



ABBOTS FARM JUNIOR SCHOOL

Learners for Life

Farmers Forever

Ambitious, Healthy Bodies and Minds, Reflective, Resilient

Abbotts Way, Rugby,

CV21 4AP

Tel: 01788 576074

Email:

admin2421@welearn365.com

Our October 2018 Newsletter

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to our second monthly newsletter of the new academic year.

It has been an action packed first four weeks, in which we've been able to celebrate a number of exciting events and activities.

Learning Around School

Some of the learning in recent weeks has been excellent. A number of pupils have already shown that they are living up to our new core values, in particular showing their ambition by working through some of the challenging tasks that their teachers have been setting.

Year 3 have settled in well, learning new routines and getting to know their new classmates. They've even made fire as part of their Stone Age day!



Year 4 have been getting to grips with their topic, Africa, and are continuing to build on their skills from last year. They've also attended the Cotswold Wildlife Park – behaving exceptionally well and really getting engrossed in their learning.



In Year 5, all pupils are showing their creative sides with the Amazon project well underway along with their creative writing based on The Day the Crayons Quit!

And finally, the writing and depth of learning in Year 6's Beowulf project, culminating in an excellent assembly performed by SJ6. All in all, a very positive start!

After School Clubs

Well done to all of those attending our after school clubs. We had a record response from pupils wanting to take part this term so are expecting some great sessions across the sports and the other clubs. We now have a near army taking part in Young Voices; it's so great to be able to extend the numbers to accommodate most people (thank you Mrs Allen and Mrs Beech). It has also been great to see a number of pupils trying clubs for the first time – keep up the positive attitude.

Home Learning and Reading in the Library

Well done to all pupils who have completed their home learning; lots of people have been able to stick to the new timetable. It is also great to see so many people taking advantage of the lunchtime home learning clubs offered by the class teachers.

*Don't forget – the library is open to all pupils and their parents **after school until 4pm every day**. Please stop by if you wish to read and make the most of the wide variety of books we have on offer.

School Rules

As many of you will know by now, the pupils and adults at school have created 3 new school rules to which we are going to strive to achieve. These are:

We are Kind

We are Respectful

We always Try Our Best

As part of launching the rules, the school ran a competition to create a poster displaying the rules. A winner from Year 3+4 was chosen and a winner from Year 5+6. We are pleased to announce the winners. They are:

Lena and Ami in W4 with their joint effort and Molly in W6. Congratulations to you all. Your posters will be printed and displayed around school very soon!



Pupil Leadership – House Captains/Ambassadors

Last week our pupils and teachers voted for their House Captains (6 children from Year 6) and House Ambassadors (6 children from each of Years 3,4 and 5). Congratulations to those who were chosen. Their task now is to support making the school better, through provided whole school sporting events, house learning days (mixed sessions from all year groups) and working with our teachers to develop the learning experience at school.



Our Year 6 House Captains

Community Team News

Another group of children doing fantastic work at school are our pupil **Community Team**. Their focus last term was supporting local charities through a table top sale. This term sees their attention turn to pupil wellbeing and social events. They are planning to run lower school (Year 3 and 4) and Upper School (Year 5 and 6) **Spooky Discos on Tuesday 6th November**. Further information will be sent out shortly.

Parent Consultation Evening

The first opportunity for pupils, their parents and teachers to meet to discuss the start of the new term will be held on **Tuesday 23rd October**. This is a great chance to focus on how your children have settled, their early successes and also their next steps in learning. A letter will be coming out at the start of next week for parents to request an appointment. If you are unable to attend on that evening, please contact your class teacher to arrange another time.

As part of supporting our wider curriculum, Mrs Brant, our French lead teacher, will be available to speak to throughout the evening. She will be there to discuss the French curriculum and how to promote learning modern foreign languages outside of school. Feel free to come and meet her and discuss how we deliver French and the enjoyment that can be had when learning a new language.

Open Afternoons

This term's parental open afternoons will take place on the following dates. This is a great chance for you to come in between 2 and 3pm and join in the learning with your child/children, take a look at their books and see what life at Abbots Farm is all about. The dates are as follows:

Year 3 – Tuesday 16th October
Year 4 – Wednesday 17th October
Year 5 – Thursday 18th October
Year 6 – Friday 19th October

PTA Macmillan Coffee Event

A big thank-you to all the pupils and families who joined us for our cake and coffee event on Friday. We had a wonderful response for donations of cakes and biscuits and support from the PTA. Thank you all for supporting this wonderful charity. We raised a super £213.82.

Thank you also to those that attended the Family Quiz night. Great fun was had by all again. We would also like to thank Mr and Mrs Twynholm for being quizmaster and scorer for a third year. The quiz raised £173.33! Well done everyone



Are you interested in helping our hardworking PTA? Why not pop along for a coffee and chat at the PTA AGM and help with planning the Christmas Fair – **Tuesday 16th October at 2.30pm**. Everyone welcome – refreshments provided!

Attendance

As we enter into October, we will be reviewing every pupil's attendance. For those pupils whose attendance is currently below 90% (classed by the DfE as persistently absent), we will be sending letters out to families. This is, initially, to inform them of the low attendance as some may be unaware. Secondly, it is a chance to work together to improve attendance by discussing any potential problems/difficulties and how it may be hindering attending school.

Office Reminders:

Lost Property: Please make sure that you name your child's property as we have a large amount of lost property with no names again (37 jumpers have been found in the first 4 weeks alone!) Mr Issitt will display the items of clothing over the next few weeks on the school playground at the end of the day. Please check that your child has not brought home another child's clothes.

Half term week: **29th October – 2nd November**

Mr Joss Andrews
Headteacher