

Weekly Family Update – 09.02.24

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



The virtue of the week is Intuition, and the theme is, 'we consider the impact of our actions on those around us'. Students were asked to consider ways they can have a positive impact on those around them, both in and out of school.

During Welfare Wednesday, students were given reminders of how to challenge unwanted attention, and inappropriate comments that grate with them.

Next week Thursday is the Year 8 Options evening. Families will have the opportunity to speak to subject staff and consider the differing courses available for students to select for their GCSEs. Please check out the [Curriculum](#) section of our website to find out what is studied within each subject.

Attendance this term at Abbey College has been very good, with a number of students increasing their attendance also on the run-up to the Alton Towers trip. We urge everyone to keep this up all the way through next week, ahead of half-term. Every lesson at the end of term counts as much as usual!

A reminder that there is a page on our website [here](#) as to who to contact about what. Most staff are not at desks for most of the day, so they may need 24 hours or more to respond. Sadly, we have had a few examples of staff having to deal with unkind and even confrontational messages and phone calls from parents / carers. We can understand why parents / carers at times might be upset or unhappy, but we do ask that the way staff are talked to is proportionate and polite. As ever, parents, carers, thank you for your support.

Year 11 Trial exams commence straight after the half term break, and we have reminded students of the sacrifices they might need to make during this break, given most will have a 3-month holiday once the summer exams are over.

Ramsey Gatehouse 6th Form

Last Friday we were delighted to invite our Year 12 applicants to have breakfast with our Sixth Form Leadership Team in Study6. This provided students with the opportunity to find about the Sixth Form application process and life as a Sixth Former. All applicants will be receiving an invitation to interview next week so please keep an eye on the post for these.

Next week, a Community Bulletin will be sent rounding up all major news and events, with contributors from across the year groups.

Have a lovely weekend.

Andy Christoforou, Headteacher

Please read on for essential updates.



Celebration of Spirit – Recognition

The table below shows the ratio of spirit points to behaviour points for each year group this half term. Where a year group has achieved a ratio of at least 7:1 they will celebrate with a non-uniform day **next week**.

Year	Ratio	Non-Uniform Day
7	18:1	Thursday
8	7:1	Tuesday
9	6:1	x
10	6:1	x
11	7:1	Wednesday

Headteacher Commendations wc 05/02/24

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

Student	Nominated for
Shay O	Amazing participation when representing Abbey College at the Dodgeball Festival
Lewis T	Amazing participation when representing Abbey College at the Dodgeball Festival
Nathaniel O	Amazing participation when representing Abbey College at the Dodgeball Festival
Heidi K	Amazing participation when representing Abbey College at the Dodgeball Festival
Chloe D	Amazing participation when representing Abbey College at the Dodgeball Festival
Lily W	Amazing participation when representing Abbey College at the Dodgeball Festival
Madison H	Amazing participation when representing Abbey College at the Dodgeball Festival
Jack S	Amazing participation when representing Abbey College at the Dodgeball Festival
Charlie M	Amazing participation when representing Abbey College at the Dodgeball Festival
Owen F	Amazing participation when representing Abbey College at the Dodgeball Festival
Ben A	Good use of your independent study time in Sports Studies
Finlay S	Good use of your independent study time in Sports Studies
Frankie M	Good use of your independent study time in Sports Studies
Christian M	Dr Frost Champion!
Eric G	Dr Frost Champion!
Daisy H	Dr Frost Champion!
Rylee B	Dr Frost Champion!
Ava M	Dr Frost Champion!
Euan C	Dr Frost Champion!
Emma B	Dr Frost Champion!
Ellen S	Completing the entire extension workbook of 5 modules
James C	Excellent Passion for the subject and for producing excellent coursework
Harvey H	Brilliant engagement in his English lessons recently, very impressed!
Eden S	Brilliant engagement in his English lessons recently, very impressed!
Jake R	Brilliant engagement in his English lessons recently, very impressed!
Henry B	Brilliant engagement in his English lessons recently, very impressed!
Harry B	Brilliant engagement in his English lessons recently, very impressed!
Olivia P	For being incredibly supportive of a new student to the class, and sharing her notes.
James C	For a very positive start to a new English group. James has used his break times to catch up.
Aurora E	Has displayed consistently high levels of participation, focus and pride in her Spanish lessons all time, every time.
Isla D	Top score in assessment
Eden S	High score in assessment
Danielle T	High score in assessment

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

Mr Boness: Passion - For being so passionate about the students in NH; these students are so lucky to have you as an advocate for them.

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 can 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
- Antibullying 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

Monday 12 th February 2024	Year 11 Spanish Film Workshop
Thursday 15 th February 2024	Year 8 Options Evening 4.30-7.30pm
Monday 19 th to Friday 23 rd February 2024	Half Term
Thursday 29 th February 2024	Year 12 Virtual Parents Evening 4.30-6pm
Wednesday 6 th March 2024	Year 7 BAE Systems Roadshow (careers)
Monday 11 th March 2024	Year 10 Music Dropdown Day
Tuesday 12 th March 2024	Sixth Form Poetry Day
Thursday 14 th March 2024	Y11 Music Dropdown Day
	Year 10 Virtual Parents Evening 4.30-7.30pm
Tuesday 26 th March 2024	Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
Thursday 28 th March 2024	Last Day of Spring Term
Monday 10 th to Friday 14 th June	Year 10 Work Experience

Dates for Careers events:

- 15th February - Year 8 options evening; Ms Pollard will be available for a chat with any parents/carers and students during the course of the evening.
 - 28th February- Year 7 will be having a visit from BAE Systems (STEM Roadshow)
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Year 11 February half term subject workshops

Abbey College is offering half term coursework and mastery sessions to selected Year 11 students.

The subjects offering sessions are:

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- *Monday and Tuesday - Engineering and Information Technology*
 - *Wednesday - Maths*
 - *Thursday -Geography*
 - *Friday -History.*
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Invitations will be issued through Eventbrite next week. By booking your child in we will know numbers for the registers and the quantity of resources needed. Students attending for a full day should bring refreshments/lunch (the school canteen will be closed, and no students may leave the site).

Assessment calendar: How your child is doing?

- **Year 10** students have a Citizenship Trial on 14.02.24 this will be in the exam halls under JCQ regulations (see documents on Edulink).
- **Year 9** students taking FCSE Spanish will have a Trial assessment under exam conditions on 15.02.24.
- **Year 11** Trial 2 assessments are immediately after half term. The students have their timetables.
- **Year 13** Trial 2 exams start on 04.03.24.
- **Year 7 and 8** Reading assessments will take place in English lessons from 14.03.24
- **Year 12** reports are due out this week.
- **Year 10** reports are due out in the week before half term. The Year 10 parent's evening is in early March. Please log into Edulink and check that you are not having connection difficulties. If you need support, contact LBennett@abbey.college

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

Student expectations and safety

Student welfare and wellbeing

Exam Stress Management

All students will have exams during their time at school. For our year 11s and 13s, their final GCSE & A-level exams are imminent. This can be a stressful time for your child. There are lots of tips to help, see below:

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/exam-time/>

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

Student attendance - Week 21

- **Congratulations:** To all the students who are eligible to come to Alton Towers, attendance targets are due to be set for all students who require additional support to increase their attendance.
- **Reminder:** All absences must be reported via the appropriate channels and not emailed to individual teachers. The absence line is monitored from 7am daily.

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


OOPs

Please check out all out OOP offers for the Spring term on Edulink and look out for a few more being added next half term!


As part of the Performance Learning survey actions there will be a Year 11 Rest and Relaxation OOP starting on Friday 16.02.24 with Lisa Gregory from the Welfare Team. Year 11 students can book in on Edulink.

WHAT'S R&R?

SIGN UP VIA EDULINK



PROVIDES A SAFE SPACE TO DISCUSS WORRIES



PROVIDES ADVICE AROUND MANAGING WELLBEING DURING EXAMS



PROVIDES ADVICE AROUND REVISION TECHNIQUES



PROVIDES ADVICE AROUND TIME MANAGEMENT.



SNACKS PROVIDED!

Student curriculum

Abbey College Curriculum Aims



Inclusive	The curriculum provides a clear programme of understanding to a range of diverse cultures and religions.
Challenging	To have a challenging and aspirational curriculum that provides opportunities to ensure no learner is left behind.
Cultural Capital	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/