

Weekly Family Update – 18.03.24



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'. During assemblies, and our morning briefings with pupils, they were asked to explore what it means to be 'proactive' and to articulate good examples of showing this in and out of school.

During Welfare Wednesday, students were provided with several anti-bullying reminders, asking them to think before they comment and how they might stop a friend who is being unkind to someone. In addition, students were reminded of the various avenues of support if they are on the receiving end of unkindness.

As per usual and after every break, all year group had a series of Reset Assemblies with Mrs Noble to remind pupils of our expectations and what went well last term, along with the areas for improvement. Uniform checks were also conducted during this week, and I am pleased to say that the overwhelming majority were looking great!

Uniform for the Summer Term

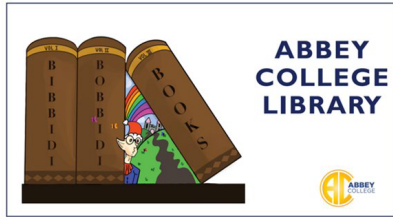
Thank you for your ongoing support in ensuring that your children come to school smart and ready to learn. We do not have a summer uniform at Abbey College and our expectations remain the same throughout the year. When the weather gets significantly warmer, we will notify parents and students that blazers can be removed. If we have an exceptionally warm spell of weather, then we will allow students the option of coming to school in their school PE kit for that duration and will notify parents that this is the case.

A reminder, our new library is open, and staff are seeking to appoint Library Prefects. Below is an image that shows the application process for your child.

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



How can I use the library?

- You will need to ask your English teacher for a library card
- You will be permitted to use the library at break time if you can show your card to a member of staff
- You cannot use the library if you forget your card!

Apply to be a library prefect!

Responsibilities:

- Manning the library at break time
- Keeping an electronic record of those who have checked books in/out

How to Apply

- Write a **letter** to Miss O'Connell and Mrs Smithson-Ingrey explaining why you would make a good prefect by **Wednesday 27th March**.
- This should be half a page long.



Please read on for essential updates.

Celebration of Spirit - Recognition

Headteacher Commendations w/c 15/04/24

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
Zoe P	For winning every netball game at the tournament and becoming District Netball Champions!
Lily H	For winning every netball game at the tournament and becoming District Netball Champions!
Amelia G	For winning every netball game at the tournament and becoming District Netball Champions!
Summer S	For winning every netball game at the tournament and becoming District Netball Champions!
Lucy G	Academic Excellence
Lexi S	Academic Excellence
Charlotte C	Academic Excellence
Casper S	Academic Excellence
Cara P	For winning every game at the tournament and becoming District Netball Champions!
Jessica L	For winning every game at the tournament and becoming District Netball Champions!
Sophie A	For winning every game at the tournament and becoming District Netball Champions!
Ellie-May G	For winning every game at the tournament and becoming District Netball Champions!
Olivia M	For their leadership and coaching within the netball district tournament
Laura N	For their leadership and coaching within the netball district tournament
Hannah C	Achieved a silver award in the Mid-Anglian region middle school chemistry challenge 2024
Euan C	Achieved a copper award in the Mid-Anglian region middle school chemistry challenge
Charles L	Achieved a copper award in the Mid-Anglian region middle school chemistry challenge 2024
Owen G	Achieved a copper award in the Mid-Anglian region middle school chemistry challenge 2024
Issac W	Achieved a copper award in the Mid-Anglian region middle school chemistry challenge 2024
Ella B	For Outstanding achievement in Child Development

Staff member of the week

Mrs Dale: Passion - Your support with Year 7 Social Studies is very much appreciated! You are a fantastic TA and a very welcome addition to the classroom, thank you!

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

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

Wednesday 24 th April	Y9 Further Education/Apprenticeships Presentation and Sixth Form University Presentation
W/C 29 th April	Y11 MFL Oral Exams
Monday 6 th May	May Bank Holiday
Friday 10 th May	Sixth Form Leavers Event
Monday 10 th to Friday 14 th June	Year 10 Work Experience
Friday 7 th June	Alton Towers Attendance Reward Trip
Thursday 20 th June	Y7 Virtual Parents Evening 4.30-7.30pm
Monday 24 th June	Sixth Form Induction Prizegiving Ceremony – by invitation only
Tuesday 24 th June	Sixth Form Induction

Assessment calendar: How your child is doing?

- The **end of year assessments for Year 7 and 8 students** starts next week. All students should know the form the assessment is taking for each subject that they study. Revision lists should be on Teams for subjects using testing.
- **Year 7 Parent Evening** will take place in early June. This is a virtual Parent Evening and bookings for appointments take place through Edulink. Please ensure that your Edulink login is working and if there are issues, please contact LBennett@abbey.college.
- **Year 7 and 8 students** will be completing the PASS survey in the next few weeks. This captures information about how individual students are feeling about their safety, their workload, their learning, school in general and themselves.
- **Year 9 and 10 students** will be completing the Personalised Learning survey in the next few weeks. This captures how safe and well they are feeling and their sleep habits. It also captures their perceptions of their workload and their confidence in being able to complete all their schoolwork to a high standard. It gives the school insights into how ambitious and confident individual students are about their future plans and aspirations.

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

Student expectations and safety

Uniform support: Jewellery

There are still a small number of students wearing jewellery to school. Please note the following guidelines from the policy:

- 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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Lost Property

We have a large number of unnamed coats and items of PE kit in our lost property collection. They have been on display in our Aspiration Zone for over a month for students to collect. If your child has lost an item, then please encourage them to retrieve it from lost property. Any items that remain at the end of next week will be passed on to our Pre-loved Uniform Shop.

Student welfare and wellbeing

Chroming

There has been a lot of press attention recently regarding '**Chroming**' which is a concerning trend that is being shared on social media. Chroming involves inhaling various chemicals like aerosols, nitrous oxide, solvents, and nitrites, also known variously as 'nangs', 'nossies', 'whippets', and 'bullets'. This activity is associated with a euphoric high, but carries potentially fatal risks, including heart and lung damage, as well as harm to brain and behavioural development.

The Safer Schools Partnership has created an information page for parents which has additional information about chroming as well as help and advice.

Safer schools link: [dangerous-challenge-safeguarding-risks](#)

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

Student attendance - Week 27

- **Congratulations:** Most improved Year Group- Year 7 with an 0.3% 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 due to minor illnesses, such as a cough or sort 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
Friday	MO	GCSE Support	After School	GH2
	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/