



Abbey Road News

Friday 10th February 2023

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

This half term seems to have flown by in a blur of 'busyness', so much so that I appear to have missed my January newsletter to you! I know you have received many other communications, detailing events that have been/will soon be taking place but here is my summary of the half term and some news of what lies ahead too.



Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal

As a school, we would like to offer our support to the charities working hard to help those affected by the devastating earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. We know that many thousands of people are in urgent need and every single donation will make a difference.

On **Friday 24th February**, we invite the children to come to school dressed wearing something red and/or white, colours that are common to both Turkey and Syria's flags. In return, we ask for a donation to support the DEC Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal (via the British Red Cross).

You may already have donated privately, but if you haven't and would like to, donations can be sent to school in cash on the day of our appeal, or made online via this link: [Abbey Road Primary West Bridgford is fundraising for The British Red Cross Society \(justgiving.com\)](https://www.justgiving.com/AbbeyRoadPrimaryWestBridgford)

Every penny will make a difference, so please only give what is affordable to you.

If you would like more information about how the Red Cross is supporting victims of this disaster, please take a look at their own fundraising page: [DEC Turkey-Syria earthquake appeal | British Red Cross](https://www.britishredcross.org.uk/dec-turkey-syria-earthquake-appeal)

Young Voices

Over a hundred Glee Club members joined thousands of other young singers at the Young Voices concert last month. Being part of such a huge event, is awe-inspiring (and a lot of fun!). Massive thanks to all those involved in getting the children 'performance ready' and for supporting them throughout the day. Thank-you as well to all parents who supported this event, which has become an annual fixture on the school calendar. Here's to 2024!



Sporting Successes

Abbey Road athletes earned gold and silver medals at the recent Rushcliffe Sportshall finals. The children were awarded points for individual events and team relays, and they impressed us with their sporting abilities **and** great attitudes – well done to all.

Four Abbey Road children qualified to take part in the County Schools Cross Country Championships, held at Berry Hill Park last Saturday. This was an amazing achievement and we were very proud of them all. One talented Year 6 runner qualified to represent Nottinghamshire in the English Schools cross-country championships in March and we wish him the very best of luck.

Today, 33 children are representing Abbey Road at the Nottingham High School Cross Country competition at Wollaton Park. The event is usually very competitive and we hope that all runners enjoy the experience, wherever they finish. It was also great to see so many children keen to give cross country running a try at last month's school race – there was an especially fantastic turnout from Years 3 and 4. Keep up the good work! 😊

Huge thanks to staff for promoting physical activity and volunteering their time to accompany children to these events (and others!). Thanks also to our ever-willing parent volunteers – we couldn't do it without you.

Year 5 Space Centre Adventure

Year 5 have been enjoying learning about Space this half term and their learning was brought to an exciting conclusion with a visit to the National Space Centre. I believe the children had an amazing day exploring and interacting with the exhibits.



Abbey Road HSA

If you have been on the playground for drop-off or pick-up this week, you will have seen some new play equipment being installed; this includes more sets of rollover/pull-up bars and a traverse wall. There are also plans to develop our Reception/Year 1 playground – it just needs to be resurfaced first, and then new markings, play equipment and seating will be added. We are also further developing our Reading Garden area, with input from our Wellbeing Council and Mrs Lovett.

We know we are very lucky to have lots of outdoor space and we continue to look at ways of developing this to support our curriculum and enhance the children's free time.

Some of these plans could not become reality without the support of our wonderful Home School Association (HSA), who work really hard to plan fun activities throughout the year, raising funds to help cover the cost of these fabulous projects.

Our HSA does rely on volunteers to plan and run the activities, and the current committee would really appreciate having some new members - 'Many hands make light work', as they say!

If you have any ideas or views about fundraising activities, or if you could lend a little time to helping with organisation or admin, we would very much welcome your input.

To get involved, you can email abbeyroadhsa@gmail.com or come along to the next meeting on Monday 27th February - 8pm at the Willow Tree Public House.



HSA Disco The next HSA Disco takes place on Wednesday 22nd February. If you haven't purchased your ticket yet, this is a reminder that ticket sales close at the end of the day, today. If you haven't brought your tickets yet, they can be purchased online via this link: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/abbeyroadhsa/>



Children's Mental Health Week

Our Year 6 Wellbeing Council representatives have accompanied Mrs Lovett to the Nott Alone Live event, which is being held today as part of Children's Mental Health Week. The group have been working together to consider more ways to support and promote wellbeing at school and this event has provided them with the opportunity to consider more ideas and plan how they can be applied back at school.

Nott Alone provide local mental health advice and help for young people in Nottinghamshire – www.nottalone.org.uk

Our Wellbeing Council have also encouraged the children to carry out random acts of kindness at part of Children's Mental Health Week, spreading some happiness around school in the run up to the half term break.

Dinner Money – Ready Reckoner

If you like to pay up-front for school meals for the whole half term, the cost for the second half of the spring term will be £73.50 (a weekly charge of £12.25).

Financial Support

We know that many families are struggling with the cost of living at the moment.

If meeting the cost of school meals is challenging, please take the time to check whether you are eligible for free school meals: [Free school meals and milk | Nottinghamshire County Council](#). 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 school trips and residential visits.

We have adapted our programme of trips and visits in response to the increased costs and we also try to subsidise these costs where we can (eg: Our PE & Sports Premium funding has helped to pay for a number of sporting activities and visits.) Unfortunately, the school budget can't pay for every visit and we do rely on contributions from parents to enable school trips to take place. However, please don't ever hesitate to get in touch if you need any support in meeting the cost of a school visit as we can and do support families in different ways – eg: extending a payment deadline so that costs can be broken down into smaller, monthly payments.

It may also be useful to know that we always have second hand uniform available in school. You don't need to wait for playground sales to take place, just let us know what you need, and we can help.

If you would like to talk about any of the above or to discuss other ways we could support you, please don't hesitate to get in touch. The following members of staff would be the most appropriate points of contact:

Mrs McNeill/Mrs Hill (School Office) – office@abbeyroadprimary.co.uk.

Mrs Lovett (ELSA and Family Link Worker) – alison.lovett@abbeyroadprimary.co.uk

Mrs Horton (Deputy Head Teacher) – tina.horton@abbeyroadprimary.co.uk

Mrs Avery (Pupil Premium Lead Teacher) – angela.avery@abbeyroadprimary.co.uk

Mrs Toom – head@abbeyroadprimary.co.uk



Congratulations!

Mrs Pearson has just shared the news that baby Ada Violet was born this morning. I am sure you will want to pass on your congratulations to the family. The children were very excited to see Mrs Pearson yesterday (she was able to pop in to say hello!) and they were even more excited to hear the baby news today.

Dates for the Term Ahead

Friday 10 th February	HSA Cake Sale – 3.30pm
Monday 13 th - Friday 17 th February	HALF TERM
Wednesday 22 nd February	HSA Disco 6.15-7.15 – Reception/KS1 7.30-8.30 – KS2
Friday 24 th February	Earthquake Appeal – wear red/white in exchange for a donation
Monday 27 th February	HSA Meeting – 8pm at Willow Tree
Thursday 2 nd March	World Book Day
Thursday 9 th March	6.15 - Parent Workshop – Understanding and Managing Children's Negative Behaviours (fully booked)
Tuesday 14 th and Thursday 16 th March	Parents Evenings (letter to follow after half term)
Friday 24 th March	HSA Easter Fun!
Thursday 30 th March	Equals Trust 'Let's Sing' concert
Monday 3 rd April - Friday 14 th April	EASTER HOLIDAY
Friday 21 st April	Earth Day (Eco Club will be organising a fundraising event)
Monday 1 st May	Bank Holiday
Monday 8 th May	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 9 th – Friday 12 th May	Year 6 Statutory Assessment Week (SATS)
Monday 15 th – Tuesday 16 th May	Class 2LT residential to Beaumanor Hall
Tuesday 16 th – Wednesday 17 th May	Class 2MT residential to Beaumanor Hall
Friday 26 th May	INSET Day
Monday 29 th – Friday 2 nd June	HALF TERM
Monday 12 th – Wednesday 14 th June	Year 6 residential to Mount Cook Adventure Centre
Monday 19 th June	Class photos

Best wishes,

Ly Toom