

The Abbotsford School Newsletter

Newsletter Date: 9th October, 2009
Term 1, Issue 3

Headteacher: Mr. Dominic Cook
Deputy Head: Mrs. Jane Chatwin
Director of Studies: Mrs. Anne O'Brien



Upcoming Events

- ◆ **U11 & U9 ISA Football Competition**
Birmingham,
Tues, 13th Oct.
- ◆ **Secondhand Uniform Sale**
Wed, 14th Oct
3.30pm
- ◆ **Assessment Meeting**
3pm, Thurs, 15th
Oct. School Hall
- ◆ **U11 Rugby Day**
Fri, 16th Oct.
Warwick School
- ◆ **Harvest Festival**
2.30pm, Fri 16th
Oct. School Hall.
Parents
welcome.
- ◆ **Half Term Close,** Fri 16th
Oct.

Headteacher's News

It's been another hectic fortnight at Abbotsford School and again I feel as if I have hardly been here! I am working hard to ensure Abbotsford has a real presence in the community and I have been out and about meeting both County Council reps and other independent school Heads.

On Wednesday, I was delighted yesterday to show Mr Ed Hestor, the new Head of Princethorpe College around Abbotsford. Over the years many of our pupils have gone on to great success at this school, it was very pleasing to show him where the green shoots of success begin!

Today I will be welcoming Mrs Maureen Martin, the Principal of Davenport Lodge to Abbotsford too. Mrs Martin is keen to develop links with Abbotsford and for her pupils to sit our Scholarship Exam at Year 2. We are also looking at working together on providing extra

provision for Key Stage 1 sports. I will keep you up to date with any developments.

In a similar vein, I hope you are beginning to see developments in our sports provision at Abbotsford School. We are making good use of the Independent schools Association and other events held by local senior schools. We have recently participated in both hockey and football events at Princethorpe, and next week will be taking a group on a Rugby Development Day at Warwick School. We have also arranged to play Crackley Hall at football and netball next half-term. Parents will be expected to come along and cheer the home side along...!

Best wishes to you all,

Dominic Cook
Headteacher

PTA News

Lesley Woolhouse chaired the first meeting of the newly-formed PTA on 5th October.

Funding Update

The PTA is delighted to announce that some of the monies raised this year will be of immediate benefit to all teachers and children with the go ahead to purchase digital cameras for each class, a camcorder, new football and rugby kits, 6 ICT probots, software and webcams for Animation Club. Further funds are going to be made available for our new school clubs to help to provide necessary equipment and resources. Future funding has also been earmarked for a climbing wall in the playground, a canopy for the nursery outdoor play area and fencing for the quiet area.

Events

There will be a communication sent out next week confirming details of upcoming PTA events.

Suggestions

If you have any suggestions, ideas, or improvement opportunities for the PTA please use the PTA box outside the School Hall or email pta@abbotsfordschool.co.uk.

MORE DETAILS AT WWW.ABBOTSFORDSCHOOL.CO.UK/EVENTS



“Please sign up for holiday clubs as soon as possible - places are going fast!”
Mr Higgs

“Do you have a spare webcam you could donate!? I need some for our Animation Club - thanks!”
Mrs O’Brien

“Winter uniforms please after half-term, thank-you!”
Mr Cook

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Club Timetable...

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime: Photography	Lunchtime: Cross Country Art	Lunchtime: Chess Knitting	Lunchtime: Choir	8.20am Steel Pans
After school: Climbing Animation Circuit Tr.	Swapshop After school: Gardening	Staff Meeting No clubs	After school: Jnr Football Inf Football Gymnastics	Lunchtime: Orchestra

Assessment Meeting...

On Thursday 15th October (3pm) Mrs Chatwin, Mrs O’Brien and I will be holding a meeting to explain to parents the changes that are taking place at Abbotsford in the way we assess your children.

Whilst these changes are not a fundamental shift, I thought some parents might be interested in how we measure, track and set targets for your children’s attainment whilst at school. We will also be changing the written report parents previously received at Christmas, and this will be covered in

the meeting too.

I hope many of you attend this 30min presentation, however, if you are unable to attend we will send out a written communication outlining the developments after the meeting.

These changes only affect parents with children in Years 1 to 6, assessment in EYFS (Nursery and Reception) remains unchanged.

If you are planning on attending and have not yet returned your form, please do so as soon as possible.

ISA Midlands Art Competition...

I was very proud at this week’s Independent Schools Association’s Heads Conference when the ISA Midlands Art Competition’s winners were announced. The standard of entries was incredibly high and our work clearly stood out above and beyond the competition. Abbotsford School led the way with two first place awards and one second place... so congratulations go to:

Tasmin Morgan (Y6) 1st Place winner in Textiles U11 Category for her ‘Rainbow Cushion’

Reception Class (08/09) 2nd Place Winners in Textiles U11 for their piece ‘In The Jungle’

Year 6 Class (08/09) 1st Place Winners in 3D Artwork for their piece ‘Totem Poles’

Huge congratulations to them all from everyone at Abbotsford. The winning pieces will all go forward to the National Final in November and will be displayed at school in the near future.

Well done everyone who took part!

Other news in brief...

PTA Contact details... I will shortly be passing the PTA a copy of parents email addresses. This will be used solely to keep you informed of PTA events. If you **DO NOT WANT** your email address forwarded to the PTA please email us at office@abbotsfordschool.co.uk

Hot Dinner Order Forms... Forms to order hot lunches for next half-term have gone out. Please be sure to return this to the school office no later than **Wednesday 14th October** else you will miss the first week’s hot dinners.

Night Owls and Dawn Chorus... From today, the telephone number for morning and after-school care is **07854 498327** NOT the school office number. If you call the school number the phone is unlikely to be answered after 4pm.