

Weekly Family Update - 08.12.23

Please read, share and encourage others to do the same.



The virtue of the week is Humility, and the theme was, 'We use good manners, appropriate humour and don't interrupt others.' Students were asked to consider examples of appropriate and inappropriate humour, and the signs to look out for when they have gone too far. In addition, staff reiterated the need to have patience before responding or interrupting someone; reaffirming the saying that 'we have two ears and one mouth for a reason, and it's best to use them in that proportion'.

Pupils were asked to consider what happens when you let your ego get in the way of your education. You miss out on one of life's essential pieces: growth. What does the reverse look like? Humility. Being humble about what you do not know and about what you have left to learn is the surest path to continued wisdom, and most importantly, it keeps you growing.

Wednesday saw the final Flash Reward for this year, with over 50 students rewarded with Pizza for demonstrating our virtues.

Sixth Form Applications Deadline - reminder

I would just like to remind you that the deadline for Applications to Ramsey Gatehouse Sixth Form is January 12th. If any student needs help with their logon details for My Choice16, please contact Mrs Neville in Sixth Form who will be able to provide them.

End of Term Arrangements

On Friday 15th December, we have our annual, charity Christmas market organised by our Year 10 leadership team. There will be an opportunity during the day for all students to visit the market. In addition to this, on Friday 15th December students are invited to pay £1 to wear their Christmas jumper with their uniform.

On the final day of term, Wednesday 20th December, we finish at 1pm. There will be a charity football match between years 10,11 and 12 during the morning to raise money for our new well-being room.

As we break up on a Wednesday, there will be no Weekly Update sent on Friday, instead we will send our Community Round-up on Monday 18th.

Lastly, yes, it's cold outside and times are costly, but Abbey College education is still free, heated, upbeat and welcoming, every day. We urge every student to keep up their daily attendance, right to the end of each week and term. I have asked staff to continue teaching the curriculum right to the end of term, as there are many festivities planned such as the Christmas Market, Christmas Jumper Day, and the spectacular Winter Showcase (see below for more details).

Have a lovely weekend.

Andy Christoforou, Headteacher

Please read on for essential updates.



Celebration of Spirit - Recognition

Headteacher Commendations wc 04/12/23

The following students have been awarded with Headteacher's Commendations this week. They will receive 10 Spirit points and a special postcard home.



Effie D	For continued high standards in English with regards to your effort, attainment and beautiful book presentation.
Lilly Figura	For your determination and not giving up!
Ruby C	Merit In Grade 2 Piano exam
Daniel S	For always doing your best in our lessons and producing work which is of a high standard.
Lilly F	Lilly has made a massive effort with her attendance and engagement
Dominic O	Excellent approach and attitude to completing coursework
Amelia G	Helped out with the Year 7 Basketball club, running skill-based activities and supported officiating games
Noah Ri	Duolingo streak of 100+ days
Emma H	Dr Frost Champion!
Milly B	Dr Frost Champion!
Lewis H	Dr Frost Champion!
Natasha S	Over 400 DrFrost points this week!
Daniel B	Dr Frost Champion!
Raphael L	Dr Frost Champion!
Emma B	Dr Frost Champion!
Codee H	Dr Frost Champion!
Sophie W	Dr Frost Champion!
Noah Ri	For excellent effort in English! Your paragraph writing is exemplary.
Ellie R	For excellent effort in English! Your paragraph writing is exemplary.
Luke R	For excellent effort in English! Your paragraph writing is exemplary.
Hayden T.	For excellent effort in English! Your paragraph writing is exemplary.
Lily D	For her work, behaviour and focus

Staff member of the week

Ms Edwards: Passion - For being such a great help in terms of moderation; your subject knowledge for both GCSE and A Level is invaluable. We are incredibly lucky to have you in the department, especially when it comes to marking and moderating.

Tell us about something brilliant!

If you would like to nominate someone for an Abbey College Spirit Award for any out of school success stories, then please follow this [link](#) or email the Office office@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk.

Student expectations and safety

Student welfare and wellbeing

Great advice for managing teenage behaviour

This is a useful for resource for parents/ carers when you are worried about your teenager's behaviour:

<https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/children-and-young-adults/advice-for-parents/worried-about-your-teenager/>

Please do get in contact with the Welfare Department if you need any additional advice or support.

Student attendance - Week 12

- **Congratulations:** to Year 7 – making an effort to improve their attendance as a year group.
- **Reminder:** Friday forms a fifth of the learning week. Half a Friday missed a fortnight, is a tenth of the school year. The same holds for the last week of term; it is 8% of the term's learning. Please ensure your son/daughter attends every day to achieve their maximum potential.

Student wider personal development

Ramsey Gatehouse Applications - Parents of Year 11s

Please remind students that if they have misplaced their **MyChoice16** logins and/or password, Mrs Moore can be contacted by Teams to reissue these. The deadline for applications to reach us at Ramsey Gatehouse Sixth Form is Monday 12th January 2024 but students should be encouraged to submit these before Christmas, to allow for their Tutors to add their references. If you missed our Open Evening and would like a tour of the Sixth Form please contact office@ramseygatehouse.co.uk to arrange.




Interacts - KS4 Subject Support Sessions

Day	Subject	Club	Time	Location
Monday	Drama and Music	GCSE Support/ Rehearsals	Afterschool	Frank Burton Building
	Art and 3D Design	GCSE/Coursework Support	Afterschool	T06
	(Week B) English	GCSE Enhancement	After School	GB06/GB07
Tuesday	Spanish	GCSE Support	Afterschool	S15
	Maths	Grade 7+ (By invitation)	After School	M06
	Maths	GCSE Higher	After School	M08
	Maths	GCSE Foundation	After School	T09/M06
	Health and Social Care	Coursework Support	After School	IT04
(Week A) English	GCSE Enhancement	After School	GB06/GB07	
Wednesday	Art and 3D Design	GCSE/Coursework Support	Afterschool	T06
	Chemistry	GCSE Support	Afterschool	Science
	Physics	GCSE Support	After School	Science
	History - Targeted	GCSE - Topics to improve	After school	Study 6
	ICT	Unit 2 Support	After School	ME01
	Engineering	Coursework/Practical Support	Lunchtime	T12
MO	GCSE Support	After School	GH2	
Friday	Psychology	GCSE Support	Lunchtime	GH11

Student curriculum

Abbey College Curriculum Aims



	The curriculum provides a clear programme of understanding to a range of diverse cultures and religions.
	To have a challenging and aspirational curriculum that provides opportunities to ensure no learner is left behind.
	All learners will receive a wide and fulfilling educational experience.

How can I find out what my child is learning in each subject?

Check out our History curriculum, which is a core subject at Key Stage 3 and an Option at Key Stage 4. See what is being taught and the resources being used to support student learning.

<https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/history>



Parent information

Parent Forum

Find our minutes here: [Parent Forum - Abbey College, Secondary School and Sixth Form in Ramsey](#)

To reduce lost property and having to purchase lost uniform items, please consider using these easy to apply (no sewing or ironing), labels: www.stikins.co.uk. Please use our fundraising number: 16469 and we will receive a small commission to put towards our fundraising pot.

If you shop online you can also support our cause by visiting <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ramseyabbeycollege/> before you shop!

Charlotte Downing - Chair of Parent Forum

Leading Parent Partnership Award

We are currently working to achieve a school improvement award.

In order to evaluate our current provision, we need your input. Your views are important in helping us understand what we are doing well and how we can do even better.

Please follow the link below to complete the survey.

<https://app.awardplace.co.uk/stakeholder-evaluations/user-survey/655cab638fb9a>

It should only take a couple of minutes. Please respond before 08/12/2023

All responses and suggestions will be carefully considered and used to plan a range of school improvements.

If you have any queries about this survey, please contact Mrs Craig, GCraig@Abbey.College

Parent Governor Vacancy

As she comes to the end of her term of office as a parent governor, we would like to thank Cheryl Greyson for all her hard work on the Governing Body and for setting up and running the Parent's Forum. As a result of Cheryl's term of office ending, there will be a space for a new parent governor in January. If you are interested in becoming a governor or would like to talk to an existing governor about what the role entails, please contact kdodsley@abbey.college.

Parent Diary Dates 2023-24

Wednesday 6 th December 2023	Year 7 Guess the Professional Event in school
Thursday 7 th December 2023	Year 8 Virtual Parents Evening, 4.30-6pm
Wednesday 20 th December	Last Day of Term
Wednesday 3 rd January 2024	INSET Day
Thursday 4 th January 2024	Students back in school (week A)
Thursday 11 th January 2024	Year 11 Targeted Virtual Parents Evening
Friday 19 th January 2024	Year 8 Bletchley Park Trip
Wednesday 31 st January	UCAS Deadline
Wednesday 7 th February 2024	Lion King Theatre Trip
Thursday 8 th February 2024	Year 11 Music Dropdown day
Thursday 8 th February 2024	Year 9 Virtual Parents Evening
Friday 9 th February 2024	Year 11 Macbeth Production
Thursday 15 th February 2024	Year 8 Options Evening 4.30-7.30pm
Monday 19 th to Friday 23 rd February 2024	Half Term

Assessment calendar: How your child is doing?

Students Reports: These are filed under 'Documents' in Edulink.

- **Year 7 progress tests** in English, Maths, Science and the CAT4 are now all on Edulink. If you are having a problem accessing Edulink then please contact JOswell@abbey.college.
- The **Year 11** results release will be on Monday 18th December. The reports will be available on Edulink on Tuesday 19th December. For the first time the reports will contain a **Progress 8 (P8) score**. This number represents how much progress a student has made since Key Stage 2. The baseline for P8 is the Key Stage 2 reading and maths tests which the government use to predict GCSE outcomes. The National average for P8 is set at 0 and a score of 0.5 indicates that a student is half a grade above where they expected to be, across all their subjects, and is making excellent progress. A score of –1 indicates significant underperformance and suggests that extra effort and organisation are needed before the February Trials. Your child should be able to discuss their plan to increase their P8 score with you and if they have a good plan then staged rewards leading to the end of February trials are a great idea.
- **Year 13 trial results** will be issued on the last day of term. They will include a current grade and an updated professional prediction.

Employment opportunities at Abbey College

Staff Vacancies

- Head of Human Science (includes Law, Criminology, Politics, Health & Social Care, Psychology & EPQ)
- Break/Lunchtime Supervisor (10.10 to 11.40 and/or 12.40 to 2.10pm) – Fixed Term

<https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/about-us/vacancies>

Communicating with us and how to raise concerns

[Click here](#) to access this Communication Flowchart on our website.

Other news updates can be found here:

- Our news page: <https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/news/letters-to-parents>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/RamseyAbbeyCollege/posts/>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/AbbeyCollegeAC>
- Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/abbeycollege_ramsey/