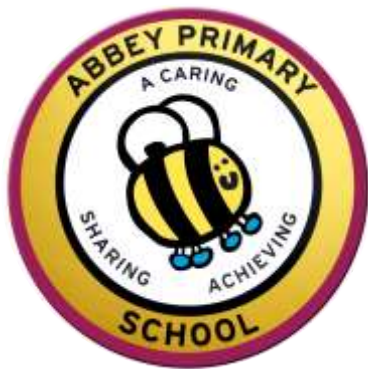




Abbey Primary School

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Newsletter

Friday 16th January 2026



DAaRT Graduation

This afternoon marked the celebration of this year's DAaRT graduates! During the Autumn Term, Year Six participated in the DAaRT programme, including two weeks of 'Web Warriors' sessions. The children engaged enthusiastically, expanding their knowledge in this vital area of the curriculum - an achievement they proudly showcased during their graduation assembly. Throughout the programme, the children learned about the dangers of harmful substances such as tobacco, cigarettes, vapes, alcohol, psychoactive substances, and both harmful and prescribed drugs. They worked hard to

develop resistance strategies to stay safe in potentially risky situations. The programme also taught them how to make responsible, informed decisions and introduced effective strategies such as saying "no" or walking away from dangerous scenarios.

In addition to this, the children explored the serious risks of carrying a knife, gained an understanding of protected characteristics, and learned what constitutes a hate crime. The 'Web Warriors' sessions further prepared them to navigate the online world safely, equipping them with the skills to make responsible choices when using the internet and digital devices. During the assembly, the children proudly shared highlights of their journey, reading reflections from their DAaRT reports and singing the DAaRT song beautifully. Each graduate was presented with a well-earned certificate.

Well done, Year Six - we are so proud of each and every one of you! A huge thank you also goes to Mr Clarke for delivering such engaging and exciting lessons. The children thoroughly enjoyed every moment!

Music Hub Day

On Thursday, we were delighted to welcome visitors from a professional choir called The Sixteen. The children took part in a range of fun and engaging activities, including singing in groups, asking the singers questions, and listening as they performed music in four parts. All Key Stage 2 classes enjoyed taking part in the workshops. Later in the day, the Key Stage 1 children waited quietly in their classrooms as the singers moved along the corridors, singing as they went and stopping briefly in each classroom while continuing their performance. It was an incredibly magical experience.

The singers then stayed on to work with the school choir, who have never sounded better!



OPAL

Our OPAL small world area is definitely proving to be a huge hit, thanks to the generosity of your donations, but we would love to enhance the space even more. We are looking at ways to zone the areas to provide designated spaces to play with transport vehicles, real world play (kitchen, salon, office), create habitats for our animal figures and have an area to use the dolls and figures. Below are some of the ideas we have in mind, and we wondered if anyone had any of the items lying around to help us create them.

- Left-over bark chippings, play sand, sand trays or artificial plants.
- Small cable reels, play scenery, artificial grass/ lino.
- Offcuts of wood to build a wall mounted dolls house



Our zones are ever growing so if you see anything you think may be of use to us, please drop it into school. We are still very much requesting donations from the bingo sheets. We are also proud to introduce our new OPAL Rangers, who help look after the play zones and support positive, inclusive play at lunchtime. Thank you, OPAL Play Team.



Year Six

This week in Year 6, the children have been busy exploring a variety of exciting topics! In English, we have begun researching and writing a biography about David Attenborough, discovering fascinating facts about his life and incredible contributions to wildlife and conservation.

In geography, the children have explored the relationship between climate change and human life. They considered how climate change can impact our health, wellbeing, homes, and infrastructure, and reflected on the ways human activity – including landfill, burning fossil fuels, deforestation, and overconsumption – contributes to these changes. It was thought-provoking work that really got the children thinking about the world around them. In Music, Mr Kirkland has introduced the children to the ukelele, and we have begun playing simple notes and chords – already creating a lovely sound in our classroom! We also launched this half term's value of resilience with a fun but challenging activity: the children built towers from playing cards, aiming to make them as tall as possible. We discussed what resilience looks, sounds, and feels like, and how it can help us tackle difficult tasks in school and beyond. It has been a fantastic week full of learning, creativity, and teamwork – well done, Year 6!

A Big Thank You from Friends Of Abbey

FOA would like to thank you all for your wonderful support over the Christmas period.

Together, we raised a fantastic £2,135.25 through the Christmas Disco, Extravaganza, and the sale of tea, coffee, and raffle tickets at the Christmas productions. Thank you so much for your generosity and continued support. We now look forward to seeing you at our Valentine's Disco on Monday 9th February!

First Chapter Friday is Back!

Today, our classrooms buzzed with excitement as pupils jumped into their very first 'First Chapter Friday' storytime of 2026! As always, the books carefully chosen by Abbey's teachers sparked imagination and curiosity... The magic of 'First Chapter Friday' is all about discovery - opening the door to brand-new authors, genres and worlds. By sharing just the opening chapter, teachers give children a tantalising sneak peek that leaves them desperate to read on and uncover what happens next.

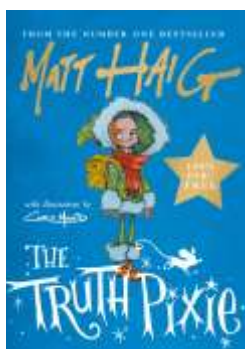
It's been a joy to see pupils animatedly chatting about characters, making bold predictions and racing to borrow the featured books so they can continue the journey at home. The reading bug is well and truly alive and kicking!

Here are this week's brilliant book choices...

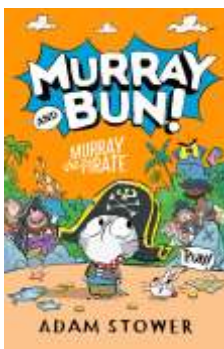
Year One



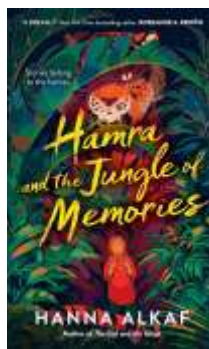
Year Two



Year Three



Year Four



Year Five



Year Six



Year 3/4 Dodgeball Festival



On Tuesday, eight of our Year 3 and 4 pupils had a fantastic time at a Dodgeball Festival! They played with great energy and determination,

showing real resilience in every game and never giving up. Most importantly, they proudly demonstrated the School Games value of honesty, playing fairly and supporting others throughout the event. We're incredibly proud of the way they represented our school—well done, team!

Year Two

This week in geography, Year Two have been focusing on maps. We began the week by looking closely at aerial and ordnance survey maps of the school grounds. We identified key places on the map and discussed how they were represented differently. We then explored the outdoor area, going to different locations, and then pointing to where we were on the map. To end the week we planned and drew a map of our bedroom, considering what shapes could represent the different items in there and some of us even had a go at creating a key!



Class Attendance

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

F2 Miss Chick:	94.4%	Y3 Miss Nuttall:	99.7%
F2 Mr Blackwell:	98.0%	Y4 Mrs Savage:	97.7%
Y1 Mrs Stephens:	94.7%	Y4 Miss Coleman:	92.0%
Y1 Miss Stirland:	98.0%	Y5 Ms Thomas:	94.7%
Y2 Miss Hitchcock:	93.0%	Y5 Mr Potter :	96.9%
Y2 Mrs Townsend:	94.7%	Y6 Miss Cairns:	96.2%
Y3 Miss Bytheway:	99.0%	Y6 Miss Spalding:	96.2%

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

Our whole school attendance figure for this week is: 95.9%

School Meals Menu - Week 3

Please find below the school dinner menu for week commencing **19th January 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
Quorn dipper wrap with roasted new potatoes, tomato ketchup & vegetable sticks	Pasta Neapolitan with garlic bread & mixed salad	Roast meat of the day with Yorkshire pudding, mashed potatoes, seasonal Vegetables & gravy	Beef burger with jacket wedges, BBQ sauce & mixed salad	Fish portion with oven chips, peas, sweetcorn & Tomato ketchup
Sponge cake & vanilla sauce	Jelly	Chocolate Cracknell	Butterscotch shortcake	JimJam 'nut free' chocolate brownie

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.

‘Supertato’ Hero Training Day

All was quiet in the classroom... until the doors burst open and the children were greeted by Supertato and the Evil Pea! Supertato needed the children's help, but before they could begin their mission, they had to complete special training to become fully fledged Supertatoes. The children were supported in developing their super jump, super strength, super speed, super throwing skills and, most importantly, their super pose! We are proud to announce that Supertato awarded all the children a pass in their training, and they are now officially Supertatoes. We had a fantastic day and look forward to putting our new skills to the test, ensuring all peas are safely locked away in the freezer.



Next Week's Diary Dates

Monday 12th January

KS2 Boccia Club 15:15-16:15
Y3/4 Tennis Club 15:15 - 16:30
Year 6 Reflective Readers' Club 15:15- 16:30

Tuesday 13th January

Y4/5 Dance Club 15:15 – 16:15
Y3-5 Athletics Club 15:15 – 16:30
Gardening Club 15:15 -16:30
Band Club 15:15 -16:15
Y6 Maths Club 15:15- 16:15

Thursday 15th January

KS2 Choir 15:15 -16:15
Year 3 Art Club 15:15 - 16:15
Year 5/6 Girls Football Club 15:15- 16:30

Spring Term Key Dates

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 (Fri 13th is an Inset Day)
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 1
13.04.26	School re-opens - Summer 1