



ABBOT'S LEA SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs Ania Hildrey, FCCT, B.Ed(Hons), M.Ed, NPQH, NPQEL



9 February 2024

Dear Families

Ref: Key Information – Term 4 (Monday 19 February – Thursday 28 March – 1pm)

As is normal at the end of each term, I am writing to share information about the activities coming up next term.

As you know, our Philosophy of Education is the ASD Model ©. This means we place equal value on students' academic progress, specialist therapeutic support and development of life skills.

As a result, we carefully design all enrichment opportunities to meet our students' needs and support their progress academically, personally and socially.

I hope you find the calendar of events helpful and that you are able to join us for some of the open events:

Date	Activity	Notes
Monday 19 February	School reopens for students	Please note that all students MUST wear their full school uniform each day (formal or PE, depending on their timetable).
Monday 19 February	LGBT+ history month	Miss Arands and Mr Griffiths will be leading some enjoyable activities which will encourage students to be tolerant of others' views and preferences. All activities will be appropriate for students' developmental age.
Wednesday 21 February	Liverpool School Parliament	A selection of students from Primary and Secondary Departments will attend this crucial advocacy and democratic event. This will be held in Town Hall, in Liverpool City Centre. Families of the students taking part have been informed.
Wednesday 21 February	KS3 information session about next year's KS4 accredited learning options	This Teams session will be led by our Assistant Headteacher for the Secondary Department. This will be a chance for you to learn about our accredited learning offer in KS4 and how your child from Year 9 onwards will begin to engage in choosing their option subjects. Details of the link for the Microsoft Teams meetings will be sent to all KS3 families via Parentmail 2 days before the meeting

Friday 23 February	KS3 options forms open	All Year 9 students will discuss their accredited learning options forms with their class team. You will also be emailed a copy of the form so that you can discuss choices with your child.
Friday 23 February	Weekly open assemblies led by Mrs Tobin (Deputy Headteacher), Miss Gibney (Assistant Headteacher for Primary Department) and Mr Mason (Assistant Headteacher for Secondary Department) Primary assembly: 9.30–10am Key stage 3 and 4: 10–10.30am Key Stage 5:10.30-11am Open Coffee morning: 9.30–11.30am	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 school via your child's class teacher. Please note, all primary students will be encouraged to stay for all of the assembly and therefore there will be no stay and play.
Monday 26 February	Academic Progress Reports to be emailed home	All class teachers will email home your child's academic progress report. We ask that you confirm receipt of this email by replying to your teacher. If you would like to discuss your child's report, this can be arranged by emailing the class teacher.
Monday 26 February	Fair Trade Fortnight	Over the next fortnight, learners will learn about Fair Trade and reflect on how they might support ethical shopping habits.
Wednesday 28 February	Next Steps Fair	We warmly welcome all families of students in Years 9 and above to visit our school 3.30pm – 5pm. A range of Post-16 external providers will be here to talk to you about what they offer and the support available if your child chooses to pursue options in their setting.
Friday 1 March	Weekly open assemblies led by Mrs Tobin (Deputy Headteacher), Miss Gibney (Assistant Headteacher for	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 school via your child's class teacher.

	<p>Primary Department) and Mr Mason (Assistant Headteacher for Secondary Department)</p> <p>Primary assembly: 9.30–10am Key stage 3 and 4: 10–10.30am Key Stage 5:10.30-11am</p> <p>Open Coffee morning: 9.30–11.30am Coffee morning today will take the form of a short presentation from our Head of Therapies.</p>	<p>Please note, all primary students will be encouraged to stay for all of the assembly and therefore there will be no stay and play.</p>
Friday 1 March	MDT information session during coffee morning presented by Head of Therapies.	<p>9.30 – 10 – Secondary students' families 10-15 – 10.45 – Primary students' families</p>
Friday 1 March	Deadline for confirming receipt of reports	We kindly ask that by 4pm today you have emailed your child's class teacher to confirm receipt of their mid-year academic report.
Monday 4 March – Friday 8 March	Residential Trips Week	<p>All families of students attending the residential have been informed of the programme.</p> <p>For students remaining onsite, a number of fun activities will be planned. You will shortly receive further details about this.</p> <p>If your child does not need their normal transport this week, please can we kindly remind to inform SEN transport.</p>
Monday 4 March	National Careers Week	<p>Due to our residential, we will be embracing national careers week during our Fairtrade activities (starting Monday 26 February) and during National Science Week (starting Monday 11 March).</p> <p>Through our learning, students will focus on the careers involved with these topics.</p>
Thursday 7 March	World Book Day	In school, we will be learning about how books represent our wonderfully neuro-diverse world.

		You child is welcome to attend school with an outfit or accessory representing their favourite book
Friday 8 March	<p>Weekly open assemblies led by Mrs Tobin (Deputy Headteacher), Miss Gibney (Assistant Headteacher for Primary Department) and Mr Mason (Assistant Headteacher for Secondary Department)</p> <p>Primary assembly: 9.30–10am Key stage 3 and 4: 10–10.30am Key Stage 5:10.30-11am</p> <p>Open Coffee morning: 9.30–11.30am</p>	<p>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 school via your child's class teacher.</p> <p>Please note, all primary students will be encouraged to stay for all of the assembly and therefore there will be no stay and play.</p>
Monday 11 March	British Science Week	Students will enjoy a range of fun activities, celebrating all things science!
Wednesday 13 March	Diversity in: Science	To celebrate British Science Week, classes will be learning about how developments in science have been possible due to the work of amazing people – some well-known and some less so well-known
Friday 15 March	Comic Relief Own Clothes Day	Own clothes day. Please feel free to make a voluntary contribution of around £1. Funds raised will be split between Comic Relief and a charity, which will be chosen by students.
Friday 15 March	<p>Weekly open assemblies led by Mrs Tobin (Deputy Headteacher), Miss Gibney (Assistant Headteacher for Primary Department) and Mr Mason (Assistant Headteacher for Secondary Department)</p> <p>Primary assembly: 9.30–10am Key stage 3 and 4: 10–10.30am</p>	<p>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 school via your child's class teacher.</p> <p>Please note, all primary students will be encouraged to stay for all of the assembly and therefore there will be no stay and play.</p>

	Key Stage 5:10.30-11am Open Coffee morning: 9.30–11.30am	
Monday 18 March	Global Recycling Day	Classes will complete activities in class to learn about the importance recycling
Monday 18 March	KS4 and KS5 Maths Mock Exam	These will take place in the School Hall
Tuesday 19 March	KS4 and KS5 Reading and Writing Mock Exam	These will take place in the School Hall
Wednesday 20 March	KS4 and KS5 Speaking and Listening Mock Exam	These will take place in Classrooms and Meeting Rooms
Thursday 21 March	KS4 and KS5 Speaking and Listening Mock Exam	These will take place in Classrooms and Meeting Rooms
Friday 22 March	Weekly open assemblies led by Mrs Tobin (Deputy Headteacher), Miss Gibney (Assistant Headteacher for Primary Department) and Mr Mason (Assistant Headteacher for Secondary Department) Primary assembly: 9.30–10am Key stage 3 and 4: 10–10.30am Key Stage 5:10.30-11am Open Coffee morning: 9.30–11.30am	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 school via your child's class teacher. Please note, all primary students will be encouraged to stay for all of the assembly and therefore there will be no stay and play.
Wednesday 27 March	Easter celebrations and Spring activities	The outdoor learning group will lead our Easter Egg hunt for all classes.
Thursday 28 March	Easter celebrations and Spring activities	For any students wanting to create an Easter bonnet, there will be a parade in the morning where prizes will be awarded
Thursday 28 March	Last day of school for students	School closes at 1pm and opens again on Monday 15 April

Attendance and punctuality

There is clear evidence that strong attendance at school links to strong educational outcomes for students. If your child's attendance is below 90%, we will expect to work closely to understand your family context and work with you on providing the support you need to help your child improve their attendance.

We appreciate that for many of you, punctuality is not within your control, as you rely on SEN transport providers to bring your child to and from school.

However, where you are in control of the journey to school, we do expect a punctual arrival. Despite a heavy flow of traffic, all students have been consistently in lessons by 9.15am each morning unless their transport has arrived late.

In the same way as we monitor attendance, we now also monitor punctuality and will be inviting the families of those students who are regularly late to explain their situation to us so that we can support improved compliance with a punctual arrival to school.

Assemblies

Assemblies are facilitated by Mrs Tobin (Deputy Headteacher), Miss Gibney (Assistant Headteacher – Primary Department) and Mr Mason (Assistant Headteacher – Secondary Department). 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.

As primary families will be aware, we have been supporting students to stay in the Primary for longer amounts of time each week.

We are going to support all students to stay in the entire assembly from term 4 onwards.

We appreciate the feedback many of you gave us in the recent family surveys about how much you have enjoyed stay and play and we are planning to introduce more opportunities for this to happen in Term 4 – watch this space!

I share with you below a reminder our gradual approach to full attendance in assembly.

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Ireland, Wales, Portugal, France, Italy, Spain and Canada	Welcome song followed by "stay and play"	Welcome song and class assembly followed by "stay and play"	Welcome song, class assembly and birthdays followed by "stay and play"	Full assembly	Full assembly	Full assembly

Uniform compliance

This is a reminder that all students must wear a full school uniform (formal on days with no PE activity and PE kit on the days of PE lessons).

As we have now reached the mid-point this academic year, we will expect full compliance with this requirement from Term 4.

If a student arrives without a correct uniform, they will be required to use one of the school's spares.

A uniform compliance correction slip will be sent home. We ask that you please support this and ensure that your child is fully compliant in such case.

The school is here to help and we have a free Swap Shop where good quality uniform items are available and donation of such items welcome.

Behaviour at school

Please be advised that, whilst overall, our students' conduct and behaviour is something we are very proud of, there have been a few situations arising this term which showed persistent non-compliance and disruptive behaviour.

Having reviewed this, we will be working with all class teams to support any students who continue to show disruptive or disrespectful behaviours and so, starting Term 4, we will be in communication with you when such incidents needed to be addressed formally.

In a minority of cases, we may be asking you to attend a meeting with the member of the Leadership Team to discuss your child's behaviour and to sign a behaviour contract.

This approach is to ensure that we continue to work together and share information about your child's engagement in learning opportunities we create and their interactions with the members of the school community whilst at school.

We will continue to use our Positive Behaviour Support philosophy of kind, caring, respectful and personalised approach to each and every student, but we will also insist on good attendance, punctuality, compliance with timetables and staff' instructions.

Through that, we will continue to build and strengthen our school's practice where every child can feel safe and respected and where their learning is maximised.

I thank you in advance for your support in all of the above matters and I wish you and your loved ones a good half term break.

Yours sincerely



Mrs A Hildrey
Headteacher