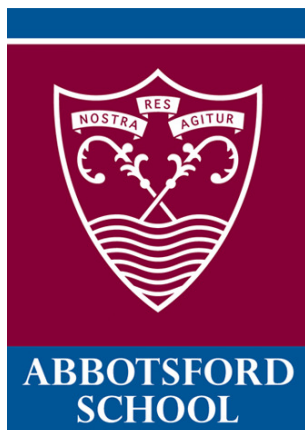


# The Abbotsford School Newsletter

Newsletter Date: 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2009  
Volume 3, Issue 4

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## Upcoming Events

- ◆ **Y1 Trip to ThinkTank**  
Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> May.
- ◆ **School Open Days**  
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May, Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May. 10am - 8pm
- ◆ **Y5 Sports Day at Bablake School**  
Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> May
- ◆ **Non Uniform Day!**  
Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May.
- ◆ **Half Term**  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

## Headteacher's News

Things are beginning to get really hectic at school now as we approach the end of this penultimate half term! As I write, this Exam Week is coming to a close and the children have coped with the pressure admirably - particularly our Year 2s and Year 6s who have been sitting their National Curriculum Tests. Our Year 4s and Year 5s have also been busy, participating in some online testing. This has provided us with some very valuable data to inform our teaching and help us better understand the educational needs of the children - they also enjoyed the experience which makes it doubly productive!

Rehearsals for our school production of 'Oliver' are also in full swing. Barely a day goes past without one of the many wonderful songs drifting tunefully down our corridors. I know the children are getting very excited about the event and we are too; it's wonderful that every child in the school is involved in one way or another - even our nursery children will be up on stage joining in! It's

truly going to be a wonderful production and I'm grateful for all the hard work that is being put in to ensure it is an undoubted success.

Finally, a message from our Year 6s. As you will know, they have been involved in several Enterprise activities this year and are ensuring they do not get 'rusty' ahead of their Enterprise Day next half term run by the Warwickshire Education and Business Alliance. To this end, they are organising a Non Uniform Day next Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May to raise money for their Enterprise Fund. Please support this event by sending your child to school in casual clothes with a pound coin in their pocket! I am sure everyone will enjoy this on the last day before half term and I hope that the Year 6s can raise nearly £100 for their efforts. Soon I will be able to tell you where all their money will go - I am assured it will benefit the school in one way or another and will not end up in their entrepreneurial pockets...!

Best wishes,  
Dominic Cook  
Headteacher

## PTA News...

**Beetle Drive: Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May**  
Paper, pencils and dice will be provided, the Food is ordered, it's just a case of turn up and ENJOY!! Remember, it's a BYO evening though there is free squash for the children. Bread rolls and pop will be on sale during the evening.

**Talent Night: Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> June**  
Calling all acts... forms have been sent home for acts to complete and return. We are receiving a good steady number of entries but don't be late, get your PTA act together and pop it in the PTA box outside the hall.

## Edwardian Garden Party: Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June

As it is our centenary year, this year's summer fair is going to take on an Edwardian feel and hark back to the time when the school first opened... with traditional food and fun & games...

## Centenary Summer Ball: Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June

Tickets go on sale next week so get your posh frocks ready - it's going to be a fabulous evening! More info will follow next week but organise baby-sitters and start to gather friends for this wonderful event!



*“Volunteers for Eco-Group... Please bring a change of clothes for Monday - lots of planting to do!”*  
Mrs Chatwin

*“I have two slots available for Guitar Lessons from September. If you are interested please let me know via the school office...”*  
Mrs Knott, Guitar teacher

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## This week's club news...

No change to the club calendar this week. We are pleased that Mrs Hirons is well again and Art Scholarship Club has resumed once more...

Mrs Mason sends her apologies but she will have to cancel **next Tuesday's woodwind lessons**. These will resume after half term...

Athletic's Club was cancelled this week due to bad weather. So long as the rain holds off this will continue next Wednesday...

## Hot Dinners at Abbotsford School...

We had a very informative meeting on Wednesday with a number of parents keen to find out more about our Hot Dinner service that begins after half term.

I am hugely optimistic that following this very positive response, take-up of the service will be high. All the food provided is fresh; no additives are used, no frozen or processed meat is used, and all meals are prepared, cooked and served on the same day. It really is an impressive service and I for one look forward to my two girls having a hot dinner at lunchtime! In order for this service to

work and continue we need to ensure at least 30 meals are taken each day. Judging from a straw poll after Wednesday's meeting this is unlikely to be a problem but I hope everyone will be tempted to give them a go. At £2.30 per meal they represent good value for money and the quality is FAR AND ABOVE anything produced by other providers.

I'd like to pass on my grateful thanks once again to Jane Rush, Geraldine Jones, Sara Carnduff and Nicola Shevket for all their hard work in helping to organise this service. They have been instrumental in bringing this to fruition.

## Year 6 Centenary Projects...

Today our Year 6s have finally completed the last of many tests they have sat this academic year. The season started back in the autumn with their 11+ and progressed for many with several independent school entrance exams and interviews over the Christmas and New Year period. Finally, this week has seen them sit their National Curriculum Tests in English, Maths and Science. I congratulate them all for their hard work and determination, it is an incredibly difficult year but they have all taken it in their stride.

This year I have introduced something new for our Year 6s in this post-testing time between now and the summer holidays. Each of our Year 6 pupils will complete over the coming weeks a Centenary Project.

This self-led learning opportunity will encourage them to investigate a theme (science & technology, arts & entertainment, fashion, sport etc) and compare how it has changed since 1909 - the year Abbotsford School began. It will give scope for a wide range of writing and creativity, and give the children the opportunity to produce a large piece of work of which they will be proud. The projects will be judged by the Kenilworth Historical Society and a special prize-giving assembly will be held during our Centenary Week.

I look forward to reading their projects and am excited by this opportunity for them to showcase some of the skills they have acquired whilst at Abbotsford. I will ensure that everyone gets the opportunity to see their work.