



ABBOTS FARM JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Our School

Values:

Courage Tolerance
Consideration Honesty
Creativity

Our February Newsletter

Dear Parents / Carers,

What an exciting first month back – not sure where the time has gone and Christmas is now a distant memory. Pleasingly, we've all survived (especially me!) and the pupils are working harder than ever. The Senior Leaders have had a chance to spend time in all classes over the past few weeks and have been incredibly impressed with the commitment and attitude of your children towards their learning. Please keep it up pupils – keep reading at home, keep plugging away at the home learning – it's definitely worth it!

Building Work

As you are all aware, we've had an incredible amount of work done to the front of the school and the offices. I'm sure you'll all agree the end result is a much brighter, cleaner and enticing entrance and façade to the front of the school.

Thanks to all pupils and parents for their patience and support and a huge thank you to all the teachers, teaching assistants, office staff, lunch supervisor and cooks who had to put up with making alternative arrangements for lessons and lunch time routines; it's very much appreciated.

Watch this space for further exciting development projects in and around school over the coming months



Sporting Success

Huge congratulations to our Year 6 rowers on winning both the boys' and the girls' team of 4 events at Harris Academy a couple of weeks back. They are now off to the regional finals in Birmingham on Friday representing the whole of Eastern Warwickshire – *keep checking Twitter for any updates!*

Congratulations also goes to the Year 4 boys' 6-a-side footballers who competed valiantly in the Primary school championships at Bilton High. 4 tough games with some excellent performances mentioned – very well done!



Young Voices

A big well done to all of the Young Voices Choir and the accompanying teachers, particularly Mrs Allen who organised the club, on their participation in the Young Voices Concert at the Genting Arena in Birmingham on Monday night. Over 6,400 pupils took part and raised the roof with the renditions of some old Motown classics as well as the upbeat Pop Medley. Take a look at the amazing Beatbox Collective

(www.thebeatboxcollective.com) and Urban Strides (www.urbanstrides.com) for some further inspiration – both truly amazing! Thank you to all parents for your support and attendance – I know the pupils loved sharing the experience with you. Take a look at the highlights video of the evening on our website.

National Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing Awareness Week

Next week (6th February onwards), the pupils at Abbots Farm will be taking part in a range of activities and discussions about the importance of good health and healthy minds and learning about strategies to help support themselves, family members or perhaps their friends if ever anyone isn't feeling themselves. We feel that the chance to discuss how to keep healthy and develop an emotional resilience is even more important than ever in today's society and welcome your support if and when children come home discussing what they have learnt.



Trips and Residential information

This term, three trips have been organised for pupils to attend:

- Year 4 are off on an exciting trip to London to study many of the Ancient Egyptian artefacts on display at the British Museum (February 28th).
- Year 6 will be visiting Beaumanor Hall to enhance their experience of life during World War II on March 6th (details to follow)
- The after school Science Club members will have the chance to visit Warwick Castle on Friday March 24th to take part in a Science Extravaganza (details to follow in a couple of weeks).

Finally, we have had confirmation of dates for the Year 6 residential to Manor Adventure in October of this year (Mon 2nd –Friday 6th). All Year 5 pupils have now received further information and I will be holding a meeting to explain the great experience potentially in store for those keen to attend and more about how to pay/equipment etc. on Wednesday 8th February at 6pm.

Fundraising

Matchbox Challenge – Pupils will have the chance to take part in a sponsored ‘matchbox challenge’ over half-term. Letters and more information will follow shortly.

A message from the PTA: Dreaming of warmer climes? Don't forget to raise a free donation for Abbots Farm Junior School - Rugby when you book your holidays through [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk). It won't cost you a penny extra and you'll be helping to make a world of difference - please sign up for it as it raising much needed money for the school. <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/abbotsfarmjnr>

Congratulations

Whole School Attendance for January: **96.72% Well done everyone. Keep it up!**
Congratulations to GOLDCREST (Year 3) for having the highest level of attendance in the whole school for January. They achieved a staggering 98.17%.
Well done! 5 tokens have been awarded to the class.



Other info

The Tuesday drop-in sessions to see Mrs Barker (our Early Intervention Support teacher) will be moving from 8am onwards to the later time of 2.30 onwards and will also include Miss Tate who has taken over as our SENCo. If you wish to come and speak about a specific concern regarding your child's learning development, please feel free to come to school and discuss it further with Miss Tate and Mrs Barker.

Dates for your diary:

Teacher Training Day: Friday 17th February (no pupils!)

Half term: Monday 20th to Friday 24th February (school reopens on Monday 27th)

Year 4 British Museum Trip: Tuesday February 28th – Early start – please check info on letters

Easter Tea Party: Thursday 6th April @ 3.30pm – More details to follow.

Office Reminders:

Online Payments – School trips

We are continuing to use the online payments system to pay for school trips. When the trip is set up you will receive a text message advising that payments can be made. There is also the facility for parents to give consent to the trip by ticking a box. This will save parents having to return the slip. However, we will still accept the usual method of payments in cash/cheque via the school office.

Overdue Payments:

MUSIC: Spring term £40 SWIMMING FEES: £2.80 weekly (1st half-term £16.80, 2nd half also £16.80)

We have a small minority of parents still owing monies from the Autumn term.

I hope you all enjoy the half term break.

Mr Joss Andrews
Headteacher

