

Weekly Family Update - 26.01.24



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



The virtue of the week is Passion, and the theme is, 'we are proactive and work hard to overcome obstacles'. Students were asked what it means to be 'proactive' and what steps could they take to overcome challenges in lessons?

During Welfare Wednesday, the message was: If you can be anything, be kind - you can't see what other people are going through. The art of being considerate takes time to hone, and the response from many pupils shows they are certainly on the way to perfecting this.

The second and final set of Trial exams for Years 11 are after half term. The interventions Ms Beel has put in place to support groups of students are well underway, and we are really proud of the positive way the pupils have approached them. Ms Beel met the Junior Leadership Team this week to hear their views on the interventions, and what support they want prior to the next Trials. They now have a few months more to really hone their skills and work hard independently, as well as under the guidance of their teachers.

A reminder that the Parent Forum Guarantee gives all parents the right to speak directly to me, the Headteacher, within 24 hours, if you feel your question has not been answered by those you have already contacted. Please either call 01487 812352 or email office@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk quoting the 'Parent Forum Guarantee' in the subject header. You will be contacted initially to arrange a convenient time for your call and then I will personally call you by the end of the next working/school day.

Finally, a word about the importance of school governance. I have written to all parents about the importance of our Board of Trustees and upcoming opportunities to stand for election. No school can function without skilled, proactive and supportive Trustees and we are fortunate to have an excellent group working with the school at present, providing supportive challenge and expert advice across a wide range of governance responsibilities. I would be happy to have a conversation with any parent contemplating standing for election, so if you are interested, click here <https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/about-us/governing-body> or make contact with us.

Have a lovely weekend.

Andy Christoforou, Headteacher

Please read on for essential updates.

Celebration of Spirit - Recognition



Headteacher Commendations wc 22/01/24

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

Name	Nominated for
Scarlett C	Representing Peterborough United at the EFL girls Cup second round
Paisley S	Representing Peterborough United at the EFL Girls Cup
Tammy H	Great effort and attitude towards work. Keep it up!
Pippa B	Representing Peterborough United at the EFL Girls Cup and making some incredible saves throughout the tournament
Shannon H	Shannon did really well during her English assessment this half term.
Ffion E	Representing Peterborough United at the EFL Girls Cup
Amelie W	Representing Peterborough United at the EFL Girls Cup
Megan W	Representing Peterborough United at the EFL Girls Cup
Fleur B	Representing Peterborough United at the EFL Girls Cup
Lanielle A	Representing Peterborough United at the EFL Girls Cup
Ava Hearn	Representing Peterborough United at the EFL Girls Cup
Ethan F	Always having an excellent attitude towards coursework
Liam R	Always having an excellent attitude towards coursework
Max T	Always having an excellent attitude towards coursework
Lauren W	Always having an excellent attitude towards coursework
Lily-Lu D	Always having an excellent attitude towards coursework
Maddy T	Always having an excellent attitude towards coursework
Noah R	Always having an excellent attitude towards coursework
Ellie S	Representing Huntingdonshire in the Cross Country after qualifying when representing Abbey College
Maisie W	Representing Huntingdonshire in the Cross Country after qualifying when representing Abbey College
Tomas S	Representing Huntingdonshire in the Cross Country after qualifying when representing Abbey College
Lilly B	Outstanding attitude to learning, excellent progress being made in New Horizons
Leon K	Outstanding attitude to learning, excellent progress being made in New Horizons
Elliot A	Working really hard to improve his attendance
Roxy B	Working really hard to improve her attendance
Charlie B	100 day streak on Duolingo
Eli P	For working really hard last term into this term.
Vira E	Your Speaking and Listening around the topic of Conflict in Ukraine was both moving and inspirational.
Tahlia B	Well done for your superb attendance this last 2 weeks!
Charlie S	For excellent attainment and effort in English Literature. You are trying so hard and have retained so much knowledge - well done!
Alfie O	For excellent attainment and effort in English Literature. You are trying so hard and have retained so much knowledge - well done!
Lauren D	For excellent attainment and effort in English Literature. You are trying so hard and have retained so much knowledge - well done!
Daniel S	A beautiful piece of creative writing.
Jack R	For always being so involved and engaged in OOP Creative Writing, along with great contributions to the Abbey College Creative Writing Anthology.
Ruby S	Ruby is working really hard and achieved a fantastic result in her recent end of unit assessment - Well done!
Jack R	Jack achieved a fantastic grade in his recent end of unit assessment. He is also extremely supportive and helpful to other students in class - Well done!
Amelie B	Amelie is working really hard and achieved a fantastic result in her recent end of unit assessment - Well done!

Pearson National Teaching Awards 2024 - Nominations now open

Please use this link: <https://www.teachingawards.com/parents-page-the-unsung-hero-award/>



Staff member of the week

Mrs Qureshi: Passion - For supporting the year group so well, and for working so hard preparing the interventions and assemblies, as well as supporting all the students.

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@abbey.college.

Parent information

Preloved Uniform Shop

The next **Pre-Loved Uniform Shop** is open during the Year 8 Options Evening on **Thursday 15th February, 4:30 - 7:30pm**

- Cash only please
 - Donations welcome throughout the year. Please wash, bag and hand in to reception.
 - If you are able to volunteer some time to help run the shop. Please email parentforum@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk
 - The Preloved Uniform Shop can be contacted via this link:
<https://www.facebook.com/login/?next=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fgroups%2F4133239840069866>
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Parent Forum

The date of the next Parent Forum is **Wednesday 14th February @ 5pm**, where we will be hearing from the school on:

- Homework Policy, expectations, and different methods to complete homework – Ms Powell
- Higher Prior Attaining Students – Ms Dowd
- Antbullying Update – Ms Noble
- Parent Partnership Award – Mrs Craig
- Fundraising and Finance Update



If you would like to attend, please email: parentforum@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk

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

Charlotte Downing - Chair of Parent Forum

Parent and Community Governor Vacancies

The Governing Body at Abbey College currently has a parent governor vacancy and is seeking self-nominations for an enthusiastic and committed parent or carer to join the board. Please see further information and vacancy letter here: <https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/about-us/governing-body>

There is also a vacancy for a community governor, if you know of anybody who may be interested, please do ask them to get in touch.

Parent Diary Dates 2023-24

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?

- **Year 9 report are issued this week and the Parent evening is in early February.** Please check your access to Edulink. If you are having technical issues, then contact LBennett@abbey.college.
- **Year 10 trial exam:** The whole of Year 10 is sitting a Citizenship trial under exam conditions at 9.10am on 14.02.24. This is in preparation for the Year 10 external exam in June 2024. Students have access to JCQ exam regulations on Edulink and will be taken through the exam regulations in Moral & Spiritual lessons before the trial.
- **The Year 10 and 12 reports** will appear on Edulink before half term. The Year 12 Parent's Evening is immediately after half term. If you are not using Edulink regularly then please check that you can log in. If you are having technical issues, then contact LBennett@abbey.college.

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

Student expectations and safety

Student welfare and wellbeing

Online safety

We have been sharing the reminders below with students about how to keep safe online:

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- *remember that not everyone is who they say online*
 - *remember not everything is authentic online*
 - *things other people post may not be accurate of how they feel or what they are doing*
 - *think before you post anything online; especially photos or comments that could be misinterpreted*
 - *don't do or say anything online that you wouldn't do or say in person.*
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There are lots of helpful resources for parents to review, the link below details the age restrictions for many of the online apps and also contains useful information on privacy settings and how to report concerns:

<https://www.openvieweducation.co.uk/social-media-age-ratings/>

*If you do have questions or need some support, please get in contact with our welfare team
welfare@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk*

Vapes support

Apologies, but I wanted to repeat last week's useful link to information to help you talk to your child if you think or know they are vaping:

<https://parents.actionforchildren.org.uk/behaviour/challenging-behaviour/im-worried-about-my-child-vaping/>

If you need support from school, please contact our welfare department:

welfare@abbey.college.cambs.sch.uk

Student attendance - Week 17

- **Congratulations:** Abbey College students- two weeks increased attendance!
- **Reminder:** Children who do not attend regularly miss out on opportunities in further education and within the world of work.




Student wider personal development

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?

Exam information

Check out our Exam Information page to find out which exam boards we use for each subject within our curriculum. <https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/students/exam-information>

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/