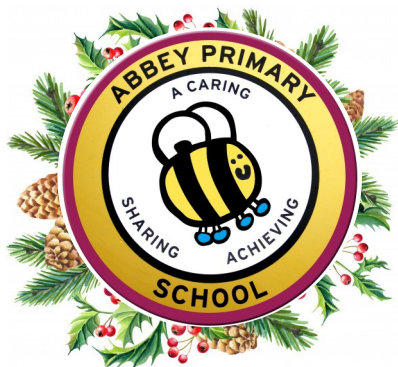




Abbey Primary School

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www.abbeyprimaryschool.co.uk

Newsletter

Friday 19th December 2025

End of Year message

As we wrap up another wonderful year, I want to take a moment to celebrate just how incredible our children have been throughout this festive season. Every performance has been a joy to watch, and as I've said many times, no matter what challenges we set, they rise to the occasion and shine so brightly. Thank you for your support—whether by helping behind the scenes or by being such enthusiastic audiences. Your presence makes these moments even more special. A huge thank you also goes to our fantastic Friends of Abbey team, whose dedication and generosity create amazing opportunities for our children, from the EYFS party with the magician to the pantomime trip for Years 1–6. We are so lucky to have such a caring and committed group. On a personal note, I continue to be inspired by the strength and spirit of the Abbey Primary community. I feel truly privileged to lead a school with such incredible staff, children, and families. I continue to be excited for all the successes and memories we'll share in the year ahead.

Wishing you all a joyful Christmas and a fantastic 2026!

Thank you, Mr. Harris

The Fairest Outing of Them All

What a magical afternoon we had! This week, pupils from Years 1–6 went on a very special outing — they enjoyed a performance of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs at the Mansfield Palace Theatre, with a cast full of festive sparkle, laughter and theatrical magic. The production was absolutely alive with colour, comedy and wonder — featuring a radiant Snow White, a dastardly Wicked Queen, mischievous dwarfs, a hilarious dame, and of course all the pantomime staples: a magic mirror, a poisoned apple, toe-tapping songs, and plenty of audience participation, "He's behind you!". Abbey children were completely engrossed — laughing at the jokes, joining in with the singing and booing at the Wicked Queen (just the way a panto should be)! It was lovely to see them so engaged, sharing that sense of excitement, friendship, and festive fun at this time of year. A huge thank you goes to all our teaching staff for organising the visit, and to the office team for coordinating all the details and permissions. And of course, a special thanks to 'Friends of Abbey' — without their support through fundraising all year, this outing simply wouldn't have been possible.



Royal British Legion Presentation

Last Friday in our assembly we had 2 visitors from the British Legion come to present a special certificate to the school for all of their fundraising efforts and work around Remembrance Day. One of the visitors had come into collect the money and saw the display that the children had put together with all of their family members who served for the armed forces. They were truly overcome by the thought and effort that had gone into our commemoration and so wanted to acknowledge it formally. Over £500 was raised through our efforts which they told us was the most any school had ever raised. It was lovely for them to share all of this with the children. Thank you as always for your generosity and support.



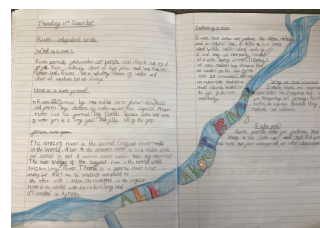
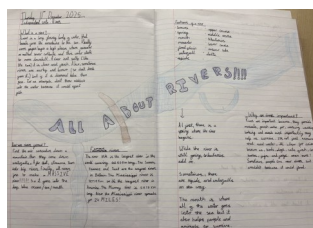
Foundation One

The Foundation Stage 1 children had a great time acting out the story of "Stickman" by Julia Donaldson this week. In forest learning we collected sticks, twigs and lots of different natural objects to make our very own stick people. We have also been very busy making our fantastic Christmas reindeer cards and bumblebee calendars. We had so much fun at our Christmas party this week.



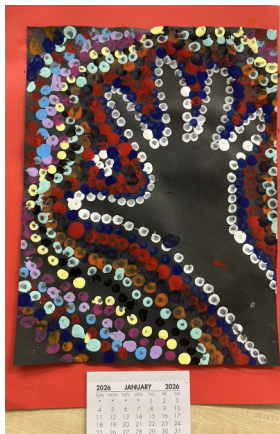
Year Four

Year Four have been working hard on their independent writing this term, researching all about rivers and presenting their work in an eye-catching double page spread in their English books. From finding out facts about the features of rivers to listing why rivers are important to our world, the children have researched using selected websites, text books and through their geography work to produce these impressive non fiction mini texts including organised paragraphs and the different sentence types taught during English lessons. To further support their understanding of rivers, the children then worked collaboratively to create multimedia posters to explain more about their learning.



Year Five

Year 5 have had a very festive week. We have enjoyed creating our calendars inspired by La Cueva de las Manos in Argentina using a dot art style. We have also applied our TinkerCAD computing skills to create some fantastic Christmas cards. We had great fun on Tuesday for our Christmas party day, playing lots of games and enjoying a Christmas dance session with Coach Claire. We hope you all have a lovely Christmas!



Singing at Four Seasons

Our wonderful choir pulled out all the stops again on a Thursday evening at the Four Seasons Shopping Centre in Mansfield, where they entertained festive shoppers. As always, the children represented Abbey brilliantly and the audience definitely left in a festive mood.



Staffing Update

Today we are pleased to welcome back Mrs. Stephens following her maternity leave. After a few days visiting and getting to know the class, I know she is looking forward to start teaching them in January. Sadly, this means that we have to say goodbye to Mrs. Heath who has been a wonderful member of our staff whilst Mrs. Stephens has been off. We all wish her all the very best for the future and particularly with the birth of her child.

Today we also sadly say goodbye to Mrs. Lovatt who is retiring after 6 years at Abbey. Mrs. Lovatt has been a vital member of the staff over this time and I know many of you have benefitted from the support she has given the children in her role as SENCO and through her teaching of classes. Mrs. Lovatt will be sincerely missed by us at Abbey but we know she has some amazing plans for the future and I am sure you will join me in wishing her the very best for the future.



CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA

Christmas Extravaganza

What an incredible way to close out an action-packed term! Today's Christmas Extravaganza filled us all with festive cheer as families and friends gathered to enjoy joyful songs, some

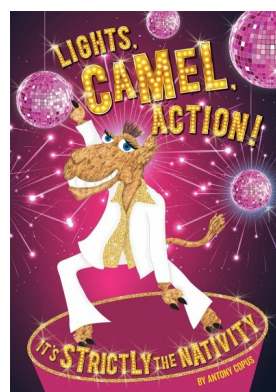
delicious treats, and plenty of holiday spirit. After weeks of rehearsals for their productions and carol concerts, our children were ready to shine—and they did just that! The heartfelt singing, many performances even included sign language, really showcased the talent and inclusivity of our amazing pupils. A huge thank you to everyone who joined us and brought such warmth and enthusiasm. Your smiles and applause kept the children energised right to the very last moment of the autumn term! A special mention also to the staff who have worked so hard amongst many other things to bring the performance together.

Attendance

In today's assembly, I have had the pleasure of awarding over 200 certificates out to children with over 97% attendance and with 100% attendance. This is a fantastic achievement by these children, especially considering the illnesses that have been going round in the last month. We will start again for the Spring Term and hope to give out even more at the end of the next term. We are also going to work with the school council to introduce some more attendance rewards for classes as we move forward.

Lights Camel Action

The Year One and Year Two nativity performances were a fantastic success and a real joy to watch. The children took to the stage with confidence and excitement, singing beautifully, speaking clearly and showing wonderful teamwork throughout. It was lovely to see how much they enjoyed learning the songs, practising together and sharing the nativity story with their families. Every child played their part with enthusiasm and should feel extremely proud of their efforts. We would also like to thank all the parents, carers and family members who attended and supported the children — your presence and encouragement helped make the performances such a special and memorable occasion for everyone.



Class Attendance

Figures for **this Week** are as follows:

F2 Miss Chick:	91.0%	Y3 Miss Nuttall:	94.3%
F2 Mr Blackwell:	90.3%	Y4 Mrs Savage:	96.5%
Y1 Mrs Heath:	98.7%	Y4 Miss Coleman:	96.0%
Y1 Miss Stirland:	92.0%	Y5 Ms Thomas:	93.5%
Y2 Miss Hitchcock:	90.3%	Y5 Mr Potter :	88.9%
Y2 Mrs Townsend:	94.7%	Y6 Miss Cairns:	95.6%
Y3 Miss Bytheway:	98.7%	Y6 Miss Spalding:	92.8%

Our whole school attendance figure for this week is: 93.6%

Well done to
**Mrs Heath's and
Miss Bytheway's Class**
for the best
attendance this week!

Figures for **this term** are as follows:

F2 Miss Chick:	92.1%	Y3 Miss Nuttall:	94.9%
F2 Mr Blackwell:	89.7%	Y4 Mrs Savage:	97.2%
Y1 Mrs Heath:	96.6%	Y4 Miss Coleman:	97.8%
Y1 Miss Stirland:	96.3%	Y5 Ms Thomas:	95.8%
Y2 Miss Hitchcock:	95.7%	Y5 Mr Potter :	96.3%
Y2 Mrs Townsend:	96.1%	Y6 Miss Cairns:	95.0%
Y3 Miss Bytheway:	96.6%	Y6 Miss Spalding:	94.1%

Our whole school attendance figure for this term is: 95.1%

Well done to
Miss Coleman's Class
for the best
attendance this term!

School Meals Menu - Week 1

Please find below the school dinner menu for week commencing 5th **December 2025**.
School dinners cost **£3.16** per day. If you wish your child to have a school meal, you must top up your Arbor account each week to enable us to charge you. Thank you.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cheesy tomato pasta with garlic bread & mixed salad	Margherita pizza, pommes Noisettes & mixed salad	Nottinghamshire sausage, Yorkshire pudding, mash, seasonal vegetables & gravy	Herby chicken, mashed potato & sweetcorn	Fish fingers with bread & butter, oven chips, peas, sweetcorn & tomato ketchup
Honey & oat cookie	Classic iced 'school' cake	Ice cream tub	Cornflake tart with custard	Donuts

Please see full menu on website for any allergens.

Year 1 to Year 6 have the choice of the main meal, jacket potato or a sandwich option.

Autumn 2 House Point Scores

Air
1,875

Water
2,056



Earth
1,973

Fire
2,023

Well done to Water for the best results this half term!

Spring Term Key Dates

05.01.26	School re-opens - Spring 1
09.01.26	Y6 DAaRT Graduation Ceremony - 2:00pm
29.01.26	Y6 SATs Parents' Meeting
02.02.26	National Storytelling Week Celebration
09.02.26	Children's Mental Health Week
10.02.26	Safer Internet Day
10.02.26	Celebration of Learning
12.02.26	Last Day of Spring 1
23.02.26	School re-opens - Spring 2
24.02.26	Parents' Evening
25.02.26	Parents' Evening
03.03.26	Y2 SATs Parents' meeting
04.03.26	Swimming changes to Wednesday (HS Class)
06.03.26	World Book Day- Pyjama day
17.03.26	Y3/4 Easter Production - 2:00pm
19.03.26	Y3/4 Easter Production - 9:30am & 2:00pm
23.03.26	Y4- Boggle Hole Residential until 25.3.26
27.03.26	Last Day of Spring 1
13.04.26	School re-opens - Summer 1

PE Days (Spring 1)

	PE Days (Spring 1)
Year 1	Tuesday indoor (PM) Friday indoor (AM)
Year 2	Thursday indoor (AM) Tuesday outdoor (PM)
Year 3	Monday indoor (AM) Thursday outdoor (PM)
Year 4	Monday indoor (PM) Thursday outdoor/ swimming (AM)
Year 5	Tuesday indoor (AM) Friday indoor (PM)
Year 6	Wednesday indoor (PM) Thursday outdoor (PM)