



Head's Weekly Newsletter

Week 30



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!

It was (another) short week due to teachers' strike action and next week, we will only have three learning days due to bank Holiday Monday and the strike day on Tuesday, 2 May 2023. We will make sure to maximise learning despite the reduction of days available for that task. Let's hope that the matters leading to this national dispute are resolved soon and allow us all a return to normality. Until then, I sincerely apologise for the disruption occurring.

I am proud to share with you some of the individual class photos – the pictures speak louder than words and it is wonderful to see the students – of all ages – enjoy their learning.

I am also very thankful to nearly 100 visitors who joined us this Wednesday for an Open Evening for prospective families. We know that many of you already have an offer of a place for September, whilst others are in the process of decision-making about this crucial family decision. After all, the choice of education for our children is one of the most important one we make as parents. I only wish we could offer more places at a time when so many families continue to “fight” for the rights of their children to a specialist education. I am, however, quietly optimistic, that one day, we too will be afforded capital investment to have a brand new, larger, state-of-the-art campus for our students!

In the meantime, though, we make the most of what we have got and use our collective power to make a positive difference.

I therefore share with you a plea for two ways you can play an active role in helping our school develop and thrive:

1. We have an open, live **Parent Governor** election – please see communications sent to you by our Clerk to Governors and put your name forward if you want to help shape the strategy for the school in the future;
2. All families of our students are automatically members of the school's **PTA, called FAB (Friends of Abbot's Lea)**. Please see (on page 35) an invitation from Mrs Myers, our newly promoted School Business Manager to join us!

Until then, I thank you all for your hard work and support and I wish you a happy long weekend!

Mrs A Hildrey
Headteacher

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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>



Term 5

17 April – students return

May Day - Monday 1 May

Teacher's strike - Tuesday 2nd May – school closed

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 5

Date	Activity	Notes
Monday 1 May	May Day Bank Holiday	School is closed to all
Tuesday 2 May	School closure to students due to strike	
Friday 5 May	King's Coronation celebration	Classes will be participating in a range of activities to celebrate the King's coronation
Friday 5 May	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 Sara.Mursic@abbotsleaschool.co.uk
Monday 8 May	Bank Holiday (Coronation)	School is closed to all
Tuesday 9 May	Online training: Girls and Autism	In this session, we will introduce the debate around autism and gender, identify key issues and provide practical school-based support strategies. Our guests will be able to share personal, professional and academic perspectives to this topic. Guest speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mica Jayne Coleman Jones • Michelle Blake Join the session that best suits you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12pm (noon) https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82164843624 • 6pm (afternoon) https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88109221317
Friday 12 May	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 Sara.Mursic@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

Key Diary Dates

Tuesday 16 May	EYFS/KS1 swimming window opens	At some point between 2 May and 12 May, your EYFS/KS1 child will have a 4-day block of swimming lessons.
Friday 19 May	Outdoor Learning Day	Our outdoor learning team will be creating some exciting activities for all classes to enjoy in our school grounds
Friday 19 May	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 Sara.Mursic@abbotsleaschool.co.uk
Monday 22 May	Great British Sandwich Week	Students will be learning about the history of the sandwich, as well as making their own yummy creations!
Tuesday 23 May	Autism Research Cafe	3-4pm (online via Zoom) https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82306096671 In this session, we will discuss benefits of visual literacy, comic books and graphic novels for autistic minds. Join us to learn more about the natural connection of visual learners and comics.
Wednesday 24 May	Diversity in: History	Students will learn about aspects of history and which amazing figures were behind some of our well-known historical events.
Friday 26 May	No assembly	No assembly or coffee morning
Friday 26 May	Own Clothes Day	Students may wear their own clothes should they wish. We ask in return for a donation of chocolate for our Summer Fair on 1 July 2023

Key Diary Dates

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 have received a mid-term progress report and you will receive an end of year report (5 July 2023) for your child.

The reports summarise progress in all areas of the curriculum as well as providing a summary of the qualities your child displays at school.

If you have any questions on comments related to your child's progress at school, please contact Mrs Tobin on deputy@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

Next Week's Menu



Primary Lunch Menu



Week Commencing 01/05/23

Week 3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Meal We provide a variety of seasonal hot and cold dishes for children to freely choose from	Veggie Stir Fry served with Noodles and Spring Rolls	Chicken Shawarma Wraps served with Rice and Coleslaw	Ham Roast Dinner Served with Seasonal Vegetables, and Roast New Potatoes	Spaghetti Bolognese served with Fresh Salad and Garlic Bread	Fish Cake or Fish Fingers and Chips served with Mushy Peas
Alternative Jacket potatoes with tuna and other fillings available daily	Cherry Tomato Quiche served with Crisp Fresh Salad	Tuna Pasta with Cucumber and Red Onion	Twice Baked Jacket Potatoes	Cheese and Tomato Toasties	Tandoori Salmon served with Pitta Bread
Homemade Soup	Chef Choice	Leek and Potato	Red pepper Soup	Tomato and Basil	Chef Choice
Starchy Food Various bread choices available	Noodles	Rice	Roast New Potatoes	Spaghetti	Chips
Vegetables Salad Bar with Hummus	Tomatoes	Carrots	Cabbage	Tomatoes	Mushy Peas
Dessert Fresh fruit, selection of low-fat yoghurts and homemade puddings available every lunch time	Ginger Biscuits Fresh Fruit	Sponge Cake and Custard Fresh Fruit	Fresh Fruit Salad Yoghurts	Fresh Fruit Trifle 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

Class News

Ireland class

Have a lovely weekend 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



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](#)).



Italy class

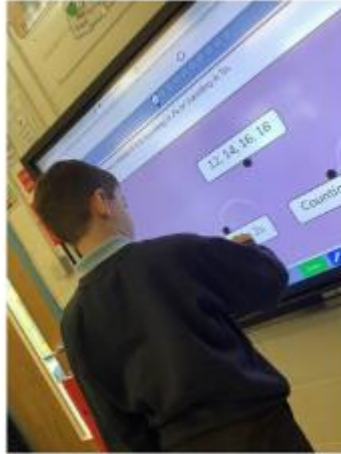


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Class News



Portugal class



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Class News



Spain class



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Class News



Canada class



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USA class

Have a great weekend





Brazil class



Well done Brazil class, another fantastic week!

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Class News



Peru class



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Class News

France class



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Class News



Mozambique class



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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



Cape Verde 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



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Class News



Madagascar class



WELL DONE! MADAGASCAR



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Kenya class



Class News



Australia class

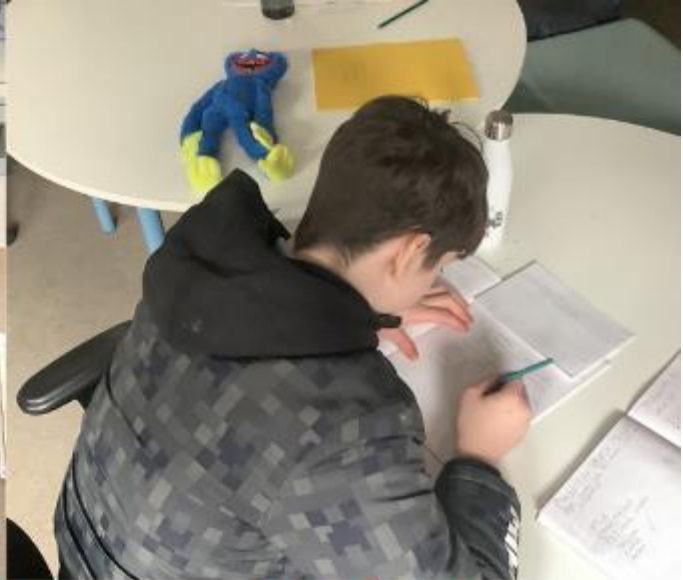


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Class News



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



Amazing!



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Class News



Christmas Island class



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Class News



Papua New Guinea class



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Class News



Fiji class



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Class News

Connecting Continents: Teacher from Abbot's Lea School's visit to Kenya Academy

We are thrilled to announce a new and inspiring friendship between our school in Liverpool and West End Destiny Academy in Nakuru, Kenya. This exciting development came about spontaneously, following a visit by one of our dedicated teachers, Miss Sophie Gibney, who spent her Easter half-term break volunteering at the Kenyan primary school.

During her 10-day visit to Nakuru, Miss Gibney worked closely with the students and staff of West End Destiny Academy, sharing her teaching expertise and building strong connections. Her time in Kenya not only benefited the local children but also created an incredible opportunity for our students to broaden their horizons and develop new friendships.

Upon her return, Miss Gibney brought back a selection of heartfelt letters from the West End Destiny Academy students. Our students from Samoa class were eager to respond, writing thoughtful and engaging replies to their new friends in Kenya. This exchange of letters has served as a catalyst for a blossoming relationship between our two schools.

The connection between Abbot's Lea School and West End Destiny Academy will be further strengthened with a video call scheduled for next week. Students from both schools are looking forward to this exciting opportunity to share their experiences, learn from each other and strengthen their newfound friendships.

As a school community, we are delighted to support this wonderful cross-cultural collaboration. We are confident that our students will benefit immensely from the exchange of ideas, experiences, and friendships with their peers in Nakuru, Kenya. The partnership with West End Destiny Academy embodies our commitment to fostering global connections and celebrating diversity, values that are at the heart of our educational mission.



Student of the Week

Student of the Week

Class	Student	Reason why
Key Stage 1		
Ireland	Ibrahim	For doing so well with toilet training
Wales	Cian	For greater engagement in directed activities and playing independently
Key Stage 2		
Canada	Tyler	For working really hard in maths - converting fractions and decimals.
Italy	Zaynab	For being a great friend.
Portugal	Ethan	For amazing self-regulation.
France	Georgie	For fantastic engagement in all activities and trying new things in school.
Spain	Ansel	For settling back into school after a stay in hospital.
USA	Oscar	For working so hard in phonics.
Key Stage 3		
Brazil	Thomas	For putting in the effort to complete his maths work to a high standard and for always being a pleasure in the classroom!
Peru	Jack	For impressive improvement in spelling and reading.
Mozambique	Brandon	For believing in himself and having a positive attitude
Botswana	Hayden	For completing a brilliant piece of art work on Frida Kahlo. Well done Hayden!
Madagascar	Louie	For, including, supporting and teaching his friends new skills.
Kenya	Joseph	For reengaging in lessons and making a great start to the new English topic. Joseph has shown excellent comprehension skills and made some insightful contributions.
Seychelles	Jamie	For completing work independently. Showing amazing progress he is making
Cape Verde	Lilyth	For great improvement in self-regulation, being able to take herself to a quiet space and then re-join the lesson without any prompts when she is ready.

Student of the Week

Key Stage 4		
Australia	Jimmy	For working independently during lessons and only asking for support you have attempted yourself first
Tasmania	Finlay	for trying hard in all lessons and following golden rules of never give up on yourself and others.
Samoa	Kylie	for having the confidence to approach staff about things that have been bothering him in school.
New Zealand	Arshia	For having an amazing week both in and out of class as well as teaching a friend, new skills in games of Badminton!
Key Stage 5		
Malawi	Nicholas	For great participation and enthusiasm in English with our new book Great Expectations.
Christmas Island	Thomas	For working to the best of his ability in all subjects and being polite and kind to staff and students.
Fiji	Dominik	for very mature and insightful comments on a sensitive and thought-provoking topic.
PNG	Andy	for fantastic self-regulation and being kind and thoughtful to others.

Exams 2023

June 2023 Exams													
Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
								1		2			3
								Half Term Break		Half Term Break			
	4		5		6		7		8		9		10
		GCSE English Language paper 1 (AM)				GCSE Maths paper 2 (AM)		Level 2 Certificate Further Maths paper 1 (AM)		GCSE Biology paper 2 (PM)			
	11		12		13		14		15		16		17
		GCSE English Language paper 2 (AM)		GCSE Chemistry paper 2 (AM)		GCSE Maths paper 3 (AM) GCSE English as a Second Language (PM)				GCSE Physics paper 2 (AM)			
	18		19		20		21		22		23		24
						Level 2 Certificate Further Maths paper 2 (AM)							
	25		26		27		28		29		30		

Useful Information

Mrs Keri Myers School Business Manager



I am delighted to write to you to introduce myself as the school's newly promoted School Business Manager.

I am very much looking forward to being part of the Strategic Leadership Team (SLT).

I have loved every minute of my twelve years at our school and I have worked in various roles, starting as an Administrator in ALMA, then an HR, Finance and Payroll Officer and most recently as the school's Office Manager. In the latter post, I was a member of Operational Leadership Team (OLT) and so, I have worked closely with fellow leaders.

I am extremely proud of what we have achieved as a team at Abbot's Lea, and I remain determined to ensure that our school goes from strength to strength. I am keen on developing a whole school community which thrives on a shared vision of excellence, promotes mutual respect and values positive relationships.

With this in mind, I would like to invite any of our students' families who wish to be more involved in the life of the school to join our Parent-Teacher Association (PTA), which we call FAB (Friends of Abbot's Lea). I would also like to draw your attention to the Parent Governor vacancy which is subject to election.

We are about to commence fundraising for next year's residential trips for our students, and we would love our families to help plan the Summer Fair which will take place on Saturday, 1 July 2023 here on the school grounds.

If you have some time to spare and would like to get involved, please contact me on or pop along to the weekly Coffee Morning each Friday, 9:30-11am.

I look forward to meeting you, getting to know you and supporting you, as well as welcoming your support.

Kind regards

Mrs Keri Myers
School Business Manager
E: keri.myers@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

Useful Information

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

Swimming Dates

We are sorry that some of our swimming sessions have been affected by the closure of the school and the staffing shortages, making our risk assessments dictate cancellation. Safety must come first.

Date	Class
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

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?


Young Person's Advisory Service

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


Young Person's Advisory Service

Useful Information



The Brain Charity

Caring for carers: free cream tea and holistic therapies

THURSDAY | 8 | JUNE

9.30am until 2pm

THE BRAIN CHARITY, NORTON STREET, LIVERPOOL, L3 8LR

RSVP USING THE QR CODE BELOW!
Alternatively, call Marie on 07888306152 or Sue on 07930180850, or email womens@thebraincharity.org.uk



Useful Information



Join us to celebrate National Carers Week!

This event is for parent-carers of children and young people up to the age of 25.

Receive information and support on your caring role and a range of informative talks.

SCHEDULE:

9:30am: Arrival and registration

**10:00am: Robyn Smith, Trainee Psychologist:
Mindfulness and how to manage stress**

10.30am: Find out about women's health with WHISC

11:00am: Gail Dixon: singing for wellbeing session

11:30am: Christina Beaumont: becoming a parent carer

**11:50am: Amy Yule, Beauty and Aesthetics Lecturer:
Overview of holistic therapies**

12:10pm: Enjoy a free afternoon cream tea and free holistic therapies from Liverpool City College and WHISC.

2:00pm: Event ends

Useful Information



Local Offer LIVE 2023

Wednesday 5th July

Are you a parent/carer of a child/young person with SEND (Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities)?
Are you a Professional working with families with SEND?

Come along and visit the Local Offer LIVE and see many services from Health, Local Authority, support groups, activity groups and 3rd Sector Organisations in one marketplace



Time: 12pm - 7pm



LOCATION:

Liverpool Guild of Students
The University of Liverpool
160 Mount Pleasant
Liverpool L3 5TR

FOR MORE INFORMATION
EMAIL INFO@LIVPAC.ORG.UK