

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Monday 8th February

Maths Week

Tuesday 9th February

EYFS Valentine's Craft Morning

Thursday 11th February

Arts Evening (6.30pm)

Friday 12th February

Maths Week Assembly;
parents welcome (2.45pm)

School breaks for Half Term
3.30pm

Tuesday 30th March

Easter Service (2pm, Methodist
Church)

**Term will finish at 3.30pm
on Wednesday 31st March.**

CLUBS

Currently there is no change
to next week's club timetable.

KEEP UP TO DATE AT:

[abbotsfordschool.co.uk/
events](http://abbotsfordschool.co.uk/events)

Abbotsford News

TERM 2 VOLUME 2

FRIDAY 22ND JANUARY 2010

Headteacher's News

Well, we have had the snow—and now we have the rain. What a miserable morning it is as I sit and write this brief catch-up. However, there has been much going on at school that has brought some sunshine into my office!

We have had many new prospective parents through our doors these past two weeks, and my diary is also looking busy next week. I have been very encouraged by the positive comments these new visitors bring to school; many of whom come on the back of personal recommendations from you—(my thanks!), but many arrive saying 'we've heard great things about Abbotsford and want to take a look for ourselves'.

We continue to work hard to

improve upon all we do here at school. This term is particularly busy with curriculum enrichment; Maths Week, Book Week, and a 'Creative Curriculum' Week are all around the corner... The latter will happen behind the scenes, and I will not be telling you any more about it! However, I will be intrigued to see if any of you spot when we take a slightly different approach to our teaching... ('Creative' teaching is all about enlivening and energizing lessons and I am sure it will prove highly beneficial to teaching and learning).

Some of you will also have heard about the group learning that is taking place across Years 3 to 6... Mrs O'Brien is leading a literacy project around Alice

in Wonderland. I have enjoyed seeing this project take shape and was very impressed with some of the writing shown to me this morning by two girls in Year 3. I am sure in the future we will be sharing this project with you all; and the one being planned lower down the school based around 'The Snow Dragon'.

My thanks always go to the staff here at school; they are always willing to take up the gauntlet, however challenging the 'gauntlet' may be! What an exciting school ours is...

Kind regards

Dominic Cook
Headteacher

Pupil 'Lateness'

I am again becoming increasingly concerned that many children arrive late for school. I appreciate that during the past few weeks the weather has affected journeys to and from... However, it is very important that children arrive for the start of the day at 8.40am.

All pupils arriving after this time are recorded in the register as late, and the total number of 'lates' will appear on the child's school report in the summer term.

Haiti Appeal

Thank you all so much for your donations to UNICEF's appeal on behalf of the children of Haiti. Their plight continues to affect us all, and we can little imagine the desperation that the Haitian's are enduring.

I am pleased to report that though only a very small school Abbotsford has raised well over £400 today for this appeal. Thank you children for your donations of pocket money, and thank you staff and parents alike for your contributions.

Before School Care

Can I remind parents that our Before School Care (Dawn Chorus) starts at 7.50am and not before. Some parents are dropping their children off early which leaves us unable to prepare for the morning session and ensure our duty of care.

We only have two members of staff each day, and both need time before 7.50am to prepare breakfast and the room for the arrival of the children. Thank you for your co-operation.

Holiday Club Provision



I am very pleased to announce that Onside Coaching’s Holiday Clubs at Abbotsford School will now be a permanent arrangement for all our holiday provision.

For those who participated at Christmas, you will know what a wonderful few days of fun and

New Holiday Clubs Come to Abbotsford!

wide array of activities, both sporting and creative, throughout our holiday periods. Children can look forward to theme days too; I know the High School Musical session was particularly popular!

Onside will take over all responsibility for this provision,

games were laid on. For everyone else—I urge you to give them a try this coming Half Term holiday.

Onside Coaching will be providing a

and parents will need to book places on their ‘camps’ through their website. Currently however, and for half-term particularly, bookings will be done via a booking form that we will send home next week. Payment will also be handled by Onside and it will not appear on your termly or interim invoices.

I am very pleased with this new arrangement and I look forward to seeing and hearing about all the wonderful activities that they have planned for the future. A schedule of half-term events will be out soon.

“Please update the office with any new email addresses or mobile numbers!! A number of you don’t receive our text or emails yet!”

“Volunteers are still needed for Healthy Schools— please see Mrs Chatwin if you can help!”

PTA News

Ceilidh – 30th January

Just a week to go now before our Ceilidh winter warmer. If you haven’t bought your tickets yet, please complete a slip or put a note in the PTA box outside the Hall or contact Jane Rush or Lesley Woolhouse. Ticket sales will close by the end of school on Monday so that we can let the caterers know final numbers; final payments by 29th January. The evening promises to be full of activity, fun and laughter.



Great value – supper + sweet and entertainment for £12.50 per

person. Friends and family welcome (adults only).

The PTA are currently planning a full range of fundraising and social events for the year ahead – more details will be available in the next Newsletter.

If you have any comments and suggestions for the PTA please email

ptachair@abbotsfordschool.co.uk or speak to Lesley Woolhouse.

News in Brief

Filing cabinets... Does anyone have a spare lockable filing cabinet they could donate to the school? Mrs Satchwell is re-organising the office paperwork over half-term and is in desperate need of one!

Flora Vouchers... are required by Mrs Chatwin, so please send them into school with your child. This is a great reward scheme and it does not take many vouchers to

add up to some significant cookery freebies for schools!

Letters... Can I ask parents that any letters, return slips, etc are sent to the class teacher—and not brought to the office. It’s a small way we can help avoid congestion in the school office in the morning.

Mr Pearce... Many of you will know that Mr Pearce, our caretaker, has been away from

school for sometime. He has kept in very close contact with us, and we have missed him here dearly.

We all wish him the very best and are hopeful that he will be returning to Abbotsford after the Easter holidays. A huge thank-you to all those who continue to help cover in his absence. Particularly to those staff who empty the playground rubbish bins!

