

ABBOT'S HALL PRIMARY SCHOOL



Parent newsletter - January 2026

Message from Mr Pettitt

It was lovely to welcome the children back after the Christmas break and to see them energised for the term ahead. In our first assembly back, I reminded the children of the school rules and values including being aspirational, taking responsibility and caring for our environment, whilst being the 'Be the Best You Can Be!' What is pleasing to share is that the children of Abbot's embrace these values with real conviction. The weather has certainly got colder and wetter and I ask that you ensure your children have a warm coat, hat and gloves in school. If we receive any further snow, we encourage you to send your child into school with wellies and a change of footwear (and possibly an extra pair of socks).

Reading Challenge

We have launched our reading challenge!

The reading challenge was introduced to children on Friday 9th January and will run for 4 weeks. To complete the challenge, your child will need to read at least 4 times a week for 4 weeks. Every Friday reading logs will be checked, so please sign the log each time they read. We recommend reading for at least 10-15 minutes with an adult and sharing a discussion about the text.

If your child completes the reading challenge successfully, they will receive a Non-Uniform Day Voucher. This voucher will allow them to come to school on a day of their choice in non-uniform. Your child may like to keep it for their birthday or a special day for them.





Litter Picking Campaign



Mrs Evans and her Eco committee took part in a litter picking campaign this week, alongside other schools in our trust.

During lunchtime on Tuesday 20th January, each school spent some time litter picking their school grounds. Following this, representatives from the committee video called other pupils from across the trust to share their efforts.



We would like to remind parents and carers to be extra vigilant when parking. Please park and drive safely and be mindful when parking outside our neighbours' driveways. Please see two posters created by our Junior Road Safety Officers.



Years 3-6



A Times Tables Rock Stars' league has been launched this week! Each week classes will battle it out to be TTRS champions. Classes will play a total of 7 games, playing against one class each week.

Children who log on at home for at least 10 minutes each week, contributing to every TTRS match, will be awarded with an extra non-uniform pass!

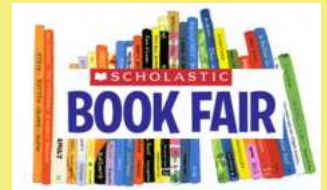
The winning class will also win an extra award.

Practising in the 'Jamming' or 'Garage' are the best areas for children to improve quick recall of their times tables.

Unsure of how to log in? Unsure how to use Times Table Rockstars? Please speak to your class teacher.



We are excited to be hosting the Scholastic Book Fair the week before World Book Day!



The book fair will be open on **Friday 27th February 3.15- 3.40, Monday 2nd March 3.15 – 3.40 and Tuesday 3rd March 3.15 – 3.40**. There will be lots of great titles with prices starting at £2.99. World Book Day £1 vouchers will be handed out the week before World Book Day and can be used on all books at the fair. You will find the Book Fair in the North Hall - entrance is through the external door located near the bike pods. More information about paying at the fair will be sent out before the day.



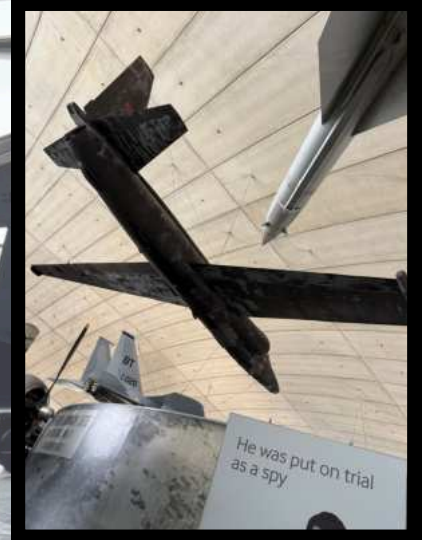
World book day this year is **Thursday 5th March 2026** and this year we will be promoting the theme of ‘Go all in’. This theme is a part of the National Year of Reading 2026 where children are encouraged to read for fun and to find a style of reading which they enjoy.

On World Book Day we will be reading ‘The Day the Crayons Quit’ across the school and all children will develop a piece of writing linked to this text. We hope this will be enjoyed by all the children.

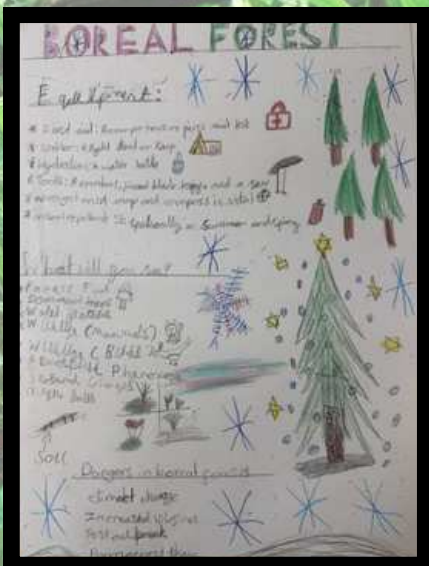
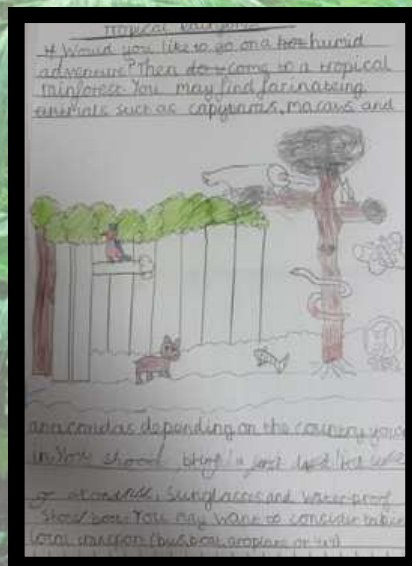
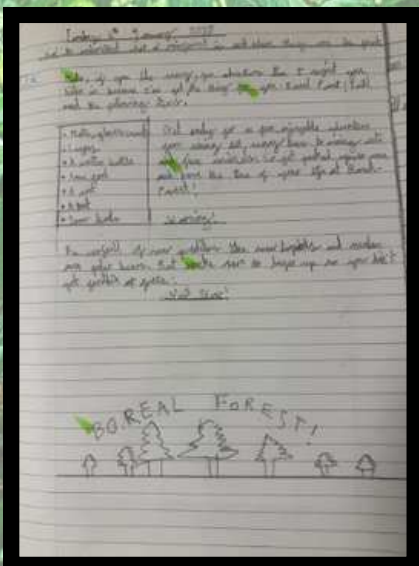
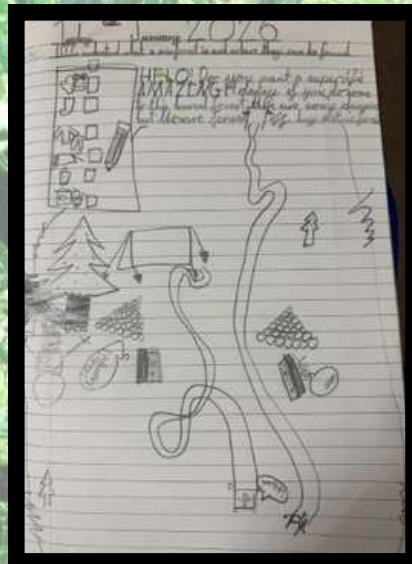
As part of this day, we are inviting **all children and adults to dress up as a crayon!** Simply choose a colour of your choice and wear clothes matching this colour. Please feel free to add a Crayola sign to your top and make your own crayon cardboard hat, if you wish!



Year 6 Trip to Duxford Imperial War Museum



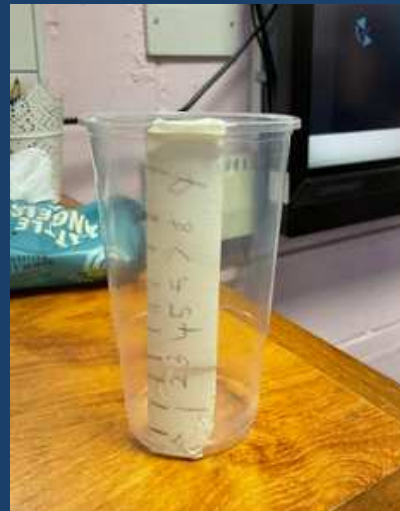
Year 4 Introduction to Rainforest Topic



Year 4 have been introduced to their new topic of rainforests in the last couple of weeks. They had the opportunity to research some famous rainforests and thought about what someone would need if visiting one.

Year 2 Geography and Computing

Year 2 have been busy making rain gauges in Geography and programming, using Scratch, in their computing lessons.



School Uniform

Thank you to those who took the time to complete the Google Form regarding our school uniform. We really appreciate your feedback and involvement.

We are pleased to share that bottle green was the most popular choice, receiving almost 50% of the votes. Based on this result, we will now begin investigating uniform providers online to explore suitable options.



We will share further information with you as soon as possible



Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 21st January - Phase 3 visit to The Regal

Friday 30th January - FS + Y1 Little City visit at school

Friday 6th February 9am - Year 5 Class Assembly

Tuesday 10th February - FS, Y1 + Y2 Tractor visit in school

Tues 10th Feb - Year 4 Colchester Zoo Trip

Friday 13th February - Last day of half term

Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February - HALF TERM

Monday 23rd February - Return to school

Friday 27th February 9am - Year 4 Class Assembly

Friday 27th February 2.45pm - Y2 LT Friendly Friday

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day - More info to follow

Friday 6th March 9am - Year 2 Class Assembly

Friday 6th March 2.45pm - Y3 RM/AC Friendly Friday

Wednesday 11th March - Year 3 Stone Age Day (BR/ AC Class)

Wednesday 11th March 2.45pm - YR TP Welcome Wednesday

Thursday 12th March - Year 3 Stone Age Day (RM/ AC Class)

Friday 13th March 9am - Year 6 Class Assembly

Friday 13th March - Year 2 Great Fire of London Day

Friday 13th March 2.45pm - Y2 KS Friendly Friday

Wednesday 18th March 2.45pm - Y1 HI/TE Welcome Wednesday

Friday 20th March 9am - Foundation Stage Class Assembly

Friday 20th March 2.45pm - Y3 BR/ AC Friendly Friday

Wednesday 25th March 2.45pm - Y1 BD Welcome Wednesday

Friday 27th March 9am - Year 3 Class Assembly

Friday 27th March - Last day of term

Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April - EASTER HOLIDAYS

Monday 13th April - Return to school