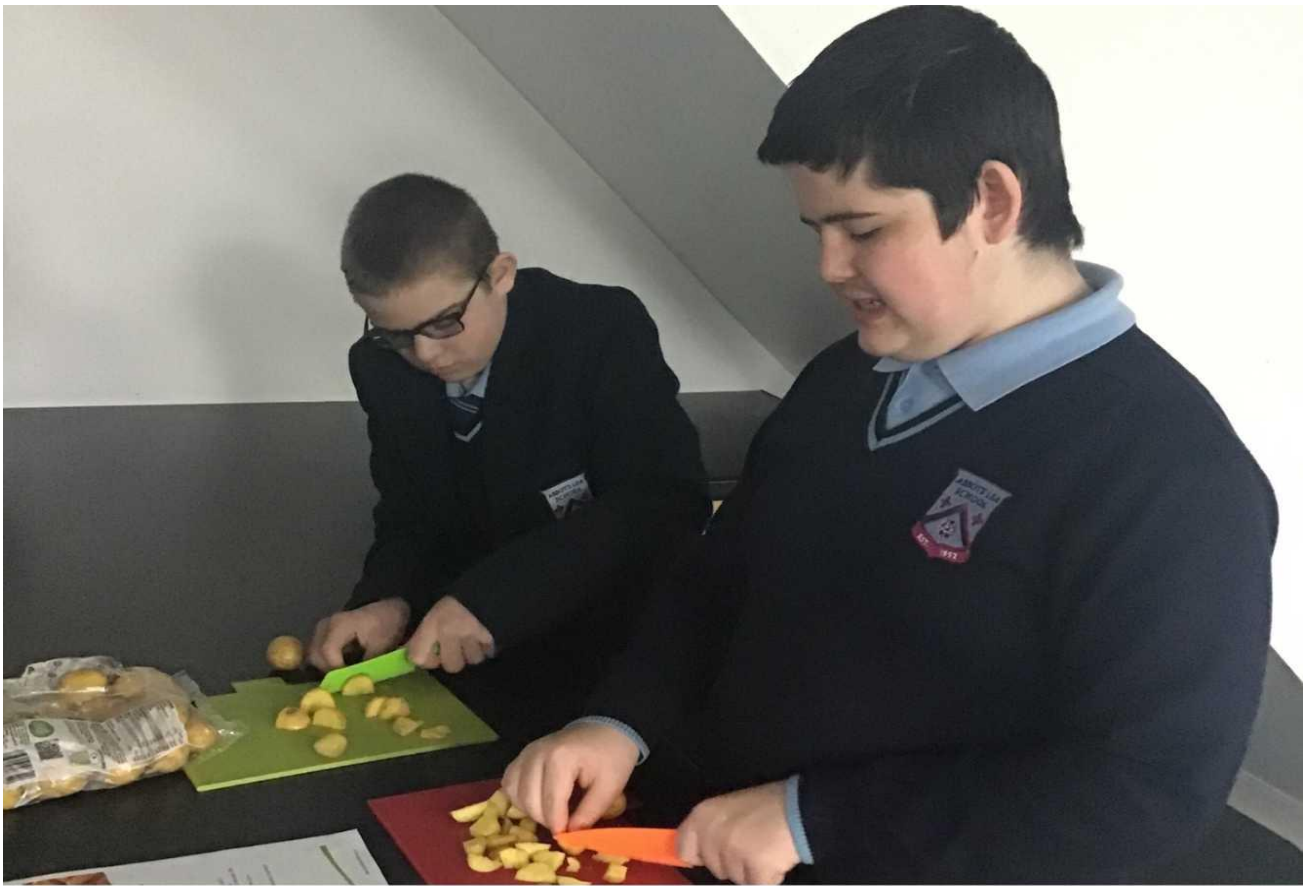
Peru Class



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

Mozambique Class



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

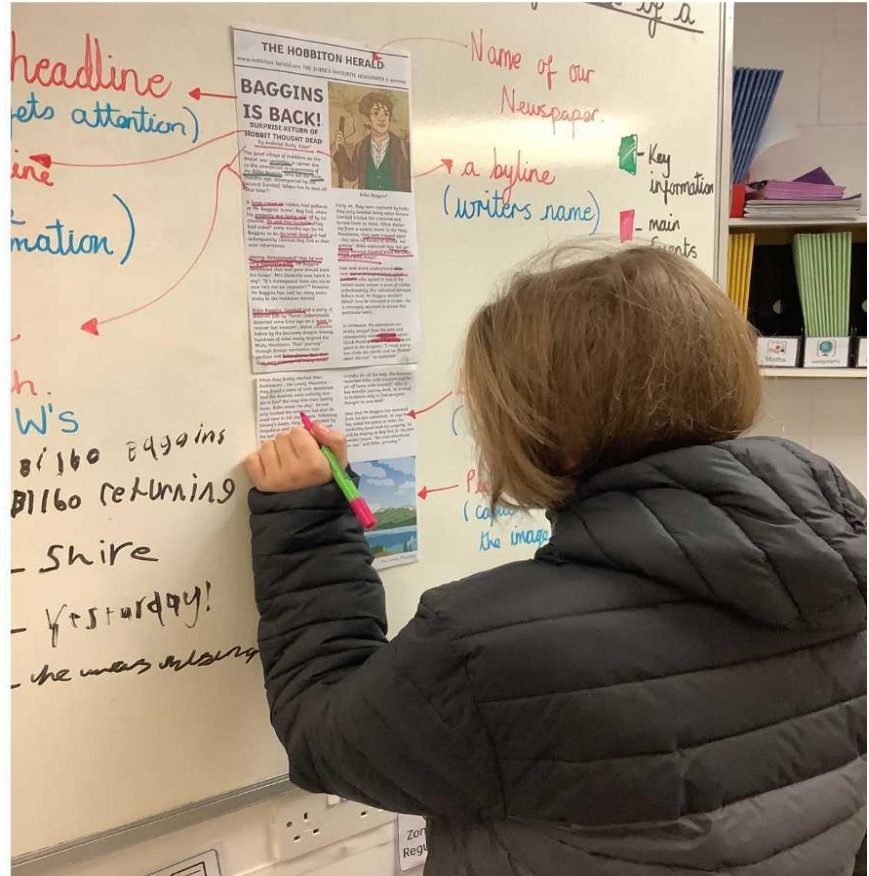
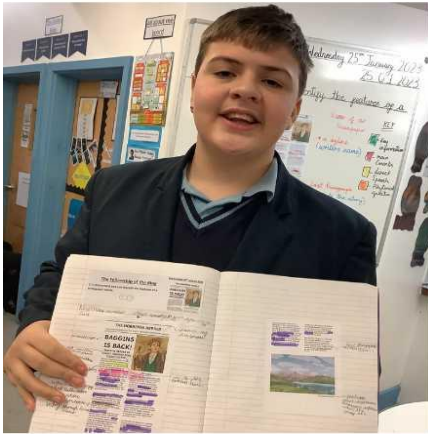
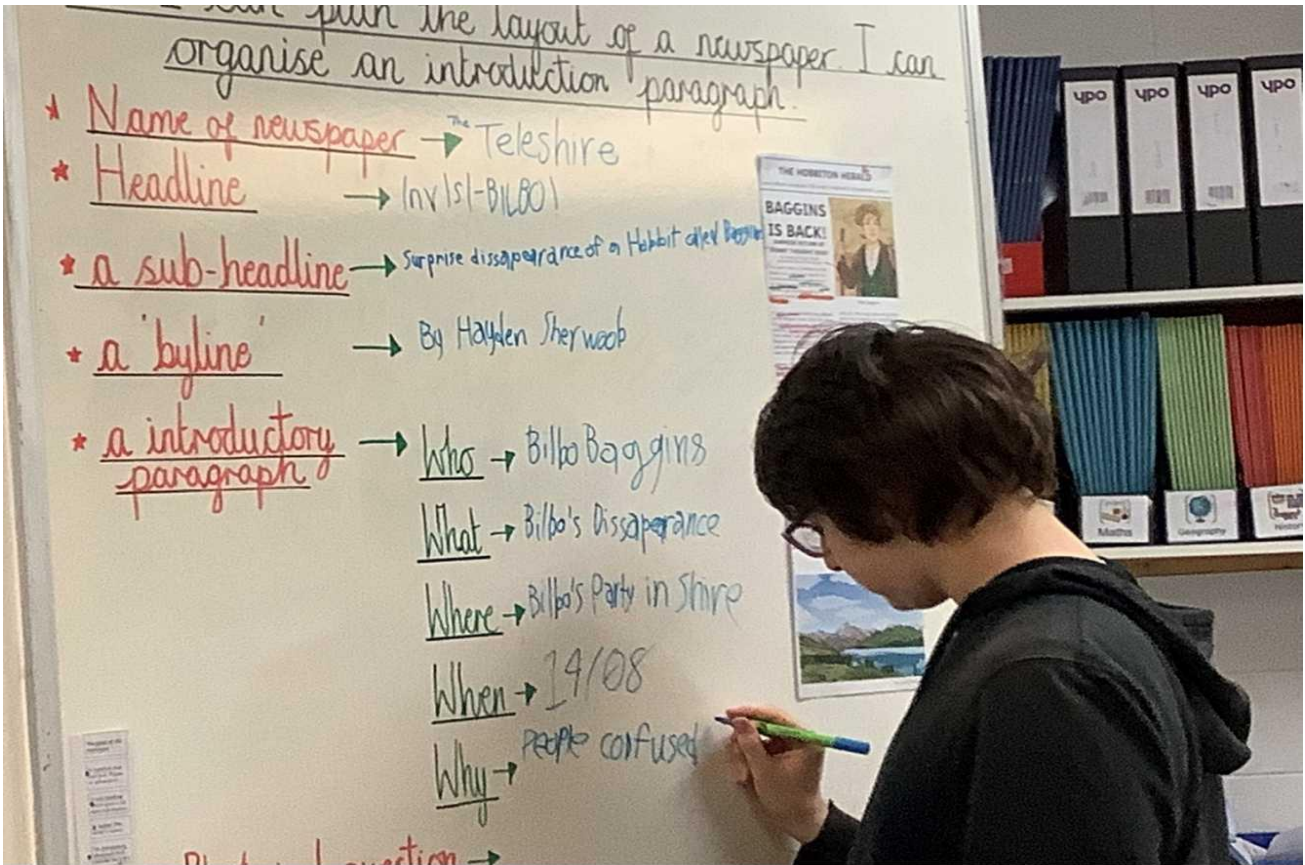
Cape Verde



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

Botswana Class



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

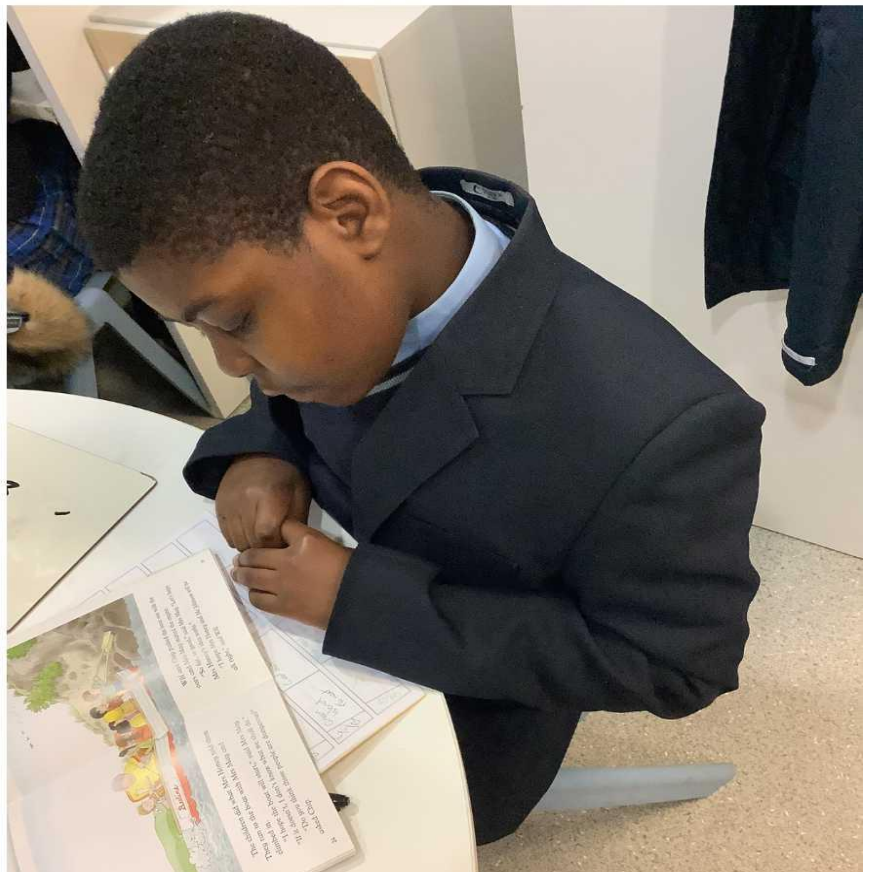
Seychelles Class



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

Madagascar Class



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

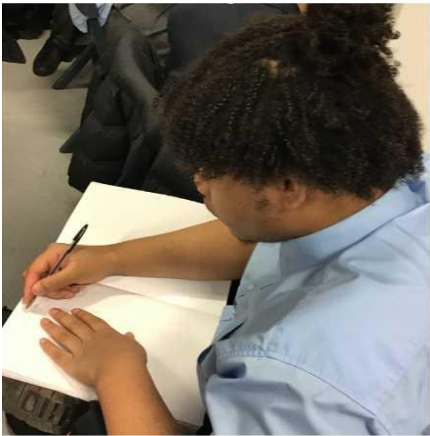
Kenya Class



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

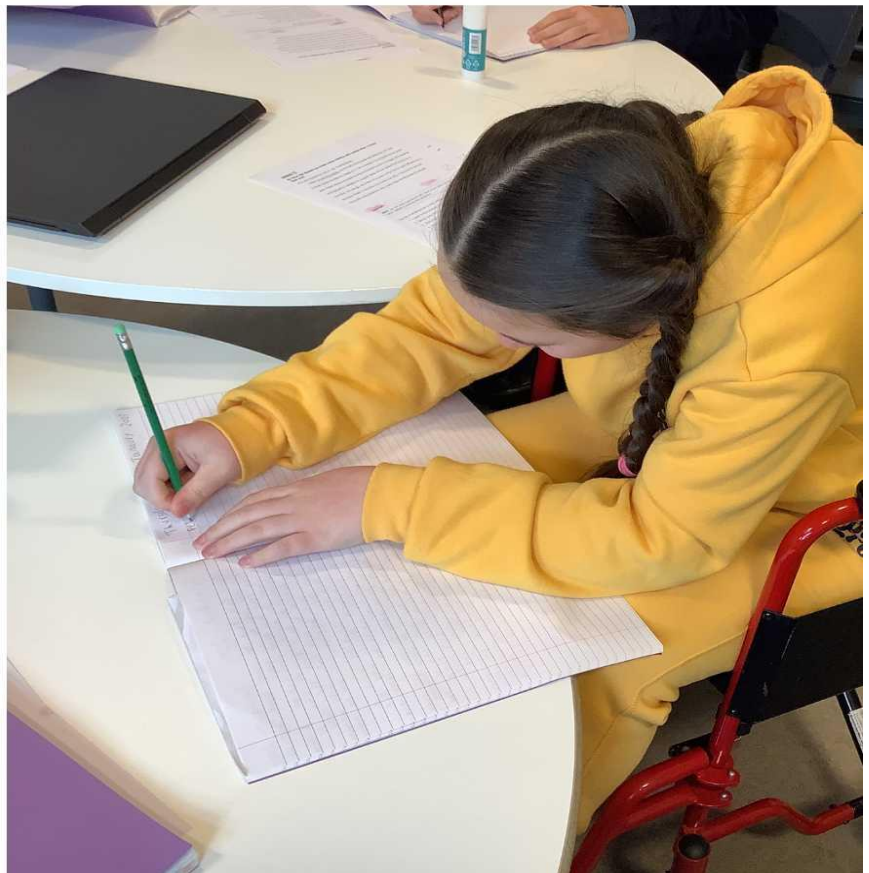
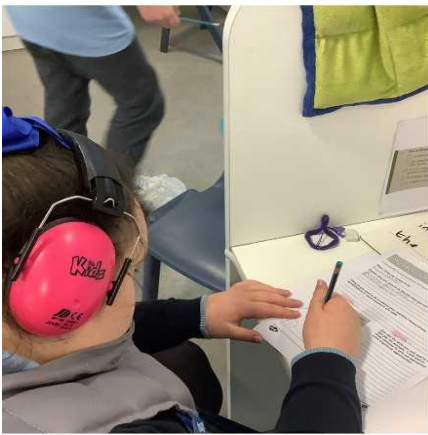
Australia Class



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

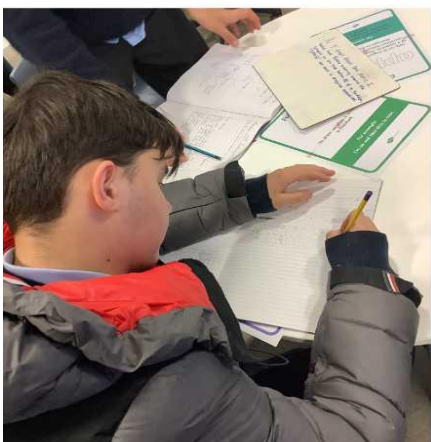
New Zealand Class



Samoa Class

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](#)).

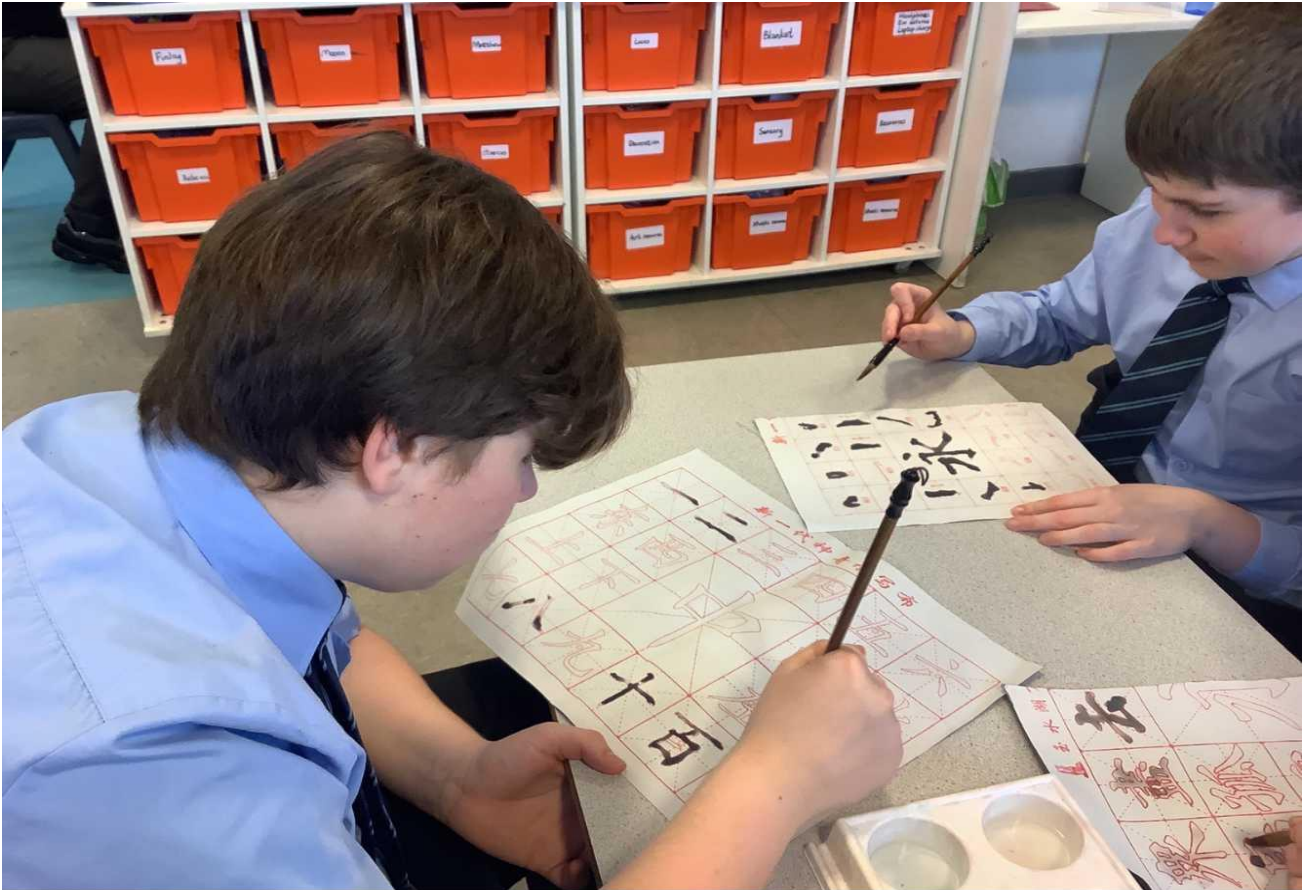
Class News



Tasmania Class

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



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

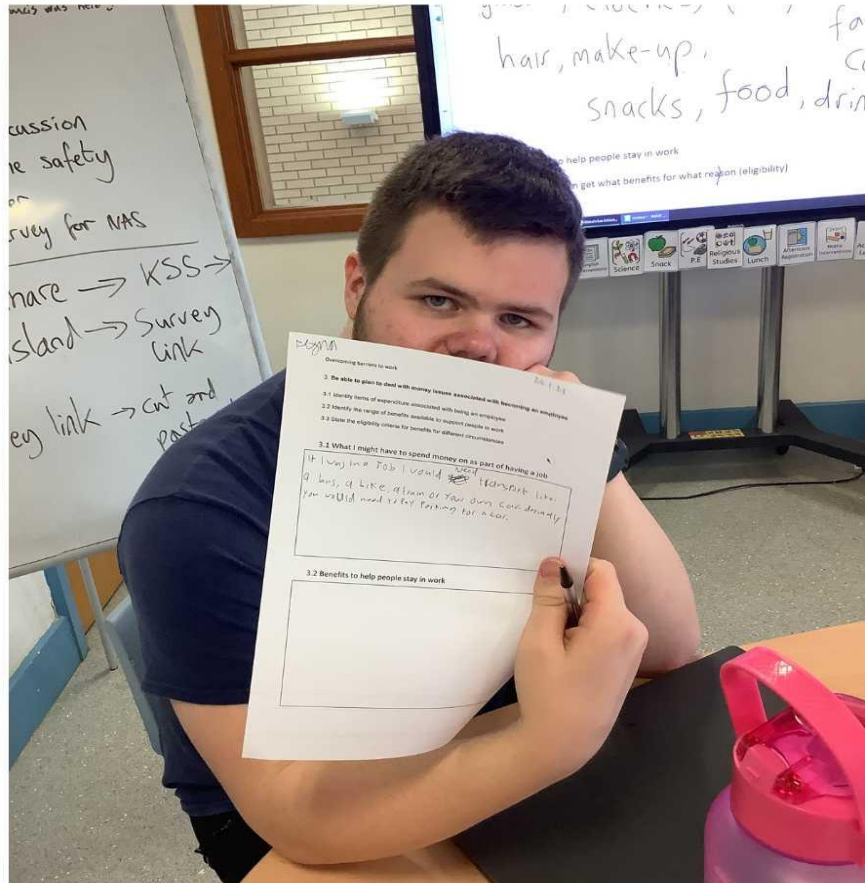
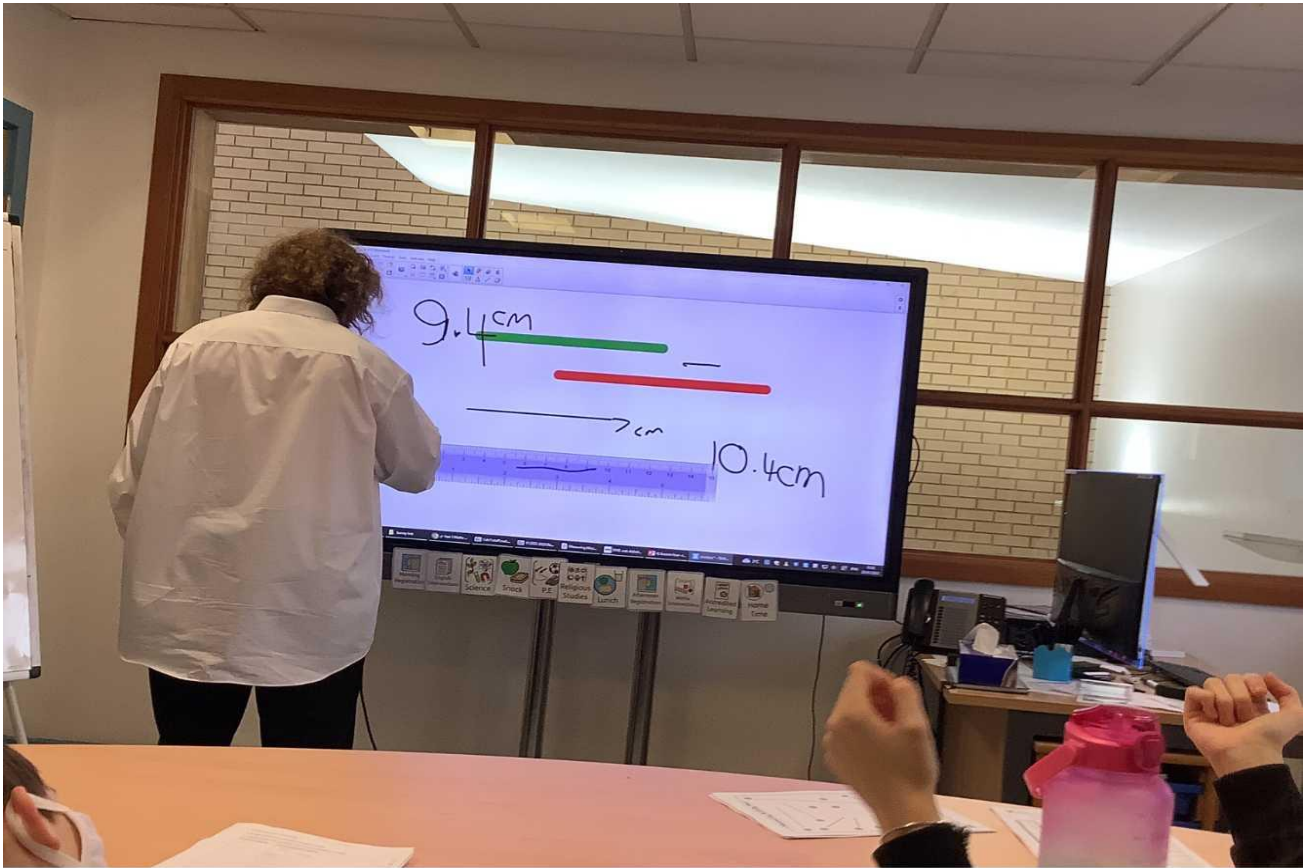
Malawi Class



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

Christmas Island Class



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

PNG Class



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

Fiji Class



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](#)).

Useful Information and Resources

Student of the Week

Class	Student	Reason why
Key Stage 1		
Ireland	Daniel	For his fantastic dancing with streamers
Wales	Seth	For independently tidying up!
Key Stage 2		
Canada	Jason	For being more focused during lessons and trying his best
Italy	Franky	Following our golden rule of staying positive and being happy
Portugal	Layal	For excellent engagement and promoting kindness in the classroom.
France	Lucas	For being a good friend and supporting others when upset.
Spain	Ansel	For having a calm week and engaging in all activities
USA	Kaiden	Following the Golden Rules
Key Stage 3		
Brazil	JayJay	For adhering to all of the golden rules.
Peru	Aiden	For having a successful week by working hard and being nice!
Mozambique	Imam	For always being so understanding and a huge help in class.
Botswana	Hayden	For sharing his ideas and knowledge of newspapers with the whole class.
Madagascar	Charlie	For trying new foods.
Kenya	Alfie	For putting great effort in gymnastics as part of a PE lesson.
Seychelles	Ciaran	For self-regulation during a time of crisis
Cape Verde	Charlie	For fantastic contributions during class discussions

Useful Information and Resources

Student of the Week

Key Stage 4		
Australia	Nathaniel	For making a conscious effort to improve all your swimming strokes this week and for always giving 110% effort in class.
Tasmania	Mason	For always being helpful to both staff and peers, stepping in when others need support.
Samoa	Liam	For putting maximum effort into swimming and getting into college
New Zealand	Isobella	For showing great determination and willingness to return to school despite her injury and setting a good example to others in class when dealing with challenging circumstances.
Malawi	Thomas	For making a great effort to follow staff instruction and following the golden rules during work experience.
Christmas Island	Chloe	For trying her best to attend school every day and putting her best efforts into her school work.
Fiji	Githan	For an excellent week and trying hard in all his work.
PNG	Andy	For excellent work and welcoming new class members in such a lovely way.

Useful Information and Resources

Young Person's Advisory Service Liverpool

CRISIS DROP-IN'S

Across 3 Community Hubs

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 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

Please see our website for the latest times

YPAS
Young Person's Advisory Service

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

When: Tue, 31 January, 16:00 – 17:30

Where: YPAS South Community Hub, Lyndene Rd, Liverpool L25 1NG, UK ([map](#))

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 17th January 16:30 -18:00

Where: Young Persons Advisory Service, 36 Bolton St, Liverpool L3 5LX, UK ([map](#))

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

School Swimming 2023 (EYFS/KS1 - KS4)



EYFS/KS1 - KS4 Students will be having swimming lessons as a part of the Physical Educational Curriculum this academic year. Swimming sessions will take place between January and June 2023, with all classes assigned specific weeks.

A school minibus will take the children to Halewood Leisure centre during the morning sessions of their assigned weeks. The sessions are led by trained swimming instructors and are supported by the class team.

All EYFS/KS1 - KS4 Students will be included in these lessons; they will need to bring a small plastic bag or backpack containing:-

- Swimming kit (one piece swimming costume for girls please)
- Towel
- Hairbrush
- Bathing caps (All children with long hair must have their hair tied back)

If you require any further information or support, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or Key Stage Leader.

Useful Information and Resources

Swimming Dates

Date	Class
Tuesday 31 st January Thursday 2 nd February Friday 3 rd February	Australia New Zealand Tasmania
Tuesday 21 st February Wednesday 22 nd February Thursday 23 rd February Friday 24 th February	Portugal France Mozambique Kenya
Tuesday 28 th February Wednesday 1 st March Thursday 2 nd March Friday 3 rd March	Portugal France Mozambique Kenya
Tuesday 7 th March Wednesday 8 th March Thursday 9 th March Friday 10 th March	Italy Spain Brazil Peru
Tuesday 14 th March Wednesday 15 th March Thursday 16 th March Friday 17 th March	Italy Spain Brazil Peru
Tuesday 2 nd May Wednesday 3 rd May Thursday 4 th May Friday 5 th May	Canada Ireland Madagascar Cape Verde
Tuesday 9 th May Wednesday 10 th May Thursday 11 th May Friday 12 th May	Canada Ireland Madagascar Cape Verde
Tuesday 16 th May Wednesday 17 th May Thursday 18 th May Friday 19 th May	USA Wales Seychelles Botswana
Tuesday 23 rd May Wednesday 24 th May Thursday 25 th May Friday 26 th May	USA Wales Seychelles Botswana

Useful Information and Resources

Consultation on a proposal to establish Bank View South as a satellite for Bank View High School at the former Parklands site

Dear Families

Mrs Hildrey has requested that all families are made aware of the consultation on the following proposals by Liverpool City Council:

1. Creation of Bankview South at Parklands (to create additional 300 secondary spaces for students with EHCPs from September 2023) (more info here: <https://liverpool.gov.uk/council/consultation-and-engagement/consultation/consultation-on-proposal-to-establish-bank-view-south-as-a-satellite-for-bank-view-high-school-at-the-former-parklands-site/>)
2. Expansion of Palmerston School at the former Palmerston School site on Beaconsfield Road (to create 40 spaces for students with EHCPs from September 2023) (more info here: <https://liverpool.gov.uk/council/consultation-and-engagement/consultation/consultation-on-proposal-to-establish-a-satellite-for-palmerston-school-at-the-former-palmerston-school-site/>)

As this is a public consultation, Mrs Hildrey would be keen for Abbot's Lea School's students' families to support her in voicing general support for the creation of more spaces for students with complex needs in the city, but raising concerns that the proposals do not address the pressures Abbot's Lea School has been under over the years.

Abbot's Lea School is oversubscribed by approximately 40% and, as such, urgently requires prioritisation of capital investment. Families are kindly asked to promote building of a new school campus with all learning, therapy, sporting and leisure facilities for our large and growing complex population, or addition of new facilities to the existing site.

The consultation is being carried out in accordance with section 19 (1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and the closing date for responses is 5pm on 15 February 2023.

You can comment on the proposals in writing to:

Liverpool City Council
School Organisation Team
Bank View Satellite consultation
Children and Young People's Services
5th Floor
Cunard Building
Liverpool
L3 1AH

or email valerie.tatham@liverpool.gov.uk.

Thank you in advance for your support

Abbot's Lea School