



ABBOTS FARM JUNIOR SCHOOL

Learners for Life

Farmers Forever

Ambitious, Healthy Bodies and Minds, Reflective, Resilient

Abbotts Way, Rugby,

CV21 4AP

Tel: 01788 576074

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October 2020 Newsletter

The month that was...

After possibly the longest September in living memory, we can finally reflect on the return to school for all children (and staff and parents!) Firstly, the children have been fantastic. They have responded exceptionally well to the new procedures and routines, have embraced the learning with a positive attitude and worked alongside one another with a genuine respect.

That being said, it hasn't been easy. The first day or two back at school felt like they were spent solely washing hands, lining up, going outside, lining up, walking back in, washing hands, sitting down in class, toilet trips, washing hands, lining up and so on! Pleasingly, we have moved on a long way since then and those early days certainly served their purpose in reassuring all pupils, staff and parents that the environment we spend such a great length of time in, is safe.

Since then, the learning has really kick-started. Year groups are now fully into their topics, the library is back in full use (which is lovely to see), sport and exercise are regularly taking place and the core curriculum of Maths and English has really started to ramp up. All in all, a very pleasing, very measured start to the term.

***Don't forget to visit our class pages on the school website to learn more about what your child's year group will be learning this year. Visit: <https://abbotsfarm.co.uk/learning-at-abbots-farm/year-group-pages/>**

Learning Around School – our early Learners of the Week



Congratulations to all the pupils who have received a Learner of the Week certificate over the first 3 weeks of term. It has been great to see so many of the children demonstrating our school values of **Ambition, Healthy Body and Mind, Reflectiveness** and **Resilience**.

We are also eager to hear from pupils who wish to share their successes from outside of school (trophy, awards etc). We continue to run our celebration assembly every Friday, albeit virtually. If your child wishes to bring their trophies in, they can share them via their classroom. Alternatively, please email admin2421@welearn365.com with photos and an explanation and I can share during the virtual assembly.



Home Learning

Hopefully, by now, everyone has their password and log in for **Seesaw** (providing you've been in school to receive it). We are really pushing the use of the online app to support children and their families with some of their home learning.

Please check each week for tasks. If you are unable to access the app, please use the planners to inform the class teachers and alternative arrangements can be made. We will ensure that there continues to be access to hard copies.

Great work so far everyone!



We are pleased to announce the return of a small number of after school clubs, in the coming weeks. Clubs form an important part of school life for so many and we are delighted to share that **archery, football** and **cheerleading** will be the first 3 to return, with more to come after half term. Please click on the link below to register your child's interest in archery or football. See page 3 for the cheerleading letter from the Roar team.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=hEVTLM6ekOhnanIPyn9sNp5n7C5pDhHprgKgbUF5hUOVczTzQ3QUJMTIU1OQtYMEhKN0IIVDEzMS4u>

****Please note – no place is guaranteed. We will confirm via a text if a place has been allocated.**



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Parents' Evenings

With the ongoing restrictions to parents accessing school site on mass, we are looking to conduct this term's Parents' Evenings meeting via a combination of Microsoft Teams or phone calls on **Tuesday 20th** and **Wednesday 21st October**

A letter will be sent out with further guidance by the end of next week to arrange times and the preferred format for each family.

For those families whose children have IEPs, your meetings will take place the week after half term. Miss Tate will be sending out correspondence shortly

Diary Dates

October - Black History month

26th – 30th October - Half term

2nd Nov – School photographs

16th – 20th Nov – Anti-Bullying Week

20th Nov - Teacher Training Day

15th Dec – Flu immunisations (whole school)

TBC Dec - Christmas jumper day and Christmas lunch

TBC – Other Christmas activities for pupils

21st Dec – 1st Jan – Christmas Holiday

4th Jan – Teacher Training Day

5th Jan – Children return to school

Developing our Citizens of the Future

This past week, children have taken part in the Big Anti-Bullying Assembly, coordinated by the Diana Trust. The assembly was a great way to engage pupils in discussing the important yet difficult topic of bullying, and subsequent discussions have highlighted a developing maturity around the issue across the school. For those who wish to watch the content, please follow this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X0_1Z0CAZiE



Over the coming weeks, school will be looking at other important areas of society, including British Values, the impact of discrimination, coping with and celebrating disability and a range of current affairs topics. We will start to use our website to share resources so that parents can also engage in discussions at home, should they wish.

Nut Free School

A reminder that Abbots Farm Juniors is a NUT FREE school. Please can we ask that all packed lunches and snacks are NOT to contain nuts. We have children in school with severe allergies. Thank you



Family Support – in school

As a school, we are always looking at ways to try and support our pupils and their families. As such, **Miss Poppy**, our pastoral coordinator, continues to be available should families wish to discuss any pastoral or family concerns. Currently, Miss Poppy is free to call families on Friday afternoons between **1 and 3pm**. Please note, that due to logistical restrictions, Miss Poppy may not be able to work directly with specific year groups, but will be able to coordinate support within those year groups by passing information on.

Family Support – external

For families seeking further advice around supporting your children in the home, finding out further advice about parenting, Young Carers, housing, debt or adult mental health support, here are the contact details to two excellent Warwickshire agencies. Please feel free to call them:

Family Information Service and the **Early Help Team (Children and Family Support)**

– 01926 742274 fis@warwickshire.gov.uk

Office Updates and Reminders

School Photographs – School photographs will be taking place on **Monday November 2nd** (straight after October half term). Individual and sibling photos (within our school) will be permitted. All necessary distancing and sanitising will take place between different year group bubbles.

Immunisations - The school nursing team will be in on **15th December** to provide all pupils with their flu immunisations. Letters will be emailed out in due course with further information.

Dinners – £2.25 per day, £11.25 per week - Deli bags will continue until Oct half term. We will be reviewing hall use for hot dinners moving forward and will update when plans are finalised.

Music Fees - £55 per term. The majority of places have now been allocated for guitar, violin and keyboard. Communication will be sent from the office to those who have gained places.

Allsorts Virtual issue – <http://bit.ly/3hCUVtp> **ALLSORTS SEPTNOV**

*Don't forget to visit our website www.abbotsfarm.co.uk to find out any further information.

Mr Andrews



BOOKING FORM - AFJS CHEERLEADING CLUB

Cheerleading club will be starting up again, week commencing 12th October with 8 sessions in total. The last session will be on 9th December.

There will be two club days this term:
Monday 3.30-4.30pm – Years 4 & 6
Wednesday 3.30-4.30pm – Years 3 & 5

Children will be taught a wide variety of skills including: basic lifts, gymnastics, jumps & dance. They will be kept separate in year group bubbles during the club & will exit through different doors at home time – year 3&4 hall door, year 5&6 main reception door. Coaches will always remain socially distant from participants unless needed to perform first aid, in which case they will wear PPE. There will also be no use of pom poms this year as we are unable to sanitise them efficiently.

- We have a maximum of **18 places** per club, which will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. The cost **per child per session is £4**. 8 sessions will be **£36 for the term**.

Please complete the form below and return with payment to the school office on or before 09/10. Bank transfer is preferred if possible.

PLEASE NOTE WE DO NOT ACCEPT CHEQUES

We accept cash in a marked envelope or bank transfer to ROAR Cheer & Dance, 43323405, 54-41-00 (please use your child's full name as reference)

Further information is available on the website www.roarcheer.co.uk or you can contact me at roarcheeranddance@live.co.uk or 07738716542

Cheerleading Club – AFJS

Please tick the appropriate boxes below.

I would like my child to attend cheerleading club 3.30-4.30pm on:

Monday (year 4 & 6) ☐

Wednesday (year 3 & 5) ☐

I have:

Enclosed £36 cash ☐

Sent £36 by bank transfer ☐

Participants name: **Year/class:**

Parents mobile no: **Email:**

Medical Conditions (especially anything that might affect their ability to partake in basic gymnastics or weight-bearing):
.....

Pick – up arrangements (circle): Collected Walk home Out of school club

Media consent – please tick the box if you give permission for your child to be photographed/filmed during their time at the club. Any visual image may be used to publicise the work of ROAR! Cheer & Dance in print media, websites or closed circuit features. No image will be broadcast or displayed in such a way as to make it liable to appropriation or misuse.

Signed: **Date:** ☐