

Weekly Family Update - 24.02.23

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

Tip: to quickly navigating this online Update, try using the icon on the bottom right of your page that will turn this into a quick-access contents page.

Foreword

I'll begin with a great bit of news for our curriculum and its impact. We are delighted to announce that Abbey College was awarded the highly sought after Artsmark Gold Award! The feedback from the assessors cited that, 'It was a pleasure to see the thoughtful way you have incorporated the Arts within your holistic curriculum, with its emphasis on personal development as well as academic achievement. Your successes are partly conveyed by the uptake of arts and creative subjects at the upper end of the school. You have prioritised the Arts as a way of accelerating progress post-pandemic, ensuring that young people have a chance to maintain or restore wellbeing as well as academic achievement.' Well done to Ms Davey who has led this goal and we are deeply proud of the diversity and inclusiveness of our curriculum.



The postponed Parent Forum Meeting is taking next Tuesday. See below for details

Finally, we have recently experienced a spate of cars driving onto our site at well beyond the 5mph speed limit, to drop-off their children. The speed limit is in place to protect everyone, and at this stage, we politely ask that you follow this requirement. Please remember that in the morning, students must only be dropped off at the Bus Turnaround so that they can safely walk into School along the main pathway.

I wish you all a very enjoyable weekend.

Andy Christoforou, Headteacher

PARENT FORUM GUARANTEE

After following these stages, if you feel your query has not been answered you should complete our Parent Forum Guarantee.

This gives all parents the right to talk with our Headteacher within



and a further meeting, if needed, within the following



Call 01487 812352 or email office@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk stating 'Parent Guarantee Forum'

Please read on for essential updates.

Celebration of Spirit - Rewards



Congratulations to each of our year groups for meeting their Spirit target last half term. It has been wonderful seeing students enjoy their non-uniform days as a reward for demonstrating our virtues to such a high standard. In addition to the non-uniform day, the highest scoring form group in each year group will celebrate with a form group party.

Headteacher Commendations

The following students have been awarded with Headteacher's commendations this week for going above and beyond, either within a subject, outside the classroom or beyond School.

Student	Nominated for
Islay Y	For fantastic support at the Year 8 options evening.
Lily-Mae A	Stepping in extremely last minute to allow the year 8 cricket team to play.
Aimee L	Commitment to the cricket team
Amelie B	Commitment to the cricket team
Amy D	Commitment to the cricket team
Emily T	Stepping in extremely last minute to allow the year 8 cricket team to play.
Jess B	Commitment to the cricket team
Julia S	Commitment to the cricket team
Maya E	Commitment to the cricket team
Georgia P	Consistently excellent response th English language and literature assessments.
Chloe Day	Top of the DrFrost leaderboard
Jack L	Second on the DrFrost leaderboard
Jakub L	3 rd on the DrFrost leaderboard

If you would like to nominate someone for an Abbey College Spirit Award then please follow this [link](#).

Parent Forum - Rescheduled Meeting



The next Parent Forum meeting – **Tuesday 28th February 4:30pm**, where they will be discussing:

- Lining up for lessons and year group zones
- Homework tracking
- Attendance Policy

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

Cheryl Greyson - Chair of Parent Forum

High Expectations, Behaviour and Safety

Attendance - Week 22

- **Congratulations:** To all the students who are eligible to come to Thorpe Park-attendance targets have been set for all other students. If you want to know your son's/daughter's attendance target, please email attendance@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk
- **Reminder:** All absences must be reported via the appropriate channels and not emailed to individual teachers. The absence line is manned from 7am daily.

Safety

Sex and relationships

Talking to your child about relationships can be tricky. There are lots of places to go for advice, this guide includes advice on how to talk to your child about healthy relationships, sexuality and gender.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/sex-relationships/>

If you do have any concerns about your child in relation to the information above you can also contact the Welfare Dept who are happy to support, email via welfare@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk

Wider personal development

Our Year 7 assembly this week was led by a group of Year 10 students who have been trained as 'Kick Ash' Mentors.

The students delivered an excellent and thought-provoking assembly on the risks and dangers of vaping as well as giving them guidance on how to resist peer pressure.

Vaping is an increasing trend among young people across the UK and therefore it is important for us to give our students the tools that they need to be able to make informed decisions about their health and well-being.

Clubs (OOP) and Activities



The Abbey College OOP

The Offer and Opportunity Programme

What is it?

The OOP is the whole school enrichment programme for students that run throughout the year for all year groups 7-10 during lunchtime and afterschool.

It has a huge variety between 'open' offers which anyone can sign up to and then some 'application' based offers which are all included in the information on each offer on EduLink.

Why should I do an OOP?

Being a part of the Abbey College community gives you lots of new experiences and hopefully ignite new passions and interests.

Try something new!

How do I sign up?

You access EduLink and find the 'clubs' tab and sign up to your offer.

Who to contact

If you know who the leader is, contact them on Teams or Email.



Access to EduLink
<https://www.edulinkone.com>
 School ID is 'acr'



Information about subjects

Year 8 Options

It was lovely to welcome Year 8 parents back into school on the 9th of February for the Yr8 Options information evening. We hope you found the evening informative and supportive.

Over the past month we have been working with our Yr8 students to support them to make decisions about their curriculum. On our [website](#) and within school we have a range of material to help parents and students navigate selecting their option subjects.




The deadline for Year 8 students to submit their option choice is Monday 27th of February. You will find the preference form [here](#).

All students will receive their option choice allocation in the week commencing 27/03/23.

If you have any questions please contact alison.beel@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk

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.

What your child is learning?

Here at Abbey College we offer a wide range of subjects. Our website holds key information to support students in their learning. Please see <https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/students/curriculum> and select the curriculum you would like to know more about.

Assessment: How your child is doing?

- **Year 11 Trials** start after half term on 27.02.23. Year 11 students have information about exam regulations and the dates of the Trial 2 exams. Students should be revising over half term and their revision will be more effective if they are regularly tested on what they have learnt. Information about individual assessments and revision lists will be going on Teams shortly.
- **Summer 2023** exams are starting to appear on **Edulink** for Year 11, 12 and 13 students. You can view individual student exam entries there.
- **Year 12 reports** including current and predicted grades will be published next week.
- **Edulink** is our main communication platform. If you are having connection issues with Edulink please contact help@CMAT.support. For other issues please contact the office@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk. We are currently looking at parental usage and will be contacting all parents who are yet to log onto Edulink to offer support.

Parent Diary Dates 2022-23

Date	Activity/Event
Thursday 2 nd March	Year 10 Virtual Parents' Evening 4:30-7:30pm
Monday 13 th – Friday 17 th March	Year 10 Work Experience Week
Tuesday 28 th March	Year 9 STEM Day
Friday 31 st March	Last day of the Spring Term
Monday 3 rd April to Friday 14 th April	Easter Holiday – school closed
Monday 17 th April	INSET Day – staff only in school
Tuesday 18 th April	Students return 8:30am - Summer Term

Communicating with us and how to raise concerns

To help you reach the right person if you have a query or concern, we have updated our “contact us” webpage and have included a simplified flowchart to show the most efficient way to communicate with us.

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- [Click here](#) to access this Communication Flowchart on our website.
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