



Head's Weekly Newsletter

Week 21



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*.

I write this foreword from the annual conference of the Association of Liverpool Special Schools' Headteacher, known as ALSSH and so, I will keep my foreword brief and to the point, as not to miss my own learning programme!

Speaking of learning, however, it has been a busy week, but sadly, a shorter one than we had hoped, due to the strikes on Wednesday necessitating the closure day.

As you know, the disruption to school's opening is never desirable and so, I am sorry that this week was shorter and that the future published dates for the industrial action may lead to further closures. As suggested in my previous communication, it is recommended that, in anticipation of such likely closure, families plan for the alternative childcare, if needed, on the following dates:

- 28 February 2023
- 15 March 2023
- 16 March 2023.

As communicated previously, we will confirm our decision closer to those dates, based on the dynamic risk assessment.

I want to thank everyone for their hard work this week and, even though we had some loss of learning time on Wednesday, I was delighted to see how the teachers skilfully built in "catch-up" on the core subjects, without compromising enrichment opportunities. Thank you!

Next week is the last week of Term 2 and so, this is a gentle reminder that our students will be preparing a healthy meal for you and bringing it home one of the days next week – we hope you enjoy it and congratulate your child on their culinary skills. Lastly, as it will be the last week of term, there will be no Coffee Morning or open assemblies on Friday, but we will see you all again on our return to school in Term 3.

With best wishes for the weekend ahead

Mrs A Hildrey
Headteacher

Contents

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

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 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	Make a loved one lunch	Please note that our “Bring a Loved One to Lunch” event needed to change into a new event named “Make a Loved one lunch” due to our kitchen’s operational pressures this term. Students will be preparing a delicious and nutritious meal for you next week and they will bring it home on the day of their Food Technology lesson. More information was sent to the families via Parentmail on 24 January 2023: http://www.abbotsleaschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Make-a-loved-one-lunch-24.1.2023.pdf
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
Wednesday 8 February	Research Cafe	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. 2pm – registration: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMvcu-gqz8sEtHn22wyz3g_3dO7_QdtR1A8
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	Last day of school for students	No open assemblies or coffee morning on the last Friday of Term. 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.

Key Diary Dates

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 your 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



Primary Lunch Menu



Week Commencing 06/02/23

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 Fresh Salad	Homemade Chicken Tikka Curry served with Basmati Rice, Green Beans and Mango Chutney	Ham Roast served with Roasted New Potatoes and Cauliflower 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	Vegetable 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	New Potatoes	Chips
Vegetables Salad Bar with Hummus	Tomatoes	Salad	Green Beans	Carrots	Garden Peas
Dessert Fresh fruit, selection low-fat yoghurts and homemade puddings available every lunch	Fresh Fruit Salad Fresh Fruit	Shortbread Biscuits Fresh Fruit	Sponge Cake topped with Jam and Whipped Cream Yoghurts	Apple Flapjacks 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 its 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

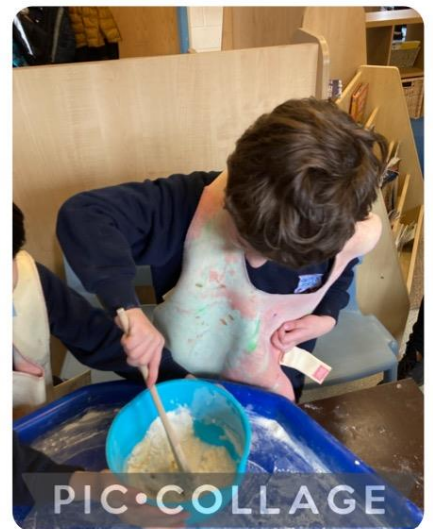
Ireland Class



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

Wales Class



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Class News

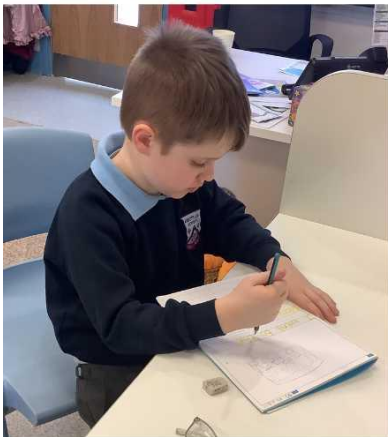
Italy Class



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Class News

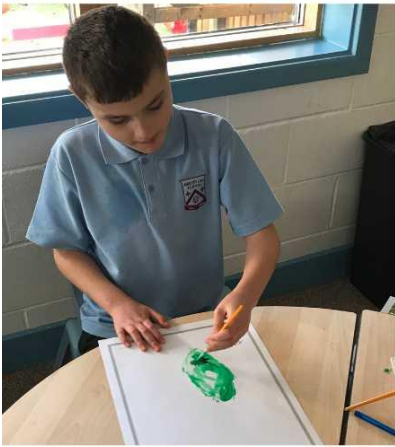
Portugal Class



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Class News

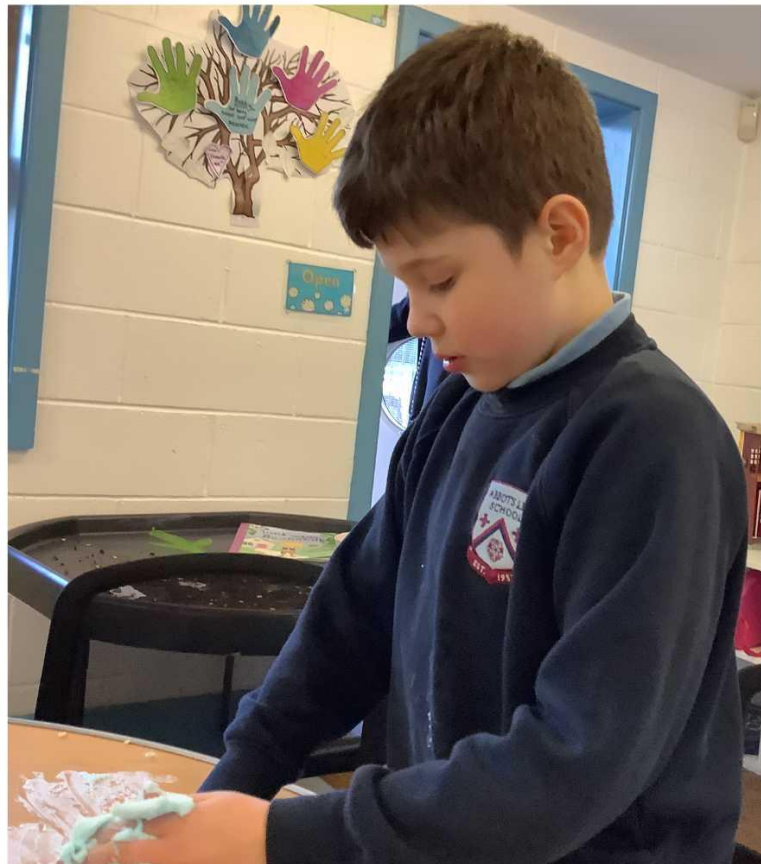
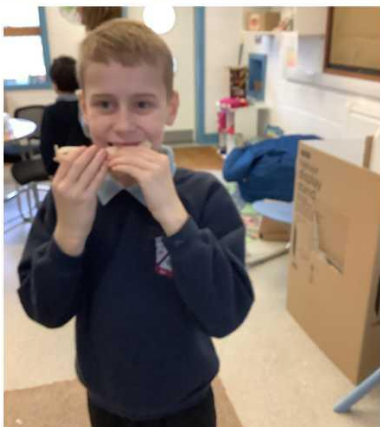
Spain Class



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Class News

France Class



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Class News

Canada Class



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Class News

USA Class



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Class News

Brazil Class



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Class News

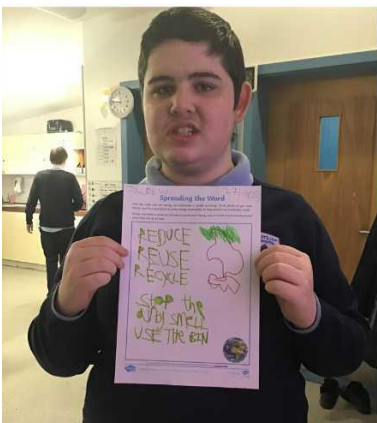
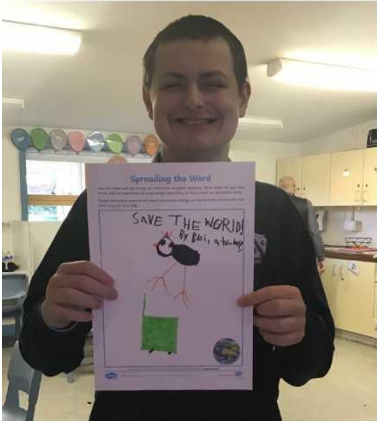
Peru Class



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Class News

Mozambique Class



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Class News

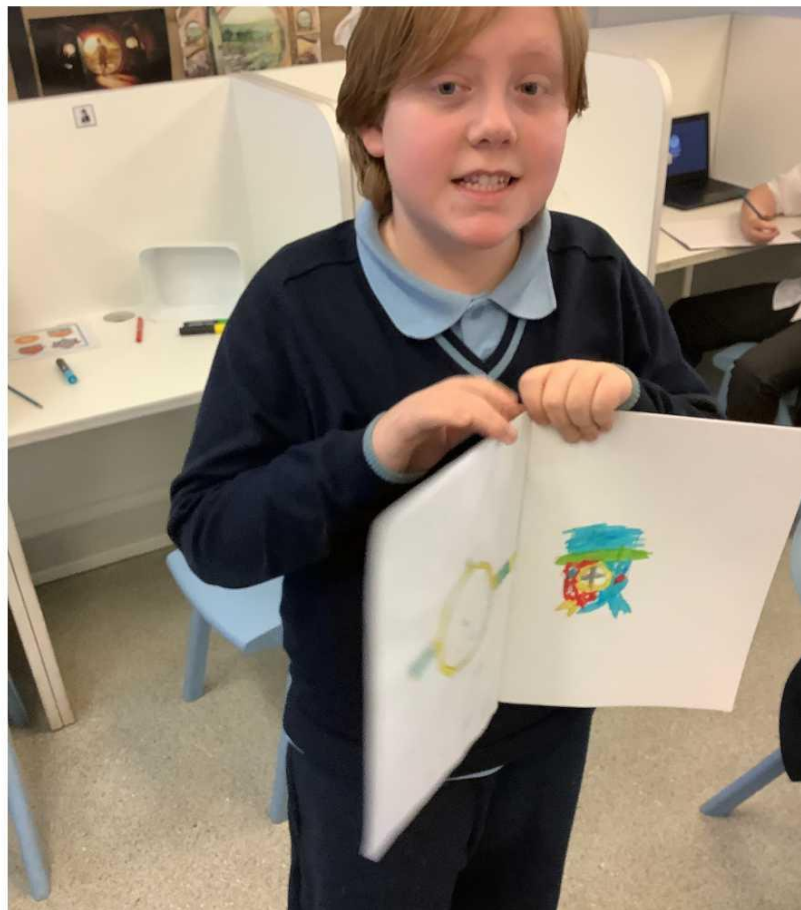
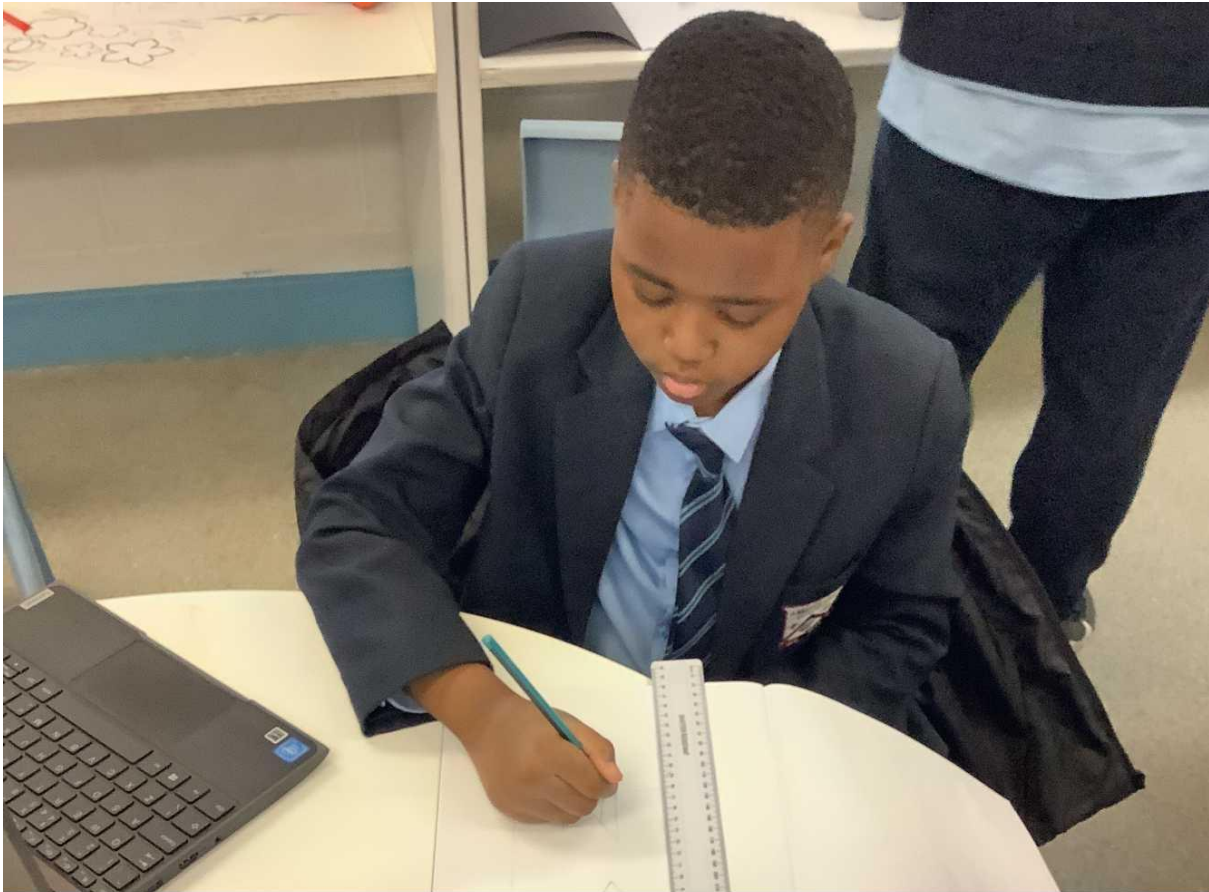
Cape Verde



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Class News

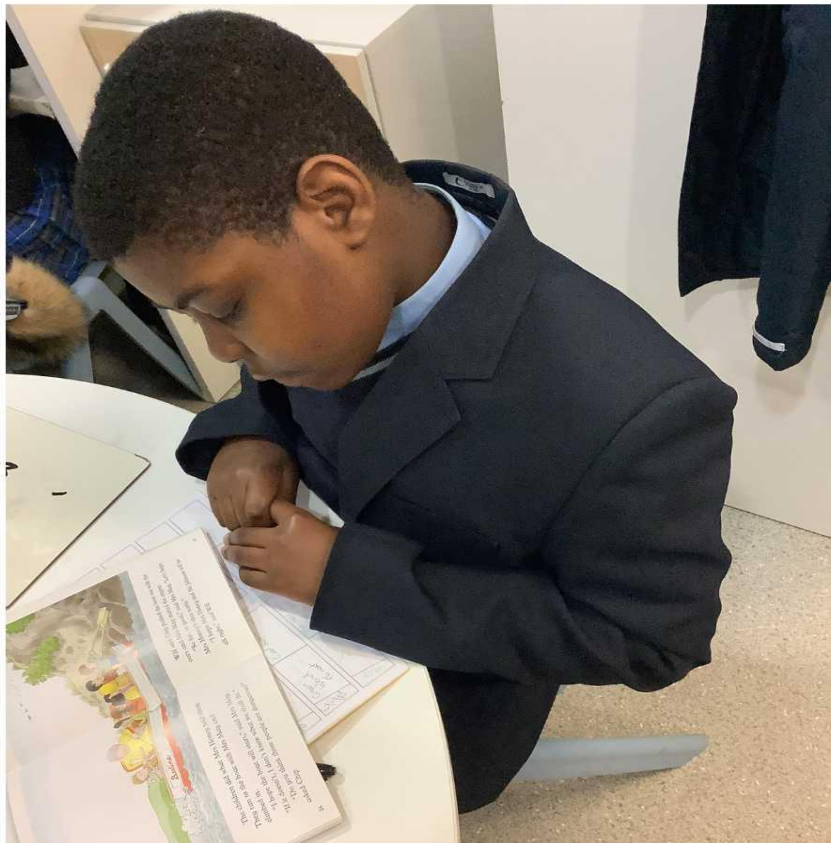
Seychelles Class



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Class News

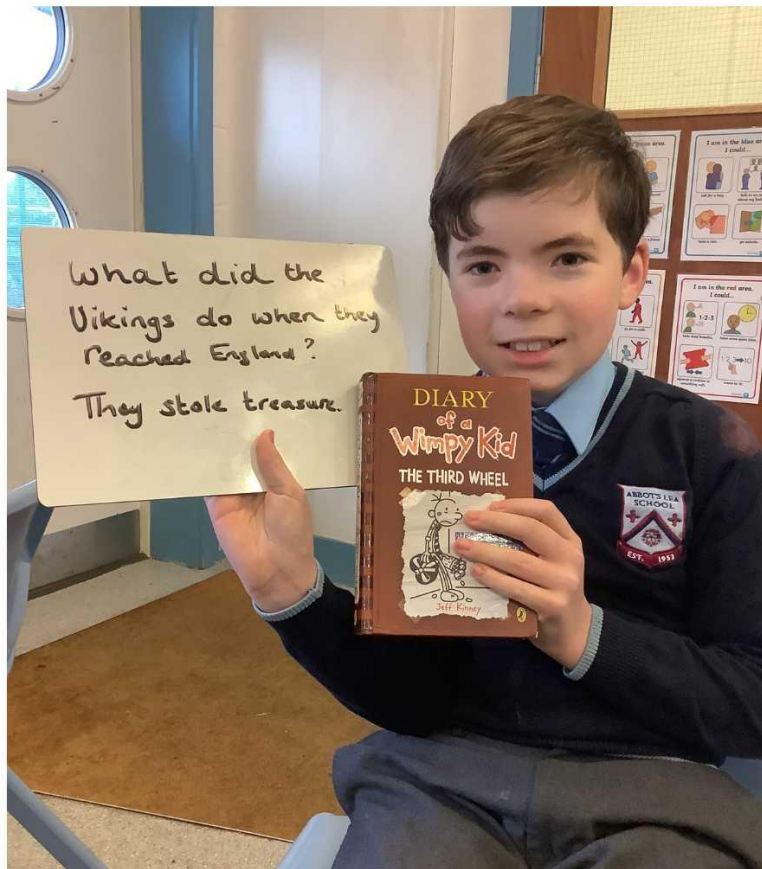
Madagascar Class



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Class News

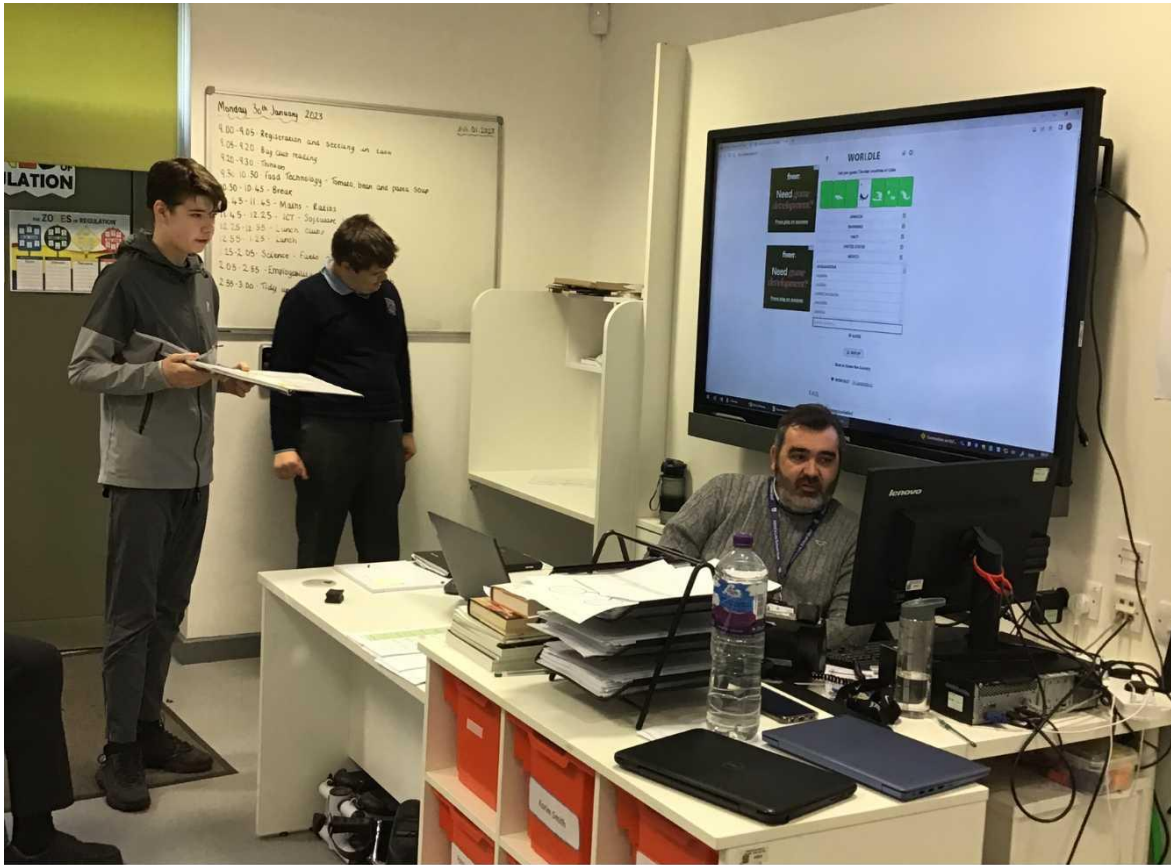
Kenya Class



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Class News

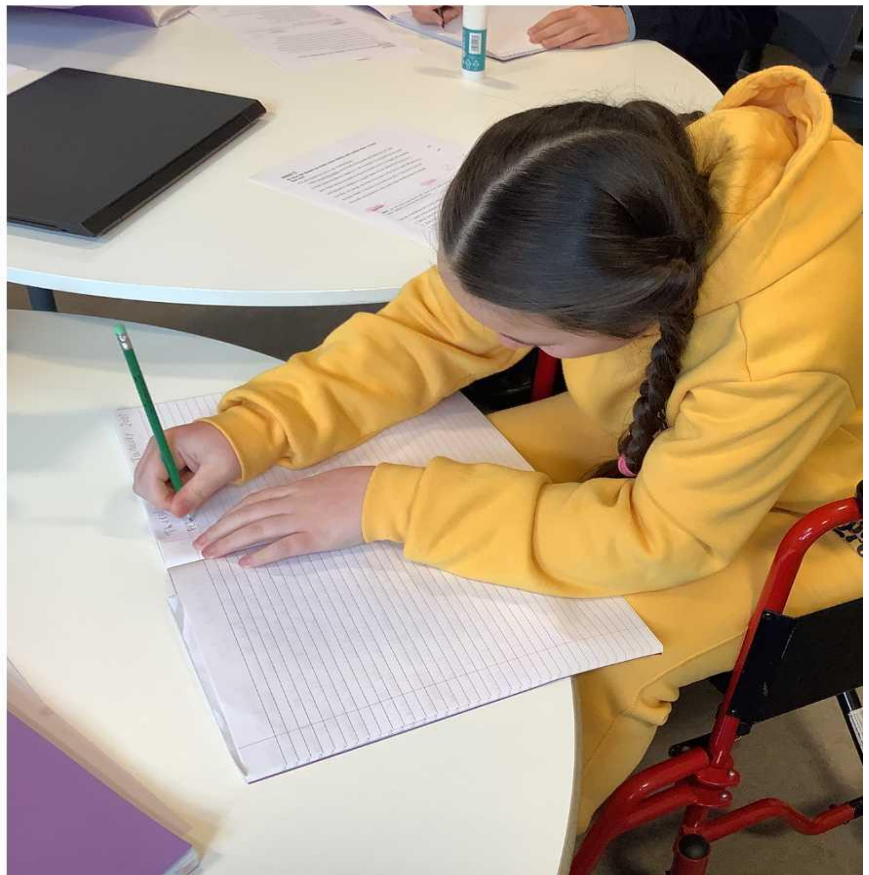
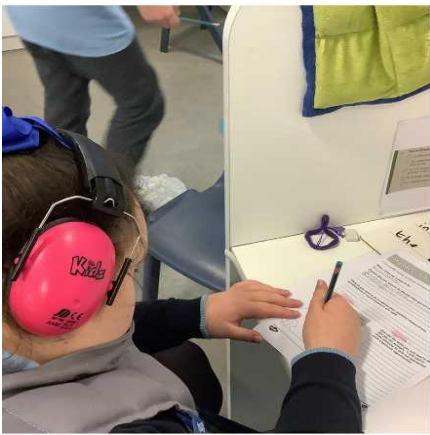
Australia Class



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Class News

New Zealand Class



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Class News

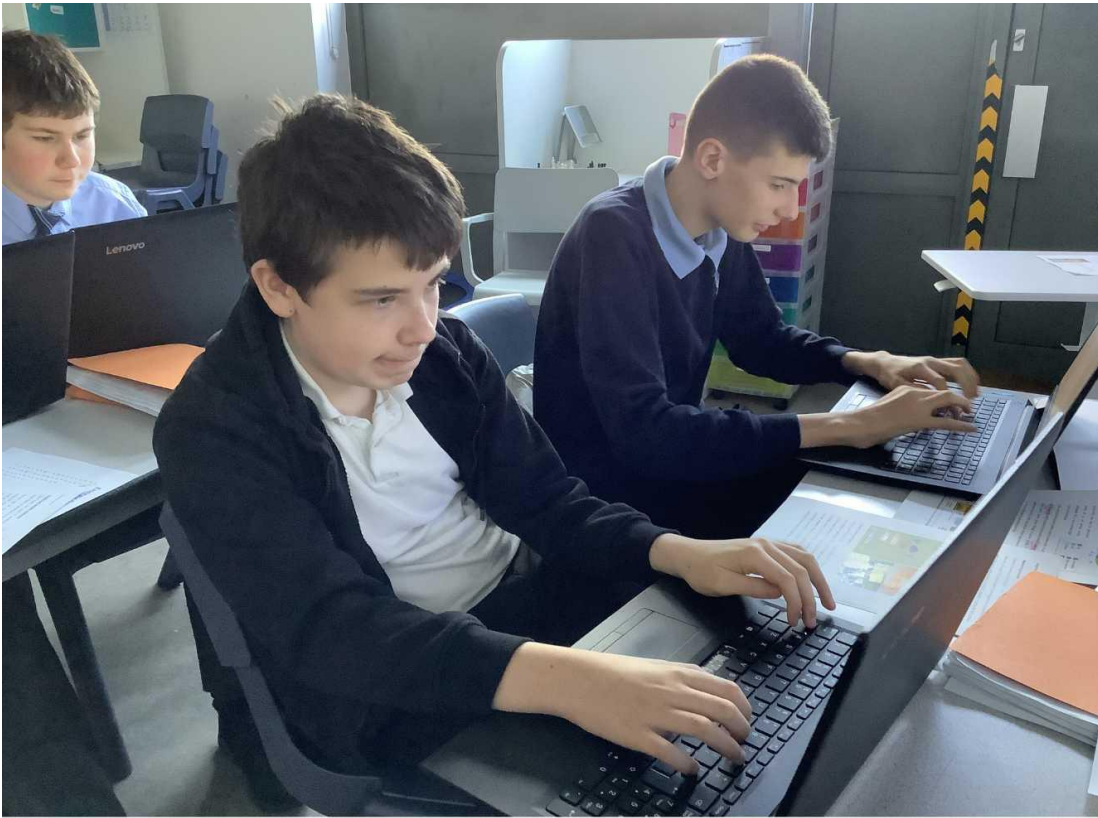
Samoa Class



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Class News

Tasmania Class



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Class News

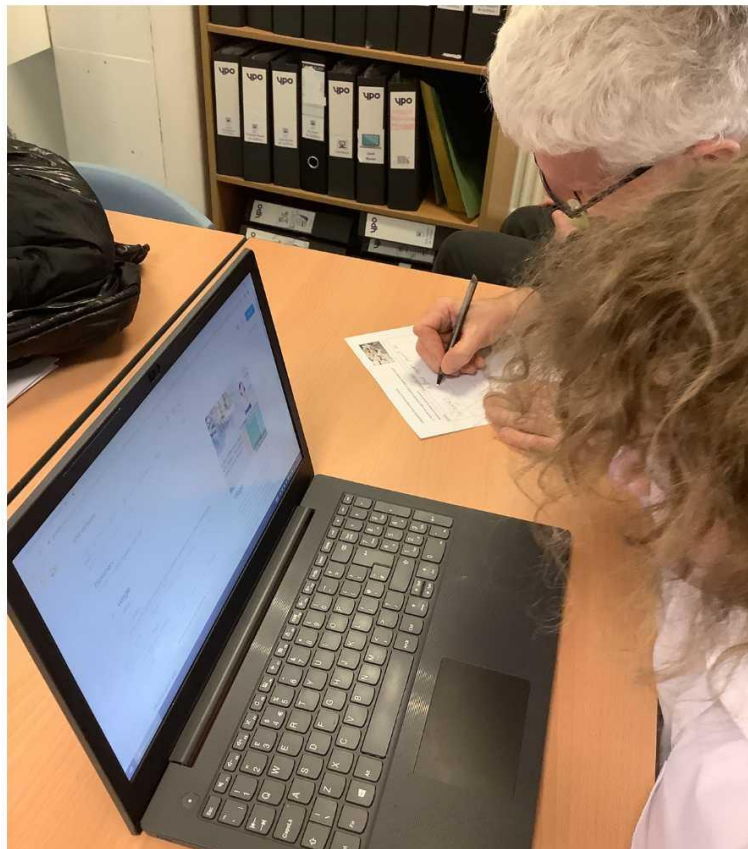
Malawi Class



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Class News

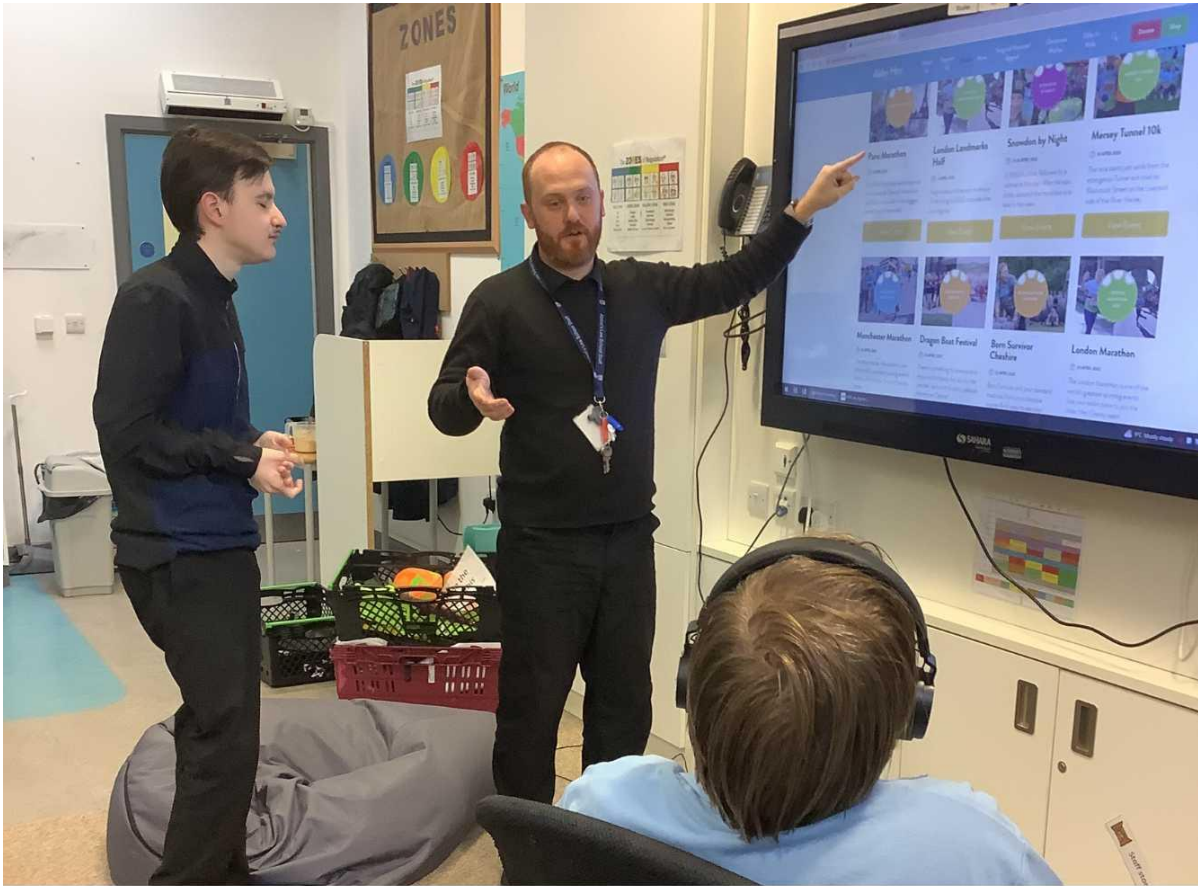
Christmas Island Class



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Class News

PNG Class



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Class News

Fiji Class



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Useful Information and Resources

Student of the Week

Class	Student	Reason why
Key Stage 1		
Ireland	Mason	For fantastic use of Makaton.
Wales	Jacob	For using his fantastic words and his manners.
Key Stage 2		
Canada	Tyler	For being amazing during his assessments.
Italy	Jan	Following the golden rules and being the Judoka of the week!
Portugal	Theo	For being able to self-regulate and actively taking part and engaging really well in lessons as well as learning to sit and wait patiently with his hand up ready to answer questions.
France	Georgie	For showing Kindness to others.
Spain	Abdoulie	For positive interactions with staff and trying new foods.
USA	Riley	For exceptional work in Maths.
Key Stage 3		
Brazil	Thomas	For settling into Brazil class!
Peru	Jonny	For following the golden rule of 'stay positive and be happy' and self-regulating.
Mozambique	Brandon	Brandon has been working really hard on a new routine in class, we are so proud of you. Keep it up!
Botswana	Isaac	For being fantastic during Food Technology, preparing the classes food with staff and taking his Food Tech monitor role very seriously. Excellent Isaac!
Madagascar	Louie	For working hard in History.
Kenya	Ryan	For remembering items of clothing in French and working independently.
Seychelles	Jamie	For completing work to a high level.

Useful Information and Resources

Cape Verde	Alex	For excellent contributions to his reading lessons.
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Key Stage 4		
Australia	Cemal	For working hard to improve your strokes in swimming and becoming more independent when following your timetable.
Tasmania	Abbie	Trying hard in swimming lessons and demonstrating mature behaviour out in the public.
Samoa	Maks	For growing in confidence and socialising with their peers.
New Zealand	Arshia	For trying exceptionally hard in his swimming lessons and representing the school excellently in public.
Key Stage 5		
Malawi	Nicholas	Always giving 100% in lessons, especially this week's science class. Well done for always working hard.
Christmas Island	Alfie	For having a positive attitude towards all lessons and having a positive influence on his classmates, forming meaningful relationships.
Fiji	Francis	Staying positive and being happy.
PNG	Rhys	A really positive return to school. Well done Rhys.

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

YPAS
Young Person's Advisory Service

Please see our website for the latest times.

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

When: Tue, 7 February, 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+ (12-16 years)

When: Tue, 7 February, 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.

Date	Class
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

Eat to Meet 2

Half Term programme starts on the 13 February 2023

30 January 2022

Dear Families

The February “Eat to Meet 2” Half Term programme starts on the 13th February and there are lots of great activities happening over the school. Children and young people, from reception to age 16, who are eligible for benefits related free school meals, will be able to access hundreds of activities throughout the half term holidays including specific provision available for children with SEND or additional needs, at **no cost**.

There’s a great range of activities across the city including **boxing, football, music, dance, cycling, cooking, discos, films, bowling, arts and crafts, drama, a makeup course, trips out** and much more! Every day there will be a range of fabulous meals available with many schemes holding family events as well.

To find out where your nearest scheme is click on this link <https://merseyplay.com/feb-half-term-activities-food/> or go to <https://www.merseyplay.com> and click on the February half term activities link from **Friday 3rd February**.

When you have chosen the activity/scheme you will need to contact that organisation to book a place. Each organisation will have either a telephone number, email address or online booking system. If your child has any additional needs or dietary requirements then please discuss this with the organisation when you book. There is no central booking system so please read the details of the programmes on the website and contact the providers directly.

If you want to know how to register or how to check if your child is eligible for free school meals then please click on the link <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

You will need your national insurance number or an asylum seekers support number.

If you are struggling with the cost of living then please click: <https://www.liverpool.gov.uk/cost-of-living/>

If you’re more than 10 weeks pregnant or have a child under 4, you may be entitled to get help to buy healthy food and milk. Click on the link to find out how to register <https://www.healthystart.nhs.uk/>

Liverpool City Council is working with Mersey Play Action Council, Sutton Croft and the local schools, voluntary and community organisations, and childcare providers to deliver the Half Term Activity programme.

The Easter Holiday Activities and Food programme will start on the **3rd April** and more details will be available on Merseyplay.com by **6th March**.

Liverpool City Council is working with the local schools, voluntary and community organisations, and childcare providers to provide the HAF programme. The programme is funded by the Department for Education.

The Family Information and SEND Directory also provides a wealth of useful information and support for families - [FISD](#).



Make a Loved One Lunch

During the week commencing Monday, 6 February 2023, all students will make a special plate of food for someone that they care about. They will bring this food home and use it to say thank you for being someone special to them.

The students are already looking forward to this and we hope that it will provide a nice opportunity for you to celebrate together.

Please note communication regarding this matter sent to the families on 24 January 2023 via Parentmail, correcting event's name and nature:

<http://www.abbotsleaschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Make-a-loved-one-lunch-24.1.2023.pdf>