



# Abbey Primary School

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## Newsletter

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026

### School Closure

I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your understanding regarding the decision to close the school today due to the adverse weather. It is never an easy decision to make as I am fully aware of the impact that it has on families and there are so many factors to take into account. Hopefully everyone received the communication in good time to make alternative arrangements for your children. Thank you again for your understanding and support.

### Welcome to 2026! An Exciting Term Ahead

# 2026

## HAPPY NEW YEAR

Happy New Year to all our families and welcome back to school. We hope everyone enjoyed a joyful festive break and is ready to begin an exciting new term together. As we start Spring Term 2026, our classrooms are already buzzing with anticipation for a term full of learning, creativity and enrichment. This term, we'll be exploring new topics, engaging in hands-on projects and discovering new opportunities to grow both academically and personally with learning that sparks curiosity and inspires a love of learning. From fascinating science experiments to imaginative art activities and from reading adventures to outdoor learning experiences, there's so much to look forward to. We have lots of special events and enrichment activities planned that will make this term truly memorable. Our goal is to inspire curiosity, encourage teamwork and make learning fun!

### Introduction to Miss McKeeman

Hello Abbey families, My Name is Kelly McKeeman, and I am really excited to introduce myself as the new Assistant Headteacher with SENCO and Safeguarding responsibilities at Abbey Primary. I feel very lucky to be joining such a welcoming school community and can't wait to get to know yourself and the children. My role is to help every child feel confident, included and supported in their learning. I will be working closely with families, teachers, and the children to make sure we understand what each child needs in order to continue to shine at Abbey. Over the next few weeks, I'll be popping into classrooms, saying a lot of hellos, and getting to know how things work here. When I'm not in school, you'll usually find me out on a muddy walk with my three spaniels, who keep me very busy and slight covered in muddy pawprints! Please feel free to come and say hi, catch me on the playground, or get in touch if you would like a chat, I'm always happy to listen and help. Miss McKeeman



### Pantomime Stars

We are very lucky to have some of our pupils showing off their singing and dancing skills in the local pantomimes.



Well done to Emily in Y6 who starred in the Mansfield Theatre production of Snow White and the Seven Dwarves. We were very lucky that Emily was on stage when we went to see the show.

Good luck to Shyana, Elsie-May and Lois Hibbert who are starring in the Westfield Folkhouse Pantomime, Aladdin which begins on the 17<sup>th</sup> January. We are very proud of you all.

### Vaping and Smoking

This week there have been incidents of adults vaping on the school premises whilst dropping off or collecting children. Please can I politely remind everyone that vaping and smoking is not permitted anywhere on the school premises. This is for the safety of our community. Thank you as always for your co-operation and understanding.



### Foundation One

The Foundation Stage 1 children have had an exciting week making lots of new friends. We had a fantastic time learning new songs and actions during our music session. We have also enjoyed using the puppets to retell the story "Room on the broom" by Julia Donaldson.

### Parking on School Premises

A kind reminder that ONLY parents with a parking Pass should drive onto the school site to use the car park even if the gates are open. This includes drop-off and pick-ups for breakfast and after school club wrap around care. All parents who have their child in the Holiday club periods are allowed drive onto the premises no pass needed. Thank you.

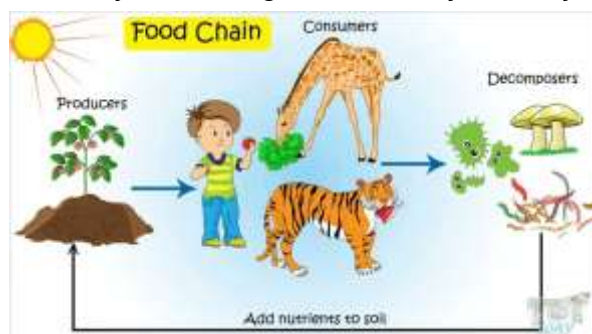
### Year Five

In music this week, Year 5 really enjoyed learning a short piece of music with Mr Kirkland using chime bars. We worked in pairs and had to take turns playing different notes, which helped us practise listening carefully to our partner. We followed the music on the board and concentrated hard to keep a steady rhythm and play at the right time. Working together helped us support each other and improve our performance. It was exciting to hear how all the different notes came together to make music, and everyone tried their best.



### Year Three

In science this week, Year 3 have been busy learning all about how living things get the nutrition they need to grow and stay healthy. We explored how producers make their own food,



consumers get energy by eating plants or other animals, and decomposers play an important role by breaking down dead plants and animals. The children loved learning how all living things are connected and work together in food chains. It has been wonderful to see their curiosity and enthusiasm as they continue to grow into confident young scientists!

### Parents' Evening Appointments Moving Online

We're pleased to let you know that Parents' Evening appointments for 24th and 25th February will now be booked online through the Arbor Parent App. This change is part of our ongoing commitment to making communication between home and school smoother and more convenient.

#### What This Means for You

- Simple online booking: Choose a time that suits you directly within the app.
- Instant confirmation: Your appointment will appear immediately in your Arbor account.
- All details in one place: No more paper slips or missed messages — everything is stored securely in the app.

#### More Information Coming Soon

A detailed letter will be sent out next week with step-by-step instructions on how to book your slot, along with support for anyone who needs help accessing the Arbor Parent App. We appreciate your cooperation as we continue improving how we connect with families.

### Behaviour

The children have come back to school really well following the Christmas holidays. We have shared the behaviour expectations again with the children and just want to remind you of the new procedures this year regarding red cards where if a child gets 3 red cards in a week or 7 in a half-term then this will result in an internal exclusion. Should the child have special educational needs, this will of course be taken into consideration on an individual basis.

#### A Message for Year 5 and Year 6 Parents

We kindly ask that you take a moment to talk with your child about expected behaviour before school, particularly if they walk to school independently. On occasions where behaviour becomes a concern, or repeated incidents occur, we may need to ask that your child is supervised before school until they enter through the main door at 8.35. Thank you very much for your continued support and cooperation

#### Nut Allergies

We would like to remind everyone that we have a number of children in school with nut allergies. To help keep all of our pupils safe, please do not send nuts or products containing nuts into school with your child. This includes items such as peanut butter sandwiches and chocolate bars or snacks that contain nuts. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation in helping us maintain a safe school environment for all children.



### Class Attendance

Figures for This Week are as follows:

|                    |       |                   |       |
|--------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|
| F2 Miss Chick:     | 93.9% | Y3 Miss Nuttall:  | 97.5% |
| F2 Mr Blackwell:   | 99.2% | Y4 Mrs Savage:    | 99.6% |
| Y1 Mrs Stephens:   | 96.7% | Y4 Miss Coleman:  | 95.8% |
| Y1 Miss Stirland:  | 99.2% | Y5 Ms Thomas:     | 99.2% |
| Y2 Miss Hitchcock: | 95.0% | Y5 Mr Potter :    | 99.1% |
| Y2 Mrs Townsend:   | 95.0% | Y6 Miss Cairns:   | 96.9% |
| Y3 Miss Bytheway:  | 95.4% | Y6 Miss Spalding: | 95.7% |

Well done to  
**Mrs Savage's Class**  
for the best attendance  
this week!

Our whole school attendance figure for this week is: 97.07%

## School Meals Menu - Week 2

Please find below the school dinner menu for week commencing 12<sup>th</sup> 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                                                         |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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 & custard                                 | Honey & oat cookie                                                                       | New York cheesecake                                                               | Golden Syrup flapjack             | Pancakes                                                       |

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.



### Winter clothing reminder

As the colder weather continues, please ensure your child comes to school dressed appropriately for winter. This includes a warm coat, hat, scarf, and gloves, as well as warm PE clothing on PE days. We would also like to remind parents to clearly label all belongings with your child's name. Coats and other belongings are often found left on the playground, and without names it can be difficult to return them to their owners. Thank you for your support in helping keep the children warm comfortable, and organised during the winter months.

### Next Week's Diary Dates

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January**  
KS2 Boccia Club 15:15-16:15  
Y3/4 Tennis Club 15:15 - 16:30

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> 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

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January**  
KS2 Choir 15:15 -16:15  
Year 3 Art Club 15:15 - 16:15  
*No girls' football club this evening due to the football competition.*

### 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                      |