



13th September

Autumn Term 2019 News

Welcome to our new Foundation children

All the children have made a brilliant start to the new academic year and this week we welcomed our new foundation children to our school family.

Pareeka
Henrietta
Archie
Archie

Tudor
Georgina
Charlie

Eden
Eleanor
Emily

Layla
Summer
Charlotte

They have had a great first week and we look forward to getting to know you and your families over the coming weeks.

Reading Workshop – Year 1 and 2 parents -18th September

Please join us for our Year 1 and 2 reading workshop on Wednesday 18th September at 2.30pm. The workshop will be focusing on gaining the most from structured reading books. We will examine and share a range of strategies that children can apply in different combinations. Following on from this we will look at the breadth of assessment criteria in becoming an effective reader and how best you can help your child with comprehension, both literal and inferential.

Phonics Workshop – Thursday 26th September

This workshop is for parents of our Foundation children and any Monet parents who would like a refresher! Mrs Wilcock will share the resource that we use for teaching phonics, 'Storytime Phonics' and she will go over what we teach in each phase. She will also share the ways in which you can support your child at home with this important skill in learning read.



No Nuts Please



Just a reminder for the new term that we are a **nut free school**. Please do not send your child into school with any nut based products in their packed lunch. Thank you for your support.

Break time snacks

All children in Foundation and KS1 are offered a free piece of fruit or vegetable every day, however, any child in KS2 may bring a fruit or vegetable snack to eat at play time. No other snacks are allowed.



Data letter sent home today

We are pleased to share with you our end of year data for the last academic year. This data is a summary of how we compare to national and local data and as can see we have a great deal to celebrate!

Football Festivals

We work closely with other local schools in a cluster (known as the HAPP cluster – Huntingdon Area Primary Partnership). As a cluster of schools we have again been busy organising a calendar of Football Festivals for our keen footballers from Year 1 to Year 6. As last year, a selection of children from the respective year group will spend the day at St Ives Football Club, where they will spend the morning practising skills and learning drills and in the afternoon they will compete against other local schools in a tournament.

The Year 6's festival is on **Thursday 26th September**. A permission letter has been sent home today. Please return this asap.



STARS

Annual General Meeting

S.T.A.R.S (Support Team for Abbots Ripton School) is the PTA (Parent Teacher association) for Abbots Ripton C of E Primary School. All parents are automatically members. They do a fantastic job to support the school by raising funds for projects, equipment and extra opportunities that enhance the learning environment for all of our children.

We start the year with the Annual General Meeting where we discuss the previous year and make plans for the coming year. There are 4 positions within STARS some of which are statutory due to our charity status. These include Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. If you are interested in finding out more about these roles, or would like to nominate yourself, please contact Mrs Nixon in the school office before Tuesday 24th September.

Everyone is welcome, do come along and join in. The meeting is on **Wednesday 25th September at 7.00pm** in the school hall.

Sponsored Walk

A group of willing parents have kindly organised a 9 mile sponsored walk on Saturday 28th September through Wyton, Houghton and finishing with a celebratory drink in Huntingdon! They are doing this to raise money for STARS which is hugely appreciated. We are in the process of setting up a JustGiving page so you can sponsor our lovely ladies. As soon as it goes live we will let you know. However if you wish to send in a donation now then please make any cheques payable to STARS and hand into the school office in an envelope marked "Sponsored Walk". Please do sponsor them to encourage them to finish!! Thank you for your support!

Christmas cards and gifts

Last year the STARS team organised the opportunity for your child to design their own Christmas card in school which was then printed and made available for you to purchase. These proved to be very popular and as such we are going to do this again this year. The design will be available for you to see and order by October half term. If you have a pre schooler and would like to design a card with them at home, please collect a form from the school office.

Rise and Shine Club

We are delighted to be able to offer you the Rise and Shine Club in the morning from 8am run by St Ives Town FC. They are now accepting Foundation children although do please be aware that next week they start full time so may find this too much! Flyers are attached for booking.



Macmillan Cancer Care

Every year Macmillan Cancer Care holds Coffee mornings up and down the country to raise much needed funds for their wonderful charity.



Again this year we are going to have a non-uniform day and for this we are asking for a £1.00 donation to come to school dressed in the colours of the Macmillan campaign – purple, green and white. We will also have a cupcake/biscuit for each child to buy at break time at the cost of 50p. If you wish to send in any further donation for this wonderful charity then we will be happy to send it on for you. Please send in monies in a named envelope.

Everyone is touched by cancer at some point in their lives, whether it is a family member, a friend, neighbour or a loved one. Please help us to raise funds to support this worthy charity.

Magpas



In the Summer term last year we had a day of first aid training by the Magpas crew. Magpas Air Ambulance is a charity which brings essential lifesaving care by land and air to patients in life-threatening emergencies in the East of England and beyond. They ran several workshops throughout the day showing our year 3 – 6 children the basics of first aid including CPR and how to use a defibrillator. It was a fantastic opportunity for the children and they all thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Thank you for any donations received on the day.

The Year 6 decided that part of the money they raised from the Enterprise Project stalls at the Summer Fair would also be donated to Magpas and a cheque for £137 was presented last week to a member of the team who joined us in Collective Worship. Thank you all for your support.

Attendance

As you know we monitor attendance at school very closely and as such we are delighted to inform you that our whole school attendance for last year remains slightly above the national figure (based on historic data available). Our thanks to all families for your support with this great effort.

2016 - 2017	2017 - 2018	2018 - 2019
96.8%	97.4%	96.7%

Attendance % for W/E 13/09/19

Van Gogh ~ 98%
Monet ~ 99%
Kandinsky ~ 99%
Picasso ~ 100%

Harvest Service – Monday 23rd September at 2.30pm



We will once again be supporting a local charity, Coneygear Court in Huntingdon who offer temporary housing, between 4 weeks and a year, to single homeless people and homeless families who are from the local area. Some of our Year 6 children will take the collection to Coneygear Court and they will hear about the important work that this charity does. **We would be very grateful if you could send in any donations with your child on the day. They would be particularly grateful for fruit squash, packets of biscuits, bags of fruit and dried pasta.** You are all welcome to join us for the service in the church.

Reading Challenges

Did you take part in this year's Summer Reading Challenge at your local library? Did you take part in the school summer reading challenge? If the answer is YES to either or both then please send in your completed challenges and/or the shiny medal and certificate from the library so that we can celebrate this in school. We will celebrate on Friday 20th so please ensure we have this in school by then!



New Term Reminders

The next section is a list of reminders which we hope you will find helpful.

School uniform – it was lovely to see everyone looking so neat and tidy on their first day back. Please ensure that your child has the correct uniform at all times including shoes. I know this can sometimes be a problem as the shops can run out of stock during the holidays but please ensure that we are made aware of any delay so that we don't keep asking your child about their footwear which can be embarrassing for them. There is a clear guide on the school website of what is expected.

Hair- all shoulder length hair and longer should be tied up at all times not just in PE. This is part of our Health and Safety risk assessment to ensure that everyone is kept safe. Hair adornments should be kept to a minimum and should be in school colours only.

Earrings – If your child has pierced ears they need to remove their earrings for PE lessons. If they cannot remove them then please provide some micro pore tape that they can apply to cover them during the lesson. This is required for health and safety reasons. The school no longer provides tape for this purpose.

Lost Property – please label all of your children's clothes including shoes. It is extremely time consuming for staff and costly for you when items go missing! The name stickers seem to be very good (and the most time efficient).

Sickness absence – If your child is unwell then please telephone the school office before 9.30am so we can ensure that they are marked on the register correctly.

Arriving late at school - Please can we remind you that our school day starts at 8.50am. If you arrive after this time then please bring your child into school via the main office. We need to know they have arrived on site as they may not have been marked into the register in the classroom. Lateness can be upsetting for a child particularly if their class mates have already settled to learning. They will be marked late on the registers if they arrive after 8.50am and they will be marked absent for the morning session if they arrive after registers close at 9am.

Car Park – Please ensure that you park sensibly in the car park. Due to the nature of the car park flooring we cannot paint lines to section spaces but please do consider other users by ensuring that you pull forward against the edges, that gaps between cars are not too big and that you are parked straight!!! **Please do not park on the main road at any time.** This area is for the bus and emergency vehicles only.

Collection at the end of the day – Your child can be collected, with your permission, by anyone listed on your contact sheet. If someone else is taking them home then please contact the school

office by 2.30pm to give your permission for us to release them at the end of the day. If your child is in Year 5 or 6 and you would like them to walk home without an adult, please come into the school office to sign a permission slip.

Bus users- If your child has a bus pass we assume that they will use the transport every day. If they have a regular pattern of being collected on other days then please let the office know.

Dogs on site

We do kindly ask that dogs are not brought onto the school site and if they are tied up outside please ensure that this is not too close to our gates as some children can be frightened by dogs.

Email communication – Information is sent home via email by an **outgoing email account only**. If you wish to contact the office please email to Office@abbotsripton.cambs.sch.uk

Monies into the office – Please send in dinner money promptly as if you have a debt on your account of more than £10 we will ask that you provide a packed lunch until this payment is cleared. All money should be sent into the school office in a **named envelope stating who and what the money is for**. Please ensure that cheques are paid to the correct place e.g. school or clubs providers. If sending in cash, the correct change is always appreciated! Cheques made payable to Abbots Ripton CE Primary School.

Packed lunches - We encourage all children to eat healthily and whilst we appreciate a small treat is nice to have in their lunch box, please do try to send your child with a balanced meal and we ask that this does not include any sweets or fizzy drinks.

Water bottles - Please ensure you send in a named water bottle every day with your child. Please do not fill bottles with anything but water to consume in the classroom.



Diary Dates

Please see below the diary dates for the Autumn term 2019

*Any new dates added in the future will be in **bold italics***

Date	Event
16 th September	New Foundation children stay all day from now – 8:50am – 3:15pm
17 th September	Class information meeting for Van Gogh class – 2:50pm
18 th September	Reading Workshop for Parents of Year 1 and 2 – 2:40pm
23 rd September	Harvest Service in church at 2.30pm – everyone welcome
25th September	STARS Annual General Meeting – 7pm – everyone welcome
26th September	Year 6 Football festival
26 th September	Phonics Workshop for Foundation Parents – 2.40pm
27 th September	Macmillan Coffee Morning – NON-UNIFORM DAY and CUPCAKE (children invited to wear something green/purple or white)
3 rd October	School photos – individual and siblings
7 th October	Year 6 Ely Cathedral day
9 th October	Open Session for Foundation intake 2020 - 9:30am -10:30am
9 th October	Eucharist lessons and service at 2.30pm.
W/C 14 th October	Focus Week – Thanksgiving
16 th October	Parent Consultations – 3:30pm – 7:30pm
17 th October	Parent Consultations – 3:30pm – 5:30pm
21st – 25th October	HALF TERM

28 th October	School starts again
29th October	Year 5 Football festival
31 st October	Kandinsky class sharing assembly – 2:50pm. Everyone welcome
1 st November	Special lunch – Divali - Booking form to follow
4 th November	Monet class sharing assembly – 2:50pm. Everyone welcome
7th November	Year 4 Football festival
8 th November	Remembrance Day – Church service 2:30pm. Everyone welcome.
11 th – 15 th November	Anti-bullying Week
13 th November	Open Session for Foundation intake 2020 - 2:00pm – 3:00pm
15 th November	Children In Need Day
W/C 18 th November	Whole School Open Door – day to be confirmed
18 th – 22 nd November	Nursery Rhyme week
20 th November	Van Gogh class sharing assembly – 2:50pm. Everyone welcome
25 th November	Flu Vaccinations for all children
28 th November	Picasso class sharing assembly – 2:50pm. Everyone welcome
6 th December	Whole School Christmas Decorating Morning. Everyone welcome
6 th December	STARS Annual Christmas Fair from 3:30pm at the Village Hall
9 th December	Van Gogh and Monet Nativity Performance – 9:30am and 2:00pm
10 th December	Van Gogh and Monet Nativity Performance – 9:30am
13 th December	Whole School Christmas Lunch including Christmas Jumper day
16 th December	Panto visit – Sleeping Beauty
18 th December	Christmas Christingle Service – 2.30pm in the church
19th Dec to 6th Jan 2019	Christmas Holiday
6 th January	Training day – School Closed
7 th January	Spring term begins