



# ABBOTS FARM JUNIOR SCHOOL

*Learners for Life*

*Farmers Forever*

*Ambitious, Healthy Bodies and Minds, Reflective, Resilient*

Abbotts Way, Rugby,

CV21 4AP

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## November 2020 Newsletter

### Updates from AFJS



October was a month full of success. Each year group is well underway with their topics and producing some excellent work.

**Year 3** have been completing some fabulous art work and writing around their Stone Age topic. **Year 4** have continued their journey through Anglo-Saxon Britain.

**Year 5** were treated to a talk by Professor Allaby who shared a whole range of facts about the Amazon and Brazil. **Year 6** have been creating their very own live websites. Absolutely stunning!



All children continue to be enjoying our PSHE and year group assemblies, which have focused on looking after the earth (David Attenborough video), the importance of speaking out (a focus on free school meals and Marcus Rashford's campaign), children's health and wellbeing. It has been so pleasing to hear children and staff discuss a range of important current affairs with such maturity.



**\*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/>**

### Home Learning

It has been very positive to see how many children are using the online app. We are really pushing the use of this to develop children's skills. We will ensure that there continues to be access to hard copies for those who are not currently using the app.



Over the next week, further information will be shared about how, as parents, you can download a parent version to be able to view work and 'toggle' between children's accounts.

### Remembrance Day

Thank you to everyone who has supported this year's Poppy Appeal by following the new format.

There are some items left if people wish to purchase something and haven't done yet.



REMEMBRANCE DAY  
*Left We Forget*

### Art Challenge

Miss Trainer has set an art challenge on every pupils' Seesaw account to commemorate this year's Remembrance Day. If you wish to take part, log into Seesaw and read through the instructions. Good luck!

### BBC Children In Need – Come as Yourself (Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November)

We are pleased to announce that we will be supporting Children in Need next Friday (13<sup>th</sup> Nov) with the theme of **Come As Yourself**.

The theme's aim is to encourage children and adults to come to school dressed in something that makes them feel comfortable about themselves. We are asking for a donation of **£1**, which has been set up to be paid online.



### Five to Thrive – The Five Ways to Wellbeing

Each day, pupils will also be taking part in the Five to Thrive boosting physical and mental wellbeing programme, whereby they will look at the 5 aspects of wellbeing – **Connect, Take Notice, Get Active, Be Curious** and **Give**.

For more info about Children in Need please visit the page, <https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/>



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## Parents' Evenings and IEPs

We would like to thank all those who have attended the virtual/phone based parents' evenings and IEP meetings over the past two weeks. Your feedback is always greatly appreciated.

For families whose children are in Mrs Seneschall-Jones' class, the meetings have been rearranged for **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>** and **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November**.

Links to book your slots will be shared at the start of next week so you can all choose your preferred times again.

Once again, thank you to everyone for attending.

## Diary Dates

**11<sup>th</sup> Nov** – Remembrance assembly (virtual)

**13<sup>th</sup> Nov** – Children in Need day

**16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> Nov** – Anti-Bullying Week

**20<sup>th</sup> Nov** - Teacher Training Day

**1<sup>st</sup> Dec** – Wizard of Oz Panto in school (Lockdown pending!)

**11<sup>th</sup> Dec** – Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Raffle

**15<sup>th</sup> Dec** – Flu immunisations (whole school)

**16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Dec** - Christmas lunches (2 sittings - Year groups TBC)

\*TBC – Other Christmas activities for pupils

**21<sup>st</sup> Dec – 1<sup>st</sup> Jan** – Christmas Holiday

**4<sup>th</sup> Jan** – Teacher Training Day

**5<sup>th</sup> Jan** – Children return to school

## 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](mailto:fis@warwickshire.gov.uk)

## Office Updates and Reminders

**Payments** – Please can all families check any outstanding payments on Eduspot and ensure that they are all up to date.

**Clubs** - Unfortunately, **ALL AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS** are postponed, in line with government guidelines shared with schools, for the lockdown period.

**Swimming** – Swimming is still yet to be offered. The Diamond Jubilee Centre are not currently able to give a timeframe on when swimming is likely to start back.

**11+** - Good luck to all of the Year 6 pupils taking their 11+ this weekend. Stay calm, be positive and try your best 😊

Best wishes,

Mr Andrews

## Christmas Events

Christmas this year is going to feel very different in school, given that we will not be able to host our traditional Carol Service for Year 5 and 6 or performance for Year 3 and 4. However, we are intent on getting into the festive spirit with the following opportunities:

- Wizard of Oz panto **1<sup>st</sup> Dec** (lockdown pending)
- Christmas jumper day – **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec**
- Christmas raffle (virtual presentation) – **11<sup>th</sup> Dec**
- Christmas lunch for pupils (over two days – likely **Wed 16<sup>th</sup>** and **Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> Dec**

Our music lead, Mrs Berry, is also putting together plans for alternative ways to perform carols and poems, which are COVID friendly. More information will be shared over the coming weeks about how we intend to film these performances and share with our community. Watch this space!



## 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



