

Weekly Family Update – 15.03.24

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



We have all been enjoying the lighter mornings and evenings this week. The blossom is out, and Spring is definitely in the air.

The virtue of the week is 'Passion', and the theme is, 'We volunteer to go above and beyond'.

During Welfare Wednesday, students were simply reminded about being kind to each other. The messages they were given were:

if you can be anything, be kind - you cannot see what other people are going through. Key points:

- Be someone who makes everyone feel like a somebody;*
- It is nice to be important, but it's more important to be nice;*
- Remember that we all have stuff going on, and we need to consider that when we talk to other people.*

The new library grand opening was on Tuesday evening, hosted by the English Department and special guest Louis de Bernières. It was a proud moment for Abbey College and the library will be available to students to enjoy during lessons, breaks and lunchtimes, supervised by staff and our Library Prefects. Thank you to Ms Smithson-Ingreby who created the vision and saw it through to reality, amassing books and furniture donations.

As you know, this is a noticeably short half term, so there will be no Weekly Update next week, and instead as per usual, we will send the Community Round-up that captures everything from the Spring Term.

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

Please read on for essential updates.

Celebration of Spirit - Recognition

Headteacher Commendations w/c 11/03/24

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



| Student | Nominated for |
|--------------|---|
| Isabelle C | For the superb effort you have put in to you trial GCSEs |
| Tammy H | For the superb effort you have put in to you Trial Exams |
| Lily F | For always trying to support and help others |
| Ollie C | Outstanding help when organising the school library, thank you for volunteering. |
| Declan D | Outstanding hard work and effort recently in his English lessons, well done. |
| Nicole A | An extremely mature and respectful attitude |
| Axel T | For his fantastic effort with his guitar lessons |
| Natasha S | Outstanding effort in Maths recently after a class move has really settled to the class. |
| Kenya D | A rousing performance of Blanche DuBois in our English lesson - thank you for helping bring the text to life! |
| Olivia P | Dedication to catch-up after absence. |
| Paige O | For your dedication and focus both inside and outside of lessons. Keep it up! |
| Bethany W | Well done working hard to improve your attendance, keep it up! |
| Vincent He | For dedicating his own time to share his talent for piano playing at the Library opening. |
| Millie R | For giving up her own time to share her amazing piano skills at the library opening |
| Maya E | For giving up her own time to share her amazing piano skills at the library opening |
| Alessandro P | 300 day streak on Duolingo |

Pearson National Teaching Awards 2024 - Nominations open

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

Staff member of the week

Miss Beel: Passion – For organising the Y11 exams and making it easy for staff to help 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

Parent Forum

The next Parent Forum is on Wednesday **24th April** on Teams.

The agenda is:

- 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



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

Charlotte Downing - Chair of Parent Forum

Parent and Community Governors

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

| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Friday 15 th March 2024 | Year 10 Music Dropdown Day |
| Tuesday 26 th March 2024 | Year 8 HPV Vaccinations |
| Thursday 28 th March 2024 | Last Day of Spring Term |
| Monday 15 th April | INSET Day |
| Tuesday 16 th April | Summer Term Starts |
| Monday 10 th to Friday 14 th June | Year 10 Work Experience |
| Friday 7 th June | Alton Towers Attendance Reward Trip |

Assessment calendar: How your child is doing?

- **Year 7 and 8** NGRT tests are continuing this week during English lessons.
- **Year 9 and 10 students** have had assemblies this week focusing on the information in their Spring report; Trial 2 results, particularly English and maths, progress and effort, the Basics and prior attainment bands and rewards.
- **Year 10 Citizenship Trial results** will be available on Edulink next week. The grades achieved in the Trial are being used to determine which students are entered for the GCSE exam in June 2024. Classes will be rearranged for some sessions in the lead up to the GCSE exam.
- **Year 11 and 13 reports** are due out at midnight on the last day of term.

Students Reports: These are filed under 'Documents' in Edulink. If you need support, contact LBennett@abbey.college

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

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.

Student welfare and wellbeing

Be Kind

This week we have been reminding students of the importance of being kind to others as you can't see what other people are going through.

- be somebody who makes everyone feel like a somebody.
- it's nice to be important, but it's more important to be nice.

If you or your child are aware of another student who is struggling with an issue at home or school, please ask your child to help that student share their concern with someone in school, their form tutor, a teacher or Welfare.

Student attendance - Week 24

- **Congratulations:** Most improved Year Group- Year 10 with an 0.14% increase in their attendance last week. If you want to know your son's/daughter's attendance target for Alton Towers, please email attendance@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk
- **Reminder:** Please be mindful that occasional days off school owing to minor illnesses such as a cough or sore throat, soon accumulate.

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

| | |
|---|--|
|  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?

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/