



11th February

School news Update

Our church school creates a firm foundation where together, with God's help and with the help of others, we learn for life, achieve our best and grow in faith.

Raptor Foundation

We had a lovely visit from the Raptor Foundation yesterday and the KS2 children were very excited to see the birds fly! Thank you to everyone who sent in a donation towards their work. For more information on the Raptor Foundation please do have a look at their website [here](#).



Welcome

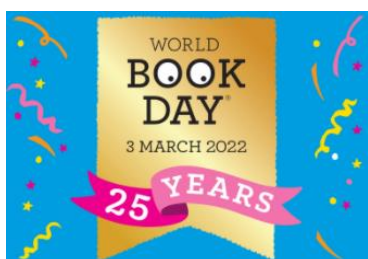
We would like to welcome Ariadne and her family to our school community. Ariadne joined us last week in Monet Class. We do hope you enjoy your time here at Abbots Ripton CofE School.

Parent consultations

The parent consultations this term will be held on Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd March. This is an opportunity to discuss how your child is progressing, their strengths and their areas to develop. We are delighted that we are going to be able to resume face to face appointments however please be aware that this may change if we have an outbreak after the half term holiday. Fingers crossed! Please be aware that these appointments are for 10 minutes – if you feel you need longer to discuss a specific issue then please make the class teacher aware so that an alternative time can be arranged at a mutually convenient time following your consultation.



An email has been sent to everyone today. **Please email this back to the school office on office@abbotsripton.cambs.sch.uk by Thursday 24th February** at the latest. We will then let you know your confirmed time slot. Please be aware that all times will be allocated on a first come first served basis.



World Book day – Thursday 3rd March

This year we would like to invite the children to come to school dressed as a character from a book. We would like the children to be prepared to talk about the book that their character comes from and maybe something about the book e.g. the storyline, their favourite part or they could read an extract.

Please do practise this at home with them and if they are also able to bring a copy of their book to school with them that would be good too.

We would also like to offer you the opportunity to be a 'secret reader'! We are encouraging you to film yourself or a Grandparent reading a story, or a short extract from a story, without telling your child/ren. We have set up a dedicated 'secret reader' YouTube page for you to upload your videos to and during World Book Day we will play the videos to the children – imagine their delighted faces when they see their grandparent or parent reading to everyone in their class! The reason for the Youtube channel is that the videos are likely to be too large for us accept by email. Please see the attached beginners guide for information on how to upload your video.

Token Reward for this half term

The winner of the token reward this half term was Arts and Crafts. The children have all enjoyed a craft/art activity this week.

The choices for this half term were Sports Fun (181 tokens), Fun in the wild wood (266 tokens) and Arts and Crafts (340 tokens).



New Menu and dinner money

We have reviewed the current menu with the help of the children and have produced a new menu, which will start after half term. Children in KS2 have had an opportunity to taste some of the new meals which they have enjoyed. Please see the new menu attached. You will see that the children now have three choices each day, with a choice of a Jacket Potato every day as well as the main and vegetarian options.

The cost of dinners for the next half term is £72.00 (30 days). If your child is in Kandinsky class and you have not ordered a packed lunch for the trip, then please deduct £2.40 from this amount. Please forward payment to the school office or pay direct then follow with an email to the school office with your child's name and the amount paid.

Bikeability for Year 5/6

Just a reminder that half term may be a good opportunity to check your child's bike ready for the Bikeability course in school on 14th – 17th March.



Palm Sunday Parish Walk

Our local Churches are coming together to celebrate Holy Week by organising a walk between the Churches of the Parish to bring people together. The walk starts at Kings Ripton Church on Palm Sunday (10th April) visiting Abbots Ripton Church, Great Stukeley Church, Little Stukeley Church and ending at Alconbury Church. A little activity pack will be provided at the start to keep the children going along with a breakfast treat and refreshments provided at the Churches. Times and details will be confirmed nearer the date, but please save the date and join us for either part of or all of the walk. All ages and those with four legs are welcome. We'd love to see you.

Home learning

Following the parent questionnaire regarding home learning, we have been setting a weekly task for the children to complete, linked to a relevant theme such as national storytelling week and Safer Internet day this week. We have been monitoring the engagement with this and feel that it hasn't been successful with only about 15% of the school regularly completing the tasks.

We have therefore decided that after half term our focus for home learning will be on maths, making use of the Mathletics and TTRockstars subscriptions that we buy in to.

The children from Years 2 to 6 have all been assessed this week on their TTRockstars accounts. Attached with this newsletter is a parent guide for TTRockstars to explain how this works and we really hope that parents will support their children with this.

We would like Year 2 to complete 20 minutes a week and Years 3 to 6 to complete 30 minutes a week – please note this is a minimum and your child can play for longer. This time can be split into a few minutes each day or completed in one session. There is a place for you to check on your child's progress and they will be automatically assessed for speed and accuracy and moved on when ready automatically. Some children have been quite surprised at their assessment results this week but this is due to needing instant recall (3 seconds) for each question. Please do encourage your child as times tables are such an integral part of so many other areas of maths and this is an excellent resource.

Any children who don't complete their minimum time each week will spend time in school completing it so please do try to embed this as a routine at home.

Mathletics will start after half term and we will share further details of the Mathletics home learning when we return.





FUND Raisin!

Do join in the STARS Fund-Raisin challenge! Each child has been given a box of raisins to enjoy. When the box is empty, see how many coins you can fit inside and then return it to school by 2nd March. How much can we raise?

Plant Sale

Thank you to everyone who purchased something from our plant sale. We were delighted with the response. Thank you for those who bought and donated bulbs to the school too!

Thank you!

Anna Chylinska-Derkowska (Lena's mum, in reception) has kindly volunteered to take over the coordination of the preloved uniform. Thank you very much Anna, it really is appreciated. If you are on the lookout for some uniform, please do speak to Anna.

STARS also wanted to say a big thank you to Caroline Bridge for coordinating the preloved uniform for several years now. Caroline restarted the preloved uniform fundraising initiative and it has been a very successful fundraiser for our school. Thank you Caroline!

Happy Half Term from STARS. We hope you all have a lovely half-term holiday.

STARS have some lovely fundraising events planned for the next half term and we can't wait to share them with you!



Diary Dates

Please see below the diary dates for the Spring 2022 term
Any new dates added in the future will be in bold and italics

Date	Event
<i>11th Feb – 2nd March</i>	<i>STARS Fund Raisin – see attached poster</i>
14 th – 18 th February	Half Term holiday
1 st March	Shrove Tuesday – Pancake Lunch Day: see separate flyer
2 nd March	Parent Consultations 3.30pm – 7.30pm – booking details attached
3 rd March	Parent Consultations 3.30pm – 5.30pm – booking details attached
3 rd March	World Book Day
14 th – 17 th March	Bikeability for Year 5/6
15 th March	Kandinsky Trip to West Stow Anglo Saxon Site
18 th March	Comic Relief Day
1 st April	Easter Church service - TBC
1 st April	End of Spring term 2022
19 th April	Teacher Training Day – school closed
20 th April	Summer term begins
2 nd May	Bank holiday – school closed
27 th May	Teacher Training Day – school closed
30 th May – 3 rd June	Half Term
6 th – 8 th July	Stibbington Residential – Year 5/6
21 st July	Summer term closes
22 nd July	Extra bank holiday owed due to Queens Jubilee. School closed.