



Abbey Road News

September 2024

Abbey Road Primary School, Tewkesbury Close, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 5ND
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Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome Back!

It has been a great start to the new school year! Spending time both in the classrooms and out on the playground has been a real pleasure, watching children reconnect with their friends and teachers, and settle back into school life. A warm Abbey Road welcome goes out to our new Sunshines and Rainbows, as they begin their Abbey Road journey. They already seem to be settling in wonderfully, and we're looking forward to getting to know each one of them better as the weeks progress. A warm welcome also goes to the new students joining other year groups - we hope their first days have been enjoyable! It's always heartening to see our seasoned Abbey Roaders eagerly welcoming new friends and demonstrating our 'Take Care' code.

At Abbey Road, our 'Take Care' values are central to everything we do. They guide our actions, influence our decisions, and help shape the positive atmosphere we strive to create within our whole school community.

'Take Care' stickers are shared with the children in recognition of their efforts – we want them to feel proud of their achievements and positive choices. This year, we have introduced new, coloured stickers to represent the different elements of our code and there has been much excitement about earning these. Here is our updated 'Take Care' poster so you can see what the different stickers represent.



For our new parents, I aim to issue a newsletter once a month, sharing news of what we've been up to. This month's newsletter provides an opportunity to share some key information and reminders, as well as dates for the term ahead. (My back page calendar is a regular feature!)

School Website and Social Media

For many years, we have used X (formerly Twitter) to share photos and brief updates about life at Abbey Road. However, we've seen a significant decline in our followers on this platform, so we've made the decision to deactivate our account.

Moving forward, we will continue to share photos and news on our school website. For information, we are currently developing the site to include password-protected areas for each year group. Once this feature is ready, I will provide further details. In brief, passwords will be shared with parents and carers of children in each year group, which will remain the same throughout their time at the school. These areas will be deleted once the children reach Year 6 and move on from Abbey Road.

While some photos will still be available on the main sections of our website, most class updates and images will be accessible within these new secure, year-group-specific areas. Watch this space!

Extra-Curricular Activities

Together with this letter, I have attached a timetable of our extra-curricular clubs and activities for the autumn term. For our lunchtime clubs, staff advertise these with the children in school, letting them know when and where they happen. For all clubs that take place before or after school, you will receive more information from the provider/teacher, which includes details of how to register your child.

Some activities are led by school staff and some are led by private providers. We try our best to subsidise costs where we can, and we may be able to offer further reductions to families who are eligible for Pupil Premium funding (see below).

If you have any questions about our autumn term clubs, please contact the school office.

Free School Meals & Pupil Premium

We want to make sure as many eligible pupils as possible are claiming their free school meals. Not only does this enable your child to receive free school meals and milk, it also means that school receives additional money (Pupil Premium funding) which is used to support children's learning and can also support families in meeting the cost of activities such as music lessons, school trips and residential visits.

Free school meals are available to pupils in receipt of, or whose parents are in receipt of, one or more of the qualifying benefits below:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earning from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).
- [Income Support](#)
- [Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance \(JSA\)](#)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- [Child Tax Credit](#) (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- [Working Tax Credit](#) run-on (paid for the four weeks after the person stops qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

To find out if you are eligible, please visit: [Free school meals and milk | Nottinghamshire County Council](#)

To apply, parents simply need to register and provide:

- **National Insurance Number** or **National Asylum Support Service Reference Number**
- **Last name**
- **Date of birth**

Safety Reminders

We have reminded all of the children not to use the playground play equipment before or after school (traverse wall, trim trails, bars, gym etc). We appreciate that some children are being closely supervised by parents/carers, but it is very difficult for us to monitor supervision when teachers are in classrooms or busy handing children over at the end of the day. Our outdoor after school clubs are also keen to begin their sessions and this is more difficult when children are using the playground space at hometime. We would really appreciate your support with this.

We also kindly ask that children don't scoot or cycle on playgrounds and paths around school, unless they stay next to their adult. The reason we ask is because there have been a few incidents/injuries caused as a result and we want to avoid this happening again. Staff do issue regular reminders while outside, but we can't be present at every corner, and so do rely on your support.

Accessibility Arrangements

We have an Accessibility Policy in school, which outlines our commitment to meeting the needs of children and adults with disabilities or those who require alternative access arrangements either permanently, or for a fixed term. One aspect of this policy is an action plan, which we review on an annual basis. If you have any accessibility requirements, please let me know so that we can consider how we can best support you.

School Uniform

Children have looked really smart for the new year - bright, white polo shirts and shiny shoes all round!

Children can continue to arrive at school dressed in their PE kit, on the days they have PE. This must follow our school uniform requirements for PE, as specified below:

- White t-shirt/polo shirt (or navy 'Abbey Road' t-shirt)
- Navy/black shorts and navy/black joggers or leggings
- Plimsolls/trainers
- Plain navy or black sweatshirt or hoodie (no big logos please)

If you need any support in obtaining school uniform, at any point in the school year, please let us know. We always have second-hand uniform available, that we are happy to donate. Drop into the school office or email office@abbeyroadprimary.co.uk to let us know what you need.

For safety and practical reasons, jewellery is not allowed. The only exceptions are plain, stud earrings, wrist watches & signs of faith. Smart watches are not allowed, in line with our Mobile Phone and Device policy. [Mobile-Phone-and-Device-Policy-Pupils-2024-5.pdf \(abbeyroadprimary.co.uk\)](#)

Nail varnish and make up should not be worn at school - this includes body art, such as temporary tattoos. (Although we do make exceptions following a school disco!)

If you would like to check any other elements of our school uniform policy, this is published on our school website: [School Uniform – Abbey Road Primary School](#).

Please can I ask that you write/iron your child's name into their school uniform, coat and PE kit. We started the year with empty lost property trunks and are already finding brand new jumpers and cardigans around school, many of which have no names in at all. PE kit navy hoodies seem to be the most commonly discarded item – and it is virtually impossible to reunite children with their clothing when garments aren't labelled.

Dates for the Term Ahead

Thursday 12 th September	Year 1 information evening for parents – 5.30pm
Saturday 14 th September	Boys football tournament (Y5/6 team)
Monday 16 th September	Y6 Storytelling Day - Mike Payton (Equals Trust event)
Thursday 19 th September	Rushcliffe Year 6 open evening – booking opens at 9am on 9/9/24 Year 6 Open Evening - Rushcliffe Spencer Academy
Saturday 21 st September	Girls football tournament (Y5/6 team)
Tuesday 24 th September	Year 6 visit to Safety Zone (pm)
Thursday 26 th September	Hockey tournament (Y6 teams)
Friday 27 th September	MacMillan Coffee Morning – from 8.00am
Monday 30 th September	Individual and sibling photographs
Monday 7 th October	Harvest Assembly – collection for the Friary Drop-in Centre
Thursday 10 th October	Reception phonics information evening for parents – 5.30pm
Tuesday 15 th and Thursday 17 th October	Parents evening – 3.50-7pm
Friday 18 th October	Y6 visit to Beaumanor Hall (World War II themed day)
Monday 21 st October to Friday 1 st November	Half term
Thursday 7 th November	HSA Disco 6.15-7.15 - Reception & KS1 7.30-8.30 – KS2
11 th – 13 th November	Hathersage residential – Y4
13 th – 15 th November	Hathersage residential – Y4
w/b Monday 11 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Tuesday 17 th December	Year 3 visit to Cresswell Crag
Friday 20 th December	Last day of term
Monday 6 th January 2024	Back to school

Plenty more dates will be added over the coming weeks, and we will continue to share these with you via newsletters and our website calendar.

Best wishes,

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