



ABBOTS FARM JUNIOR SCHOOL

Learners for Life

Farmers Forever

Ambitious, Healthy Bodies and Minds, Reflective, Resilient

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May 2021 Newsletter



Summer Term is finally here...

Dear pupils and families – It is hard to believe that we are already in the final year of the 2020-21 academic year. We hope that, since Easter, you have all been able to get out more, see friends and family in a safe way and start to feel like the world is opening up more. Whilst it may bring additional risks to us, if managed well, the benefits of being outdoors and socialising with others is significant.

That too can be said of school – we were delighted to welcome the children back to a sunny week, one in which we were able to have ALL children eating and playing outside at break and lunchtime, and have more PE and wider curriculum sessions taking place around the school grounds. Long may this continue!

As this term progresses, we hope to learn of further easing of restrictions and, where we feel it appropriate, we will also adapt school's measures accordingly. We are optimistic that this may lead to us being able to hold whole-school and family events towards the end of term (sports day and suchlike) – fingers crossed! For now, we wish you all an enjoyable Bank Holiday Weekend – see you all on **Tuesday 4th May**.

Science Projects and Competition Results

A huge 'Well Done' to all of the pupils (and families) who took part in the recent Science challenges.

Some of the entries were absolutely amazing.

Please see some examples below:



Please also click on the links below to watch two exceptional videos from Emily and Alice, who have been able to recreate the Rube Goldberg Machine music video by OK Go using objects and items in their own home. Truly inspiring and great fun by the looks of it!

We hope to be able to set up links to the video on our website or share them with pupils in school. Further info to follow.

National Walking Month

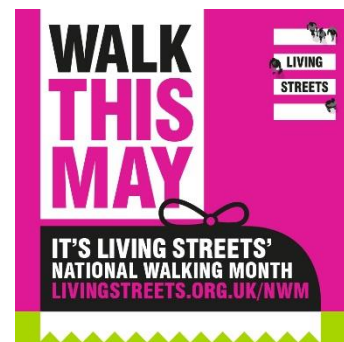
May sees the start of National Walking Month. As a school, we are going to start promoting that all children and staff make the extra effort to 'get active' and make a few more short journeys each week.

Exercise is an excellent way to reduce stress levels and feel healthier.

We would love to hear from families also getting involved. For those brave enough, please make a pledge via the site below – good luck everyone ☺

<https://www.livingstreets.org.uk/get-involved/campaign-with-us/national-walking-month>

Please post photos on our Twitter of you out and about. Don't forget to use the hashtag **#walkthismay**





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Eco Projects

Mr Wolsey recently met with the Eco-Committee members to kick-start their action-planning and identify areas in which school and the community can support one another and the environment. The children have chosen biodiversity, litter and energy consumption as the 3 priorities and more information can be found on their new blog here:

<https://abbotsfarm.co.uk/>



Meet our guest bloggers from the school's Eco Committee

Apr 29, 2021



Website

We have a range of new blog posts from the children now available on our website.

Please click on <https://abbotsfarm.co.uk/news-events/>

scroll down, and click on 'Latest News' for more information.

Thank you to everyone for putting the blogs together 😊



Diary Dates

May – National Walking Month

3rd May – Bank Holiday

6th May – Polling Day (School open as normal but carpark and bottom of school used for polling)

31st May – 4th June (Half term)

7th June – Teacher Training day

21st July – Last day of 2020/21 Academic Year

***Further dates will be added in due course** – this is likely to include sports day, transition days, Leavers performances/BBQs etc (*all Government guidance dependent*)

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 – Club allocation texts should now have been received. Thank you to everyone for contacting with any issues originally. Children have thoroughly enjoyed the first week of clubs.

Swimming – Swimming is still yet to be offered. It is unlikely that we will return now before the summer holidays. Further info to be shared soon.

Best wishes,
Mr Andrews



PSHE Policy and Curriculum

You will have received an email with information around our updated PSHE curriculum and policy.

We are encouraging as many people as possible to take a look at the content and provide feedback via the link on the website (blue box tilted – Send us Your Views). Your views are incredibly important to our development as a school. Please follow the link:

<https://abbotsfarm.co.uk/learning-at-abbots-farm/curriculum/>

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.