

## Weekly Family Update – 08.03.24

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

*The virtue of the week is Intuition, and the theme is, 'we reflect and act upon feedback'. Students were asked to consider how you might show that you have acted upon feedback.*

*The Year 8 options process is nearly complete, and **students have until 14th March to make their final selections.***

*On Thursday last week, all Yr8 students were able to take part in taster sessions to support their selection of subject for GCSE. The day was a huge success, and all students and staff enjoyed the experience. A new timetable, subjects and staff on a wet day could have been daunting for our students but as always, they impressed us with their love of learning and exceptional conduct. Well done Yr8!*

*Important dates in the options process:*

- 14/03/24 Deadline for submitting option choices
- 29/03/24 Confirmation of option choices

*To access the option booklet and how to submit your application please visit the school website click [here](#)*

### **Key contacts for the options process**

- *If you need support with Applica, please contact: Mr Sloan Data Lead [wsloan@abbey.college](mailto:wsloan@abbey.college)*
- *If you need support with the options process Mrs Mills Raising standards lead for Yr8 [rmills@abbey.college](mailto:rmills@abbey.college) or Mrs Craig Assistant Headteacher [gcraig@abbey.college](mailto:gcraig@abbey.college)*
- *If you need support accessing student email accounts IT support [IT@meridiantrust.co.uk](mailto:IT@meridiantrust.co.uk)*

*Next week, we say goodbye to our Vice Chair of Governors, Mr Alan Dods who has supported and challenged the school for over 25 years. Alan is a humble and intuitive governor who we will miss. Alan will continue his role working with the Ramsey Foundation and we would like to thank him for his excellent work with Abbey College and wish him well for the future.*

*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 (see the end of this Update for details).*

*Have a lovely weekend.*

*Andy Christoforou, Headteacher*

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*Please read on for essential updates.*

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## Celebration of Spirit - Recognition



### Headteacher Commendations w/c 04/03/24

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

Maisie H	For supporting a peer in their return to school
Darcie Twyneham	For going above and beyond to support a new student
Ella B	Excellent work in your Options taster session - You truly are a star baker!
Grace W	Excellent work in your Options taster session - You truly are a star baker!
Freya S	Excellent work in your Options taster session - You truly are a star baker!
Annabelle R	Excellent work in your Options taster session - You truly are a star baker!
Matylda G	Excellent work in your Options taster session - You truly are a star baker!
Xander J	Excellent work in your Options taster session - You truly are a star baker!
Amethyst K	Excellent work in your Options taster session - You truly are a star baker!
Flynn F	Dr Frost Champion!
James M	Dr Frost Champion!
Zaki D	Dr Frost Champion!
Laura E	Dr Frost Champion!
Katie G	Excellent use of Dr Frost to support your maths revision
Hannah H	Excellent use of Dr Frost to support your maths revision
Ava M	For being an amazing last minute runner for Reception Office Duty
Zack J	For being an amazing last minute runner for Reception Office Duty
Yasmeenah T.	700+ Day streak on Duolingo
Megan J	200+ Day streak on Duolingo
Megan W	Amazing efforts and participation in the Barclays Girls Football Association event.
Amelie W	Amazing efforts and participation in the Barclays Girls Football Association event.
Pippa B	Amazing efforts and participation in the Barclays Girls Football Association event.
Fleur B	Amazing efforts and participation in the Barclays Girls Football Association event.
Leah H	Amazing efforts and participation in the Barclays Girls Football Association event.
Florence M	Amazing efforts and participation in the Barclays Girls Football Association event.
Ava H	Amazing efforts and participation in the Barclays Girls Football Association event.
Georgia H	Amazing efforts and participation in the Barclays Girls Football Association event.
Lanielle A	Amazing efforts and participation in the Barclays Girls Football Association event.
Ellie S	Amazing efforts and participation in the Barclays Girls Football Association event.
Nathaniel O	For improved attitude and behaviour at school. Well done!
Koby N	Outstanding effort and hard work this week on their poetry analysis.
Tino S	Outstanding effort and hard work this week on their poetry analysis.
Imogen O	For some high quality poem analysis.
Noah R	For some high quality poem analysis.
Isabelle C.	Volunteered to spend their free time after school helping organise the school library
Edwyn P	Volunteered to spend their free time after school helping organise the school library
Jack C	Volunteered to spend their free time after school helping organise the school library
Henry B	Volunteered to spend their free time after school helping organise the school library
Sam F	Volunteered to spend their free time after school helping organise the school library
Mason.	Volunteered to spend their free time after school helping organise the school library
Josh S	Volunteered to spend their free time after school helping organise the school library
Danielle Tydda	Volunteered to spend their free time after school helping organise the school library
Sophie B	Volunteered to spend their free time after school helping organise the school library
Mori L	Volunteered to spend their free time after school helping organise the school library
Amelia V	Volunteered to spend their free time after school helping organise the school library
Nala C	Volunteered to spend their free time after school helping organise the school library
Nathaniel O	Excellent efforts at the Northampton Saints rugby tournament yesterday Finishing 3 <sup>rd</sup> out of 11 schools. Demonstrated excellent attitudes and should be proud of their performance
Harry M	Excellent efforts at the Northampton Saints rugby tournament yesterday Finishing 3 <sup>rd</sup> out of 11 schools. Demonstrated excellent attitudes and should be proud of their performance
Xander J	Excellent efforts at the Northampton Saints rugby tournament yesterday Finishing 3 <sup>rd</sup> out of 11 schools. Demonstrated excellent attitudes and should be proud of their performance
Ieuan C.	Excellent efforts at the Northampton Saints rugby tournament yesterday Finishing 3 <sup>rd</sup> out of 11 schools. Demonstrated excellent attitudes and should be proud of their performance
Max P	Excellent efforts at the Northampton Saints rugby tournament yesterday Finishing 3 <sup>rd</sup> out of 11 schools. Demonstrated excellent attitudes and should be proud of their performance
Isaac H	Excellent efforts at the Northampton Saints rugby tournament yesterday Finishing 3 <sup>rd</sup> out of 11 schools. Demonstrated excellent attitudes and should be proud of their performance
Jayden M	Excellent efforts at the Northampton Saints rugby tournament yesterday Finishing 3 <sup>rd</sup> out of 11 schools. Demonstrated excellent attitudes and should be proud of their performance
Frankie C	Excellent efforts at the Northampton Saints rugby tournament yesterday Finishing 3 <sup>rd</sup> out of 11 schools. Demonstrated excellent attitudes and should be proud of their performance
Arthur S	Excellent efforts at the Northampton Saints rugby tournament yesterday Finishing 3 <sup>rd</sup> out of 11 schools. Demonstrated excellent attitudes and should be proud of their performance
Harry W	Excellent efforts at the Northampton Saints rugby tournament yesterday Finishing 3 <sup>rd</sup> out of 11 schools. Demonstrated excellent attitudes and should be proud of their performance
Harry T	Excellent efforts at the Northampton Saints rugby tournament yesterday Finishing 3 <sup>rd</sup> out of 11 schools. Demonstrated excellent attitudes and should be proud of their performance

## 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*

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**Ms Sheldrake:** Passion - As well as being a great Subject Leader, she also runs the successful peripatetic music provision, over-seeing a group of staff across primaries - the students are lucky to have her!

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### ***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](mailto:office@abbey.college) .*

## Parent information

### ***Parent Forum***

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*The next Parent Forum is on **Wednesday 27th March at 5pm** on Teams.*

*The agenda is:*

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- *Support with work experience - L Pollard*
  - *AI linked to homework – T Huggins*
  - *Guidance for staff when communicating to parents– G Craig*
  - *Fundraising and Finance Update*
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*Please take a moment to **complete our survey** to give your views on the agenda or any other item you want to raise:*

<https://uk.surveymonkey.com/r/ParentsForum23-24>

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

If you would like to attend, please email: [parentforum@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:parentforum@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk)

Charlotte Downing - Chair of Parent Forum

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### ***Parent and Community Governors***

The Governing Body are pleased to announce that we have two new governors, Mrs Kamau as a Parent Governor, and Mrs Sutton as a Foundation Governor. The Governing Body warmly welcome them to the school and look forward to working with them.

The Governing Body 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**

#### **Library - Grand Opening**

The English department are incredibly excited to announce the opening of the new school library on the 12th March. We are hosting an opening event and selling tickets to help raise money; proceeds will go towards new books and furnishings.

Staff, students and parents/carers are invited, and we would love to welcome you all along. If you would like to purchase a ticket and are not set up on ParentPay, please contact Miss O'Connell or Mrs Smithson-Ingrey.



Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Sixth Form Poetry Day Library Grand Opening 5pm
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Y11 Music Dropdown Day Year 10 Virtual Parents Evening 4.30-7.30pm
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Year 10 Music Dropdown Day
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Last Day of Spring Term
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 10 Work Experience
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Alton Towers Attendance Reward Trip

### Assessment calendar: How your child is doing?

- **Pupil Premium funding** is reviewed annually and details of the school spending are on the [website](#). An important aspect of the school offer is supporting students to access academic trips and enrichment. This year's discounts are academic trips 25% and other school trips at 15%.
- **Year 7 and 8 reading tests** are taking place in English lessons over the next two weeks.
- **Year 11 Trials** are drawing to a close and students are being asked to sit papers they have missed. For students where it is not possible to catch up on the trial papers owing to the high volume of papers not sat, the Trial 2 report will contain a new grade, X. This is the grade used by examination boards to indicate that a student was absent from an exam and no grade can be returned.
- **Year 13 Trials** are continuing into next week.
- **Year 11 and 13 reports** will be published on the last day of term and available on Edulink from Friday.

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*Students Reports: These are filed under 'Documents' in Edulink. If you need support, contact [LBennett@abbey.college](mailto:LBennett@abbey.college)*

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## Student expectations and safety

### **Uniform: Jewellery and Socks**

*Next week, we will be focusing our daily uniform checks on jewellery and white socks. Our uniform expectations are in place to ensure equality among students and also to ensure that students arrive in school ready to learn. Our Uniform Policy states that trousers should be worn with black socks and our expectations around jewellery are as follows:*

- *No visible bangles, bracelets or necklaces.*
  - *One small plain ring per hand*

- *No facial piercings (eyebrows, tongue, lip or chin) except a small discreet nose stud.*
    - *One small stud or hoop in each ear under ½ cm in size*
      - *Ear stretchers are not permitted*
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*Any student found not following this code will be issued with a tell and have the items of jewellery confiscated until the end of the day. We would really value your support in ensuring that your child/ren come in to school each day in the correct uniform.*

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## ***Student welfare and wellbeing***

### **Staying safe online**

This week we have been talking to students about online safety and shared the following reminders:

- remember that not everyone is who they say online
- remember not everything is true 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

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

### ***Student attendance - Week 23***

- **Congratulations:** Most improved year group last week- Year 8. If you want to know your son's/daughter's attendance target for Alton Towers, please email [attendance@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk).
- **Reminder:** A full day absence is not authorised for medical appointments such as Dentist, orthodontist or pre-booked GP appointments. Missing a full day is not acceptable.

## 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! These are all signposted within Edulink.

## 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?

Click here <https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/students/curriculum> to find out information on the curriculums we offer.

## 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/](https://www.instagram.com/abbeycollege_ramsey/)