



ABBOTS FARM JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Our School

Values:

*Courage Tolerance
Consideration Honesty
Creativity*

Our July Newsletter

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are creeping ever closer to the end of an action packed term and year!

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Abbots Farm community (pupils, parents, the Infant School family and our neighbours) for your support since I took over in January. We all really appreciate the time and effort our fellow 'Farmers' put in to make the school the special place that it is! I would also like to commend all our pupils for their hard work and dedication. We have been particularly impressed with our Year 3 pupils who have been a great addition to the school this year. Our Year 6 pupils have also worked incredibly hard this year and I am looking forward to celebrating their success when the forthcoming SATs results are published. They have been excellent role models to our younger children and we will be sorry to see them leave!

Recent events:



Race for Life

A huge thank you to all those who took part in our Race for Life on June 15th. It was an amazing turnout in support of a fantastic charity. Hopefully some of you were able to see our 'spread' in the Rugby Advertiser and saw that, to date, we have raised over £1000! A special thank you to Mrs Sandall for organising the event and to all of the staff and parents who helped out on the day.

Sports Week

Last week, the pupils all took part in a range of different sporting activities to celebrate National Schools Sports Week. Pupils from each year group tried their hands at: cardio tennis, tag rugby, cricket, street surfing, dance, gymnastics, football, fencing and much more. From the evidence seen, we have some extremely talented sportspeople. There's some photos on Twitter and in the school lobby on the big screen – we are hoping videos on the website will follow shortly! Thank you Mrs Beech in particular for organising the week's experience.



Lawrence Sheriff Lend a Hand

As part of our close links with Lawrence Sheriff, their teachers and 6th form students have been working with our pupils on a couple of projects. In year 3, our children have been working with the Sheriff music department to learn all about pitch, rhythm, tempo and dynamics and learning to read music.

Whilst in Year 5, some aspiring grammar school pupils have had the opportunity to work with the students studying A-Level maths in support of their 11+ practice.

These have been two great projects and we hope to be able to collaborate more in the future.

Upcoming Events:

Space Week – The hotly anticipated Space Week will land at school on **Monday 3rd July**. Mr Wolsey has planned a packed week of exploration and investigation, culminating in two Space Camps for Year 4 and Year 5. The week promises to be a once-in-a-lifetime experience and we hope to set up a blog on the school website to update all parents on the daily events – please go to www.abbotsfarm.co.uk and see the blog section at the bottom on the home screen.

Open Afternoons – Next week also sees our school open to our parents for the ever popular open afternoons. I am pretty confident you'll be roped into something space related for most year groups, so please come prepared for exploding rockets, pond dipping, scientific experiments and much more. Please also take the time to tour the whole school site to see all of the new projects we have been undertaking (and yes, more building work☺). You can pick up a guide at the front office on entry – please feel free to tour round with your child/children and take in how the school is continuing to develop.

The year group open afternoons are as follows:

Year 3 – Monday 3rd from 2-3pm

Year 4 – Tuesday 4th from 2-3pm

Year 5 – Wednesday 5th from 2-3pm

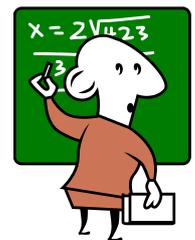
Year 6 – Thursday 6th from 2-3pm

French Day (Monday 10th July) – Mrs Brant and Ashlawn school have been busy organising a fun-filled French Day for the pupils to immerse themselves in. Children are encouraged to dress up for the day and the theme is any French related costumes or red, white and blue from the French flag.

Book Fair (Monday 10th July) – Our annual book fair will be held in the hall this year. Pupils will have an opportunity to visit the book fair during the day and with you after school. Further information to follow

Induction Day – Tuesday 11th July

Year 6 will attend their new secondary schools for the day and parents will need to take them directly to and from their new school. Our new Year 3 pupils for September will be joining us for the day and there will be a meeting for all new parents on Tuesday evening at **6.30pm**.



The rest of the school will be spending the day with their new teacher in their new classroom on induction day. Years 3 & 4 are going up to the next year as the same classes but Year 5 are being mixed. The children will be told on Friday 7th who their new class teacher will be next year. The year group teachers for next year are as follows:

Year 3 - Mr Robinson and Miss Marshall, Year 4 – Mrs Beech and Mr Wolsey, Year 5 – Miss Tate and Mrs Hartwell, Year 6 – Miss Jones and Miss Clarke.

Year 6

Our year 6 will be soon on their way to their new exciting secondary schools and we all wish them good luck. We are looking forward to their final assembly on **Wednesday 19th July at 1:45pm**. All year 6 parents are welcome to join the school for that special afternoon. The staff will be putting on a farewell BBQ for Year 6 on the evening of **Wednesday 19th July at 6pm – 7.30pm (Year 6 pupils only – no parents!)**



Staff Goodbyes

Not only are we saying goodbye to year 6 but also to two valuable members of staff, Miss Dyson and Mrs Hunter

Miss Dyson has been working with us as a 1:1 and SEND teaching assistant since September 2016 and has brought so much to the school team. She has built strong relationships with a number of pupils and will be dearly missed. However, we wish her every success in her new role as a class teacher at the Quest Academy.

Mrs Hunter has been working as our music specialist for a number of years, leading not only the curriculum music, but also our hugely successful and ever popular choir and peripatetic support. She has been very popular amongst the pupils and has developed our school into a hub for musical activity and a place that embraces performing arts. Unfortunately, due to reducing budgets, external class music support is no longer something that we feel we can afford and we have had to make the difficult decision to stop this from September. Class music will still be delivered by the class teachers and a choir will be available, as will the paid for instrument tuition. We have a big job carrying on from Mrs Hunter's lead, but I am confident we are up to the task.

Additionally we say goodbye to **Max** and **Sam** (our sports apprentices). Both have been working with the school for over 18 months and have brought a different dimension to the PE and games side. They have really come into their own this past 6 months and we hope that their time with us stands them well as they now move on to their next adventure.

New Parent Governor

Following our recent request for nominations for the role of parent governor we received one nomination from a Year 3 parent, Mr Dipak Mistry. We are pleased to welcome Mr Mistry to the Governing Body and look forward to working with him during his term of office.



Reports

On **Friday 14th July**, you will receive your child's annual academic report. The report will also include their attainment and progress for the year. Year 6 will also receive their official report on their key stage 2 test results.

The class teachers do spend a great deal of time writing detailed reports about the children and I look forward to reading each one.

Sports Day

Our annual sports day will be on **Monday 17th July**. The track events take place in the morning and we try to start at around 9.15am and it usually lasts until approx. 11am. Parents are welcome to wait on the school field after dropping the children off at school.

The PTA will be providing refreshments. The field events take place in the afternoon and the times are approximately:

Year 3 - 1:15 -1:45pm

Year 4 - 1:45 -2:15pm

Year 5 - 2:15- 2.45pm

Year 6 - 2.45 -3:15pm

Parents are welcome to join us to watch their child's year group activities. Please arrive close to the starting time for the year group. Parents will be allowed to take their child home after the events, if they wish.

The children volunteer to represent their house in many different activities and we try, where possible, to ensure that all children **who wish to take part** are given the opportunity. As the staff ask for volunteers, it is important that your child makes the staff aware that they wish to take part. Please talk to your class teacher if you have any concerns. I hope that you will be able to come along and join in the fun. **Please note: If the weather is wet we will try to hold the event on Thursday 20th July.**



PTA FAMILY BBQ

Our end of year BBQ & Summer Fair is taking place on **Friday 14th July from 6.30-8.30pm** and we would like to invite all parents, pupils and friends of the school to join us. We are holding a non-uniform day on that day and are asking for donations for any of the following stalls:

- Adult Tombola: bottles, chocolates, toiletries - any new items
- Children's Tombola: sweets, stationery, toys - any new items
- Cake Stall: homemade or shop bought, jams, chutneys – all appreciated!
- Raffle: please let us know if you work for a company that may be able to donate a prize (contact us at: warneck.c@welearn365.com)

Raffle tickets were sent home last week – please return money and stubs as soon as possible. We need plenty of helpers on the day so please return the volunteer slip (or email us) if you are able to spare a couple of hours. Many thanks!

Congratulations

We are really pleased to inform everyone, that as a result of our fantastic team of growers (Mr Issitt and Kidzone pupils) and the cookery club leaders (Mrs Issitt and Mrs Warneck), we have successfully achieved the **Food for Life Bronze Award**. We were thrilled to hear of the achievement and are extremely excited to use our newly refurbished cookery room to put our skills into practice. Additionally, we would also like to thank **Aldi Supermarket** for their generous offer to sponsor all of the produce for our after school cookery club over the past term.



Attendance

The class that had the highest attendance for June with **98.65%** is Robin. Well done, 5 tokens have been awarded! I wonder who will win the July total and the whole year?

Office Reminders:

- Please make sure that any outstanding monies are paid to the office as soon as possible so that the office can close the accounts for the year. We have a considerable amount of money outstanding at present for music, swimming, Kidszone and the Manor residential visit.
- We are still waiting for some school sports kits to be returned to school. If your child has represented the school in a sport and used our kit, can you please wash the kit and return it to school.
- We have **over 70** Warwickshire Schools Library books which have not been returned to school. Please check under beds and in bedrooms (especially Year 3 pupils) as the school must return the books to the central library asap.
- Please make sure that your child has a water bottle during these last few weeks. We do not have endless supply of cups etc and so need all pupils to have their own bottle.
- Can you also ensure that you apply sun cream before school and that they have a hat to wear on the playground.
- Please ensure that you collect any medicines, inhalers etc. from the office at the end of term.
- Please note: Our staff car park will have restricted access over the next three weeks as Warwickshire County Council are starting work on repairing our roof.

Parent Payments Online

We are in the process of finalising accounts for this academic year. **Parents will not be able to make any online payments after 21st July until the second week back in September.** Therefore, please ensure that any outstanding monies are paid prior to the last day of term.

Finally, our school will close for the summer holidays on **Friday 21st July at 3:20pm** and the school opens for the new academic year on **Tuesday 5th September 2017.**

Please note: Friday 1st and Monday 4th September are our training days.

All the staff would like to wish our families a lovely **sunny** holiday!

Mr Joss Andrews
Headteacher

