



Abbey Primary School

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Newsletter

Friday 13th February 2026



Happy Half Term



As we come to the end of another half-term, it is hard to believe that we are already halfway through another academic year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support in ensuring that your child receives the very best education and opportunities we can offer.

It is wonderful to see the children grow and develop into such confident, capable young people. They continue to make us proud with their achievements and positive attitudes.

I hope you all enjoy a well-earned break and have a restful and enjoyable holiday. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday, 23rd February and hopefully we will enjoy some better weather.

Many thanks, *Mr. Harris*

Friends Of Abbey Valentine's Disco

A huge thank you to Friends of Abbey for our disco on Monday. Our school halls were bursting with fun, colour and smiles as Friends of Abbey, our fantastic PTA, hosted a truly wonderful Valentine's Disco for all our children. From the moment the music began, the dance floor was alive with excitement as children showed off their best moves and



enjoyed the 'heartfelt' atmosphere. There were plenty of games and activities to keep everyone entertained, including favourites such as Tin Can Alley and Hearts Noughts and Crosses, where children cheered one another on and celebrated prize wins together. The photobooth was also a huge hit, with children loving the chance to pose with friends and capture their special Valentine's Disco memories.

Of course, no celebration would be complete without delicious treats, and the snack stations certainly didn't disappoint. Children enjoyed a variety of tasty foods and sweet treats while chatting, laughing and celebrating all things hearts and roses.

Events like this remind us what a caring, supportive and vibrant school community we are so proud to be part of. Thanks to the incredible efforts of Friends of Abbey — and the generosity of everyone who attended and supported the event — an amazing **£1,219.14** was raised for the school.

A heartfelt thank you to Friends of Abbey, all the volunteers, and every family who came along and helped make the disco such a joyful and memorable occasion for our children.

Phonics workshop

On Monday we held a phonics workshop for Foundation Two and Year One parents. The workshop showcased the resources we use with the children on their early reading journey, a lesson in action and then parents had the chance for some phonics practice time with their child. The workshop was a great success thanks to the engagement from the parents who attended.



Please do visit the phonics page of our school website for useful links, resources and virtual classroom videos.

<https://www.abbeyprimaryschool.co.uk/phonics-1/>

Schools Swimming Gala Qualifier

On Thursday morning, children were given the opportunity to take part in the Schools' Swimming Gala qualifying event at Rebecca Adlington Swimming Centre. With 51 pupils entering from across KS2, this was our most highly attended qualifier to date. We were incredibly impressed with every child who took part. There were some extremely close races which made it a very difficult task for Mr Blackwell when selecting the final team. With three boys and three girls chosen from Year 6, Year 5, and Years 3/4 (18 swimmers in total), we knew there would inevitably be some disappointed children. However, every participant represented the school brilliantly, and we would love to see them all enter again next year. We would like to congratulate the 18 swimmers who have been selected and wish them the very best of luck at the Swimming Gala Competition in two weeks' time.

Year 5/6 Six Nations Rugby Challenge

This week it was the turn of 14 of our Y5/6 children to take part in the Mansfield 6 Nations rugby challenge. As last week, the session started by looking at the TREDs principle, which encompasses all rugby values, with a specific focus on the "Teamwork" aspect. The children participated in lots of drills involving passing the rugby ball to each other and being aware of where their teammates were. The children listened well and quickly improved the skills needed. To finish the session, we moved into small-sided games of touch rugby against the other schools that had attended. The children worked together really well and they learnt quickly, performing better as a team as the games went on. At the end of the session, the children were awarded certificates from some of the players from the Under 12 girls' team who had gone along to help. Details were also shared of sessions when they can go along and be part of a Mansfield Rugby Club team.

During the session, I also spoke to Nicky our area Sports Game Organiser and the lead at Mansfield Rugby club about hosting a pop-up rugby session here at Abbey for our children. Watch this space for more information. Well done to all the children who took part and a big thank you as always to you parents who brought the children and supported the event.

Year Three

Year 3 have had a busy and exciting term developing their programming skills in computing! The children have been using Scratch to learn how to program a sprite by creating and sequencing simple commands. They explored how to control direction, movement and timing, demonstrating fantastic problem-solving skills as they tested and refined their programs.

It has been wonderful to see their resilience when debugging and their enthusiasm when their sprite moved exactly as they had planned. Year 3 are well on their way to becoming confident and capable young coders!



Foundation Two

What a fantastic half term Foundation 2 have had. We can't believe how much we have been able to fit in, with fun in the snow, 'Supertato' superhero training, National storytelling week, more travels with Harry and Betty, visiting England, Scotland and China plus much more. We are now looking forward to much more fun next half term with visits to the library, bring a bike to school day, World Book Day, Easter, plus much, much more! We'd also like to thank the adults that have kindly donated toys, books or other resources to the setting, this is always greatly appreciated and really supports the learning going on in the classroom.



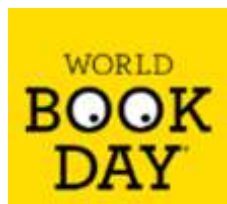
Year Two

This week year 2 have learnt about a new artist Henri Rousseau. We compared some of his paintings thinking about what we liked, the primary and secondary colours used, themes and how the paintings made us feel. One of our favourite pieces of artwork is 'A Tiger in a Tropical Storm' and we have

taken inspiration from this painting to create our own jungle themed artwork, The children have painted either a tiger or a toucan and used their collage skills to create leaves for their jungle backgrounds.

World Book Day 2026– Friday 6th March

This year, the theme for World Book Day is '**Go All In!**' and we invite all our pupils, from Foundation Stage to Year Six, to come to school wearing their pyjamas, bringing along a teddy bear and their favourite book to enjoy throughout the day.



As part of our celebrations, children will have the opportunity to 'snuggle up' and share their favourite stories with pupils from different classes, promoting a love of reading across the school. This year, the day's activities will once again be themed around traditional tales. All teachers are busy planning and preparing a range of exciting activities linked to their year group's allocated traditional tale...What will your child's be?

Class Attendance

Figures for This Week are as follows:

F2 Miss Chick:	89.5%	Y3 Miss Nuttall:	96.7%
F2 Mr Blackwell:	99.2%	Y4 Mrs Savage:	98.8%
Y1 Mrs Stephens:	89.1%	Y4 Miss Coleman:	99.2%
Y1 Miss Stirland:	84.6%	Y5 Ms Thomas:	96.8%
Y2 Miss Hitchcock:	90.8%	Y5 Mr Potter :	94.6%
Y2 Mrs Townsend:	99.2%	Y6 Miss Cairns:	99.6%
Y3 Miss Bytheway:	98.3%	Y6 Miss Spalding:	91.5%

Well done to
Miss Cairns' Class
for the best attendance
this week!

Our whole school attendance figure for this week is: 94.7%

Class Attendance

Figures for Year to date are as follows:

F2 Miss Chick:	93.0%	Y3 Miss Nuttall:	95.7%
F2 Mr Blackwell:	91.8%	Y4 Mrs Savage:	97.4%
Y1 Mrs Stephens:	95.3%	Y4 Miss Coleman:	96.8%
Y1 Miss Stirland:	96.3%	Y5 Ms Thomas:	95.9%
Y2 Miss Hitchcock:	95.1%	Y5 Mr Potter :	96.7%
Y2 Mrs Townsend:	95.8%	Y6 Miss Cairns:	95.5%
Y3 Miss Bytheway:	96.5%	Y6 Miss Spalding:	95.7%

Well done to
Mrs Savage's Class
for the best
attendance so far this year!

Our whole school attendance figure for this Year to date is: 95.4%

School Meals Menu - Week 2

Please find below the school dinner menu for week commencing 23rd February 2026.
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 Naan bread pizza, baby new potatoes & mixed salad	All day brunch Nottinghamshire sausage, bacon, hash browns, baked beans & scrambled eggs	Roast gammon with Yorkshire pudding, mashed potatoes, seasonal Vegetables & gravy	Pasta Bolognese with garlic bread	Fish goujons with oven chips, peas, sweetcorn & tomato ketchup
Vanilla Sponge	Chocolate cookie	New York cheesecake	Golden syrup flapjack	Pancakes with JimJam 'nut free' chocolate turnover

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.

Come to our book fair from 24/2 until 10/3!



Reminder– Parents' Evening Booking

A polite reminder to all parents and carers to please book your Parents' Evening appointment via the Arbor app. Parents' Evening will take place on 24th and 25th February, and all meetings will be face-to-face in school. Please ensure you log in to Arbor and secure your preferred time slot as soon as possible. If you experience any difficulties with booking, please contact the school office for support.



Parking

Just a polite reminder to ask everyone to be considerate in their parking around school. Please. Cars should not stop on the yellow Zig Zag lines, not even just to drop a child off, as this endangers members of our school community who are accessing or leaving school. Thank you as always for your cooperation.

Spring Term Key Dates

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 Celebrations – 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 2
13.04.26	School re-opens - Summer 1

Diary Dates for After Half Term

Monday 23rd February
Y3/4 Tag Rugby club 3:15-4:30
Y6 Reflective reader club 3:15-4:30
Tuesday 24th February
Band Club 15:15 -16:15
Scholastic Book Fair arrives
Parents' evening
Wednesday 25th February
Parents' evening
Thursday 12th February
KS2 Choir 15:15 -16:15
KS2 Magical Maths 15:15– 16:15
Y5/6 Girls' Football club 3:15– 4:30
Friday 27th February
Guinea Pig Carer club 3:15- 3:45