



ABBOTS FARM JUNIOR SCHOOL

Learners for Life

Farmers Forever

Ambitious, Healthy Bodies and Minds, Reflective, Resilient

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Our July 2019 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 continued support of the school. 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. They have all demonstrated our Key Values of **Ambition**, **Healthy Body** and **Mind, Reflectiveness** and **Resilience** and can feel very proud of the past year.



Recent events:

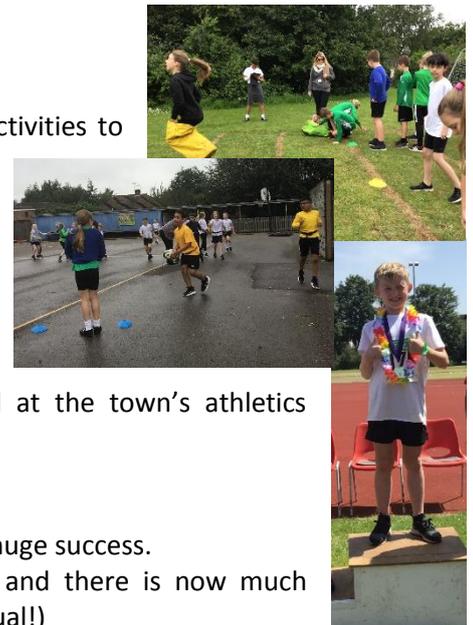
Sports Week

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: Gymnastics, tag rugby, cricket, street-dance,

gymnastics, football, kickboxing and much more. From the evidence seen, we have some extremely talented sportspeople.

Thank you Mrs Beech in particular for organising the week's experience.

Well done also to all of the children who represented the school at the town's athletics tournament. It was great to see us do so well across a range of events.



Transition Day

Despite it being much earlier than previous years, this year's transition day was a huge success.

All pupils and teachers responding extremely well to their first day together and there is now much excitement for the new academic year (we just have to wait a little longer than usual!)

All staff will now have an opportunity for an extensive handover of information so that they are fully informed of your child/children's needs prior to starting in September.

Upcoming Events:

Open Afternoons – This 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.

The year group open afternoons are as follows:

Year 3 – Monday 1st from 2-3pm

Year 4 – Tuesday 2nd from 2-3pm

Year 5 – Friday 5th from 2-3pm

Year 6 – Thursday 4th from 2-3pm



Sports Day

Our annual sports day will be on **Monday 15th July**. As with last year, the whole school will come together for the morning's events, between **10am** and **12pm**, and everyone is then invited to stay for a family picnic on the field. The response from parents and family members was overwhelmingly positive last year and everyone felt that it was a lovely way to finish the year as a community.

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 17th July at 1:45pm**. All year 6 parents are welcome to join the school for that special afternoon and tickets will be available soon. The staff will be putting on a farewell BBQ for Year 6 on the evening of **Wednesday 17th July at 6pm – 7.30pm (Year 6 pupils only – no parents!)**



Reports

On **Friday 12th 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 End of 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.

PTA FAMILY BBQ

Our end of year BBQ & Summer Fair is taking place on **Friday 12th 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: PTA2421.c@welearn365.com)



You should now have all received raffle tickets – 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 help.

Staff Goodbyes

This year we say goodbye to our longest standing member of staff. **Mrs McBirnie** retires at the end of term after 27 successful years at the school. Whilst her job title might say Bursar, she has provided much more than that during her time here – front of house, supported 3 different headteachers, 80-100 staff and thousands of children and their families. I am sure you would like to join us in saying a huge thank you to her and wish her all the best for her retirement. From a personal perspective, you will be sorely missed Mrs McB!

New Arrivals

Whilst we say goodbye to staff, it also means that new Farmers are joining us. Our new Year 3s will have met **Miss Prendergast** last Thursday. She will be joining Mr Robinson in teaching Year 3 and is already raving about her first day at Abbots Farm! **Mrs Jarvis** will also be joining us as a teaching assistant to support the incoming Year 3 and to succeed Mrs McBirnie, we have a new school business manager, **Mrs Bull**. All staff are very much looking forward to becoming part of the team.

Baby Farmer News - it is with great pleasure that I can announce the safe arrival of Harriet Elsie Bostock, who was born last Friday (28th) weighing 7lb 5oz. Family are doing well and we look forward to meeting our newest Farmer!

Attendance

The class that had the highest attendance for June with **97.85%** 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
- We are still waiting for some school sports kits to be returned to school. Please check at home for any
- Water bottles, sun cream and hats are essential at the moment – please ensure your child/children have them (sun cream can be applied before coming to school if you prefer)
- Please ensure that you collect any medicines, inhalers etc. from the office at the end of term.

Parent Payments Online

We are in the process of finalising accounts for this academic year. **Parents may not be able to make any online payments after 19th 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 19th July at 3:20pm** and the school opens for the new academic year on **Tuesday 3rd September 2019. Please note: Monday 2nd September is our training day.**

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

Mr Joss Andrews
Headteacher