

ABBOTS FARM JUNIOR SCHOOL

Learners for Life Farmers Forever

Ambitious, Healthy Bodies and Minds, Reflective, Resilient

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Our April 2019 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a few weeks we have had at school! Not only have we entertained a pilot inspection, we've also welcomed parents in for Open Afternoons, had the Ancient Greeks descend upon us, sent our Year 6s off to the countryside as evacuees, supported World Book Day and Comic Relief and we still have two weeks to go (Just a typical half term at Abbots Farm!)

Feedback from the Pilot Inspection

Last week saw us open our doors to two inspectors to test out their new framework in preparation for rolling it out nationally from September 2019. The inspectors spent a considerable amount of time speaking to school leaders and staff, observing lessons and behaviour and worked alongside the children, discussing life at school with them. Whilst they are not publishing a report (due to it being a pilot and there is no official judgement) they did wish to pass on some messages:

- 1) The pupils at this school are exceptional they have excellent learning behaviours and work extremely
- 2) The leaders and staff at Abbots Farm set the highest expectations and support the children to reach their potential
- 3) There is an excellent curriculum being delivered that both inspires and challenges children and the work produced is of the highest possible standard

When the parting words of an inspector are 'you have a simply wonderful school' you can't help but take a moment to feel incredibly proud with what we are achieving here.

To celebrate the pupils' achievements, we are planning to hold a non-uniform day on the final day of term (no donation required). Pupils have also asked if they can celebrate by bringing in games (non-electrical) to play. We would like to honour their request and will allow them to bring them in for the final afternoon. We hope you all understand our desire to reward the children, and the staff, for their ongoing efforts and excellent progress.



World Book Day



Open Afternoons

Upcoming Events Swimming Gala - Saturday 30th March

The annual Rugby Swimming Gala takes place this Saturday (30th March). After a competitive

Highlights from the past few weeks G+T Sports event

Ancient Greeks

we have selected 21 pupils from Years 4, 5 and 6 to represent Abbots Farm.

County Music Service Concert - Wed 3rd April

Next week sees our school singing club take to the stage at St. Andrews Church to form part of the County Music Service Choir festival. We are very much looking forward to them all perform on the evening.



Easter Tea Party – Friday 5th April

We will be holding our annual Easter Tea Party on Friday 5th April. There will be a non-uniform day and we are asking for donations of cakes and tombola items. We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.



School Book Fair - Thursday 11th April

Our annual book fair is back and will have a wide a variety of books as always. The accompanying sheet has a little more information to share. Envelopes for any monies you wish your child to spend will be sent out just before the day. The book fair will also be open after school until 4pm.

Rugby Tickets - Free for Under 10s

Wasps RFC have asked that we share their offer of free tickets to under 10s to any home game. Please visit https://www.wasps.co.uk/tickets-and-hospitality/wasps-tickets/ for more details.



After School Clubs

Our Summer Term after school clubs letter will be out before the end of this term for your children to choose which activities they wish to turn their hand to. Once again, the teachers and staff are offering a wide range of sports and clubs (fingers crossed for some sun!)



COMIC

Fundraising

Once again, thank you to our pupils and families for supporting our fundraising events. This half term's Film night raised over £180 for Myton Hospice and Hope4. The school's support of Comic Relief raised £220 and we still have the Easter Tea Party to come!

<u>Crisps Packet Collection –</u> Thank you to everyone who has been donating empty crisp packets for the Guide Dogs charity. We are continuing to collect so keep 'em coming!

Attendance

The class with the highest attendance for March was Starling (Year 5). Congratulations to them. 5 tokens added to your class total!

Reminders - **Music Fees:** £40 for the term, **Swimming:** £36.50 full Spring Term, £20 for 2nd half term. **School Uniform** - As we enter into the warmer months (we hope) and the field becomes available, please ensure children have outdoor footwear for PE/games as well as pumps if required.

<u>Water bottles</u> - Please also provide your child with a water bottle daily to ensure they stay hydrated.

Key dates:

End of Spring Term: Friday 12th April, Summer Term starts: Monday 29th April, Bank Holiday: Monday 6th May

We wish all our Farmer Mums a fantastic Mothers' Day and everyone a Happy Easter and restful break (when it arrives!)

Mr Joss Andrews Headteacher