ABBOT'S HALL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Parent newsletter - November 2026

Message from Mr Pettitt

It has been great to see the children return after half term refreshed and ready for the remainder of the autumn term. This half term, as with every half term, is a busy time with lots going on across the school with lots of learning and preparation for the various festive activities that will take place this half term. This half term we look forward to welcoming parents and carers to the Reception and Y2&3 Nativity performances, Y4 Christmas Tree Service and Y5&6 Trust Christmas Concert, Year 5 music performance, in addition to the class assemblies, Welcome Wednesday and Friendly Friday sessions. Enjoy the rest of the term.

Early Years Tours

If you have a child starting school in September 2027, please come along to one of our EYFS tours.

We have tours on the following dates:
Thursday 26th November 9.30am
Tues 1st December 9.30am



Reading Challenge

We are launching our reading challenge!

To complete the challenge your child will need to read at least 4 times a week for 4 weeks. The reading challenge will start on Friday 6th November and will run for 4 weeks.

Every Friday, each reading log will be checked by a group of Year 6 volunteers to see if the children have read 4 times, so please sign their reading 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.





We would like to welcome Miss Keeble who joined the support staff team in October. She will be supporting the year 3 team this term.
We would also like to welcome Mrs Martin who has joined as a MDSA.



Please can we remind parents and carers not to use the school car park when dropping off children at Abbot's Out of School Club in the mornings



Congraulations to our new School Council Representatives who were elected by their peers

What do School Council members do at Abbot's Hall?

- The members will lead regular meetings with their class.
- They have a responsibility to share the voice of pupils at Abbot's Hall.
- School Council members will meet regulary with Mrs Tindall and will share ideas on how we can make our school a better place.
- These pupils may have opportunities to meet with external visitors and share with them their views on our school.

We are pleased to be supporting this amazing fundraiser. This special day gives us the chance to remind our pupils that there are families and children who are in great need, to think of others and to give a small donation of whatever we can afford to help.

Across the UK, children and young people continue to face a range of complicated challenges – with many having to cope with lots of issues at once.

At BBC Children in Need, they fund vital support for children and young people struggling with challenges caused by mental health, poverty, social inequality and family-related issues.

This year we want to keep things simple, as well as having some fun, so we have decided that we will have a dress down day. 'All things Pudsey' are more than welcome!

As in previous years, we are trying to avoid handling money so there is a Just Giving Page set up in the school's name. Please follow the link below.

https://challenge.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/fundraising/abbots-hall-community-primary-school-children-in-need?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=dssb-WA&utm_content=MPC

Thank you!







What is Oracy?

- Oracy is the ability to express yourself clearly and communicate with others effectively through spoken language.
- Thinking carefully about your language choices, tailoring it to a specific purpose and audience.
- Oracy promotes different speaking styles, learning to talk and how to be an effective and attentive listener.
- At Abbot's Hall, we will be adopting an Oracy framework which splits the teaching of speaking and listening into four strands: Physical, Cognitive, Linguistic and Social and Emotional.

Why is Oracy important?

- Communication is a vital skill that children require now and in their future lives.
- Good Oracy leads to improved outcomes across the Curriculum.
- It helps children form secure relationships with adults and other children

Oracy at Abbot's Hall

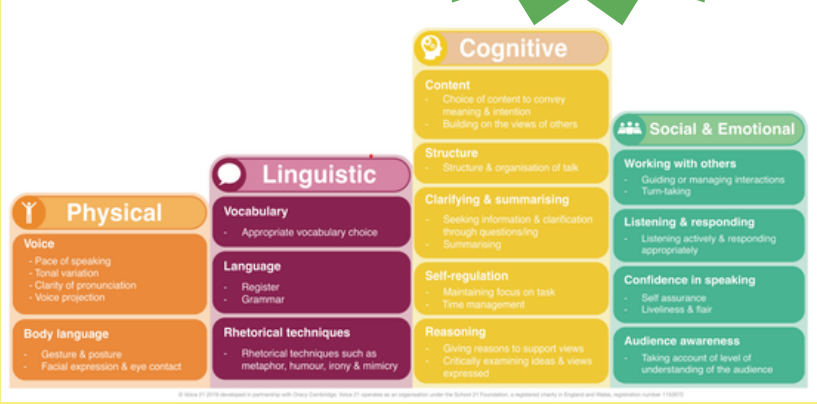
We already do so much to promote Oracy.

- Our lessons are rich in talk, questions are planned, peer conversations are modelled and scaffolded and the teachers use talk skilfully to develop thinking.
- Children are given opportunities to develop Oracy skills and build their confidence in talking in formal and informal situations, both in and outside the classroom

How to promote Oracy at home:

- Read aloud to your child and discuss the story.
- Play word games.
- Talk about your child's day.
- Regular meal time conversations.
- Role play.
- Listening games.

Look out for a parent survey about Oracy. We would love to hear your views and ideas on how we can improve Oracy at Abbot's Hall!



Year 4
West Stow Trip

















Our Year 4 children enjoyed a trip to West Stow to support their topic of Anglo Saxons. The children visited the indoor galleries, explored reconstructed houses and tried on replica Anglo Saxon clothes.

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ACCESS TO EDUCATION

You are invited!

If your child is in Phase 1 (FS and Y1) or Phase 2 (Y2 and Y3) look out for your Welcome Wednesday or Friendly Friday date.
This is an opportunity for you to come into school to take part in a short activity with your child.

Dates for the Diary

Weds 4th Nov - 2.45pm Mrs Scrivener and Mrs Brown's Welcome Wednesday
Fri 6th Nov - 2.45pm Mrs Scarfe and Mrs Cox's Friendly Friday
Weds 11th Nov - 2.45pm Miss Payea's Welcome Wednesday
Thurs 12th Nov - AM Tractor visit for YR, Y1 and Y2
Fri 13th Nov - 9am Y3 Year group assembly
Fri 13th Nov - 2.45pm Mr Dunne's Friendly Friday
Fri 13th Nov - Children in Need (Dress down)
Weds 18th Nov - 2.45pm Mrs Rogers and Mrs Evans' Welcome Wednesday
Fri 20th Nov - 9am Year 1 Year group assembly
Fri 20th Nov - 2.45pm Mrs Goodenough's Friendly Friday
Weds 25th Nov - 2.45pm Mrs Thomas' Welcome Wednesday
Fri 27th Nov - 2.45pm Miss Smith's Friendly Friday
Weds 9th Dec - 2.30pm Foundation Stage Nativity
Weds 9th Dec - 6pm Year 4 Christmas Tree Festival (more info to follow)
Thurs 10th Dec - 9.15am Foundation Stage Nativity
Tues 15th Dec - 2.00pm Phase 2 Christmas show
Thurs 17th Dec - Christmas Lunch
Weds 16th Dec - 9.15am Phase 2 Christmas Show

Friday 18th December - Last Day of Term
Monday - 21st December - Friday 1st January - Christmas Holidays

Monday 4th January - PD Day
Tuesday 5th January - Children return to school