

# Term 1.1 Newsletter 2023-24



## Stepping into Autumn



Abbey School  
Inspire, Believe, Achieve

# Updates



## Dear #teamabbey Families,

As we approach the end of this half term and transition further into Autumn, we wish to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our families for their continued support. With the colder weather upon us, we kindly ask that you ensure your child has adequate warm coats for their journeys to and from school.

During the upcoming half term, we urge you to remain vigilant regarding your child's online activities. We have encountered a number of incidents that have surfaced at school following weekends and holidays, which have been a direct result of online interactions outside of school hours. In line with current government guidelines, we are reviewing our Acceptable User Policy for pupils. As a proactive measure, we will be asking all students, including our Post 16 pupils, to submit their mobile phones each morning upon their arrival at school, which will be returned at the end of the day. This measure aims to foster a more focused learning environment.

We would also like to express our sincere appreciation to those families who have taken the time to send personal emails of thanks. Your kind words have sincerely touched our hearts and have been deeply appreciated by our staff.

Our new school website has been well-received, and we are grateful for your positive feedback. If there are any additional features or areas you would like to see included, please do not hesitate to make use of our Family Voice collection to share your suggestions.

Recently, we have circulated our Family Voice survey via See Saw. As always, we encourage cordial communication with the school. This platform offers an opportunity for you to share both what is going well and what could be improved. The link to the Family Voice form can be found [here](#)

We hope you have a restful half term break and enjoy creating those precious #memoryjar moments with your family.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Windle and Mr Askham

# Events in School



We are delighted to share some recent highlights from our school, showcasing the incredible achievements and blossoming talents of our students.



Our recent Chess Championship was a remarkable success, drawing many of our students together in a spirited competition. The sense of teamwork, camaraderie, and the high level of skills displayed was truly inspiring. It is wonderful to witness how such events foster not only academic but also social development among our students.

# Events in School



In addition, our participation in the Step into Sport Leadership Day at the English Institute of Sport (EIS) proved to be equally rewarding. We were honoured to have Olympic athlete Mel Clarke attend the event, inspiring our students further. A special mention goes to our Upper 2 student, who confidently spoke before an audience of 150 visitors, showcasing the talent and poise that we nurture within our school community.



# Events in School



Furthermore, our Upper 3, Horizon, and WAVEE students participated in a Boccia competition alongside 18 other schools, where we received a letter of commendation from a local headteacher praising our students for their exemplary conduct and skills. Such feedback is a testament to the values we instil in our young athletes.

The Barnsley Adventure Challenge provided an excellent platform for our Horizon students to exhibit their leadership and teamwork skills. The positive experiences and lessons learned during these activities are invaluable.

We are immensely proud to announce that our football team recently participated in a competition against eight other schools. Their performance was commendable, demonstrating both skill and sportsmanship. It fills our heart with pride to see our students representing the school with such dedication and enthusiasm.

Furthermore, our careers events saw exceptional attendance and engagement. The STEAM Street job opportunities, led by our pupils, not only showcased their initiative but also provided a valuable insight into the various opportunities available on our STEAM Street . Our careers event for students in Years 9 through 14 was equally successful, with many employers and post-16 providers in attendance, allowing our students to explore diverse pathways for their futures.

We would also like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to the family coffee morning event. It was a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together, share experiences, and strengthen our school relationships.

# Events in School

Our British Food Tasting Night received an enthusiastic response across both sites. Providing students with the chance to explore new flavors and learn more about nutrition.

Additionally, the extracurricular days for World Space Week and Mental Health Day proved to be enriching experiences. These events allowed students to apply their learning in creative ways while also fostering important discussions around positive mental health, which is crucial in today's educational landscape.

It was a pleasure to connect with many families during Parents Evening. Strengthening our partnership with you is invaluable in ensuring the success and well-being of our students.



Our Post-16 students organised a variety of engaging activities designed to encourage participation and interaction among our community elders. The event provided an opportunity for our younger generation to connect with their elders over a cup of tea. The positive feedback we received from both the participants and their families underscored the value of such interactions in enhancing community spirit.

Lastly, we marked the conclusion of Black History Month with a vibrant Carnival style celebration. We would like to extend our gratitude to all families who attended and participated in this significant event, helping us to honour and reflect on the contributions and achievements of the Black community.

# Contacting Staff



## **Contacting staff**

We continue to encourage our staff to have a good work / life balance at all times. This means that they will not return your call/ email/ seesaw message after working hours so please be aware of that. Could I also request that you continue to send in messages that are routed in kindness rather than anger. Nobody in our school community is perfect and we understand how frustrating it can be when your child is upset however a problem or worry is best sorted with a positive enquiry rather than a shout so please be kind at moments of stress and anxiety. The Schools Yellow pages over the next few sections of this newsletter

## **See Saw**

Please ensure that you are checking your SeeSaw Accounts for updates from your class team and from the school. We have included Class contact details over the coming pages



## Contacting your class Team

Please be aware that when contacting the class teacher they will endeavour to **return your email SeeSaw or Telephone Message within 24 Hours.**

If you need to speak with someone before the 24 hour window please ring school reception who can direct your call accordingly. Tel – **01709 740074**

**Attendance:** Please ensure that you ring school to report your child's absence and follow the appropriate option for attendance before 9:00am. Tel - **01709 740074**

**Safeguarding:** The schools phone system has an option to be put straight through to the safeguarding team. Tel – **01709 740074**

## Yellow Page of Contacts

### Lower School: Mrs R Yorke

Lower Class and Teacher		E Mail Contact
Class L1	Miss Day	<a href="mailto:pday@nexusmat.org">pday@nexusmat.org</a>
Class L2	Miss James	<a href="mailto:djames@nexusmat.org">djames@nexusmat.org</a>
Class L3	Mr Pitchford	<a href="mailto:jpitchford@nexusmat.org">jpitchford@nexusmat.org</a>
Class L4	Mr Flanagan	<a href="mailto:MFlanagan1@nexusmat.org">MFlanagan1@nexusmat.org</a>
Class L5	Miss Hall	<a href="mailto:khall@nexusmat.org">khall@nexusmat.org</a>
Class L6	Miss Levitt	<a href="mailto:jlevitt@nexusmat.org">jlevitt@nexusmat.org</a>

### Upper School: Leader Ms J Newbolt

Upper Class and Teacher		E Mail Contact
Class U1	Miss Lazenby	<a href="mailto:Clazenby@nexusmat.org">Clazenby@nexusmat.org</a>
Class U2	Mr Smith	<a href="mailto:dsmith2@nexusmat.org">dsmith2@nexusmat.org</a>
Class U3	Mr Horstead	<a href="mailto:nhorstead@nexusmat.org">nhorstead@nexusmat.org</a>
Class U4	Miss Drew	<a href="mailto:hdrew2@nexusmat.org">hdrew2@nexusmat.org</a>
Class U5	Mrs Brown	<a href="mailto:vwarrington@nexusmat.org">vwarrington@nexusmat.org</a>
Class U6	Mr Newbolt	<a href="mailto:snewbolt@nexusmat.org">snewbolt@nexusmat.org</a>
Class U7	Miss Tapp	<a href="mailto:jtapp@nexusmat.org">jtapp@nexusmat.org</a>

### WAVEE Post 16: Ms J Newbolt

WAVEE Class Teacher		E Mail Contact
WAVEE 1	Mrs Lewis	<a href="mailto:dlewis@nexusmat.org">dlewis@nexusmat.org</a>
WAVEE 2	Mrs Ross	<a href="mailto:zross@nexusmat.org">zross@nexusmat.org</a>
WAVEE 3	Miss Puente	<a href="mailto:mpunte@nexusmat.org">mpunte@nexusmat.org</a>

### Abbey@HorizonHub: Leader Miss R Lang

H1 Class	Miss Wilson	<a href="mailto:hwilson@nexusmat.org">hwilson@nexusmat.org</a>
H2 Class	Miss Newall	<a href="mailto:anewall@nexusmat.org">anewall@nexusmat.org</a>
H3 Class	Mr Warden	<a href="mailto:kwarden@nexusmat.org">kwarden@nexusmat.org</a>
H4 Class	Mrs Binnie / Mrs Proctor	<a href="mailto:nbinnie@nexusmat.org">nbinnie@nexusmat.org</a> <a href="mailto:vproctor@nexusmat.org">vproctor@nexusmat.org</a>



If your call is urgent please contact reception who will direct your call accordingly  
Contact: 01709 740074

### 1st Point of Contact Class Teacher

The class teacher will return emails and calls within 24 hours  
Please see Contact list for your class teacher contact. Staff will not respond after working hours (5:30pm)

### 2nd Point of Contact Head of Department

Lower School: Mrs Yorke	<a href="mailto:ryorke@nexusmat.org">ryorke@nexusmat.org</a>
Upper School & Post 16 Ms Newbolt	<a href="mailto:jnewbolt@nexusmat.org">jnewbolt@nexusmat.org</a>
Horizon Hub Miss Lang	<a href="mailto:rlang@nexusmat.org">rlang@nexusmat.org</a>

### 3rd Point of Contact

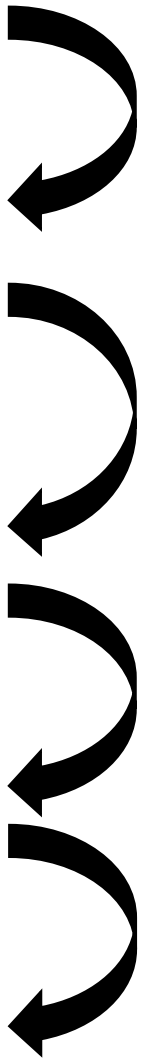
Head of School: Mr Askham	<a href="mailto:waskham@nexusmat.org">waskham@nexusmat.org</a>
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### 4th Point of Contact

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Windle	<a href="mailto:lwindle@nexusmat.org">lwindle@nexusmat.org</a>
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### Other Key Contacts

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Ms E Shimwell	<a href="mailto:lshimwell@nexusmat.org">lshimwell@nexusmat.org</a>
Deputy Safeguarding Lead: Mr T Gee	<a href="mailto:tgee@nexusmat.org">tgee@nexusmat.org</a>
Family Support & LAC Advocate: Miss K Taylor	<a href="mailto:ktaylor@nexusmat.org">ktaylor@nexusmat.org</a>



# The year ahead a reminder

September 2024						
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October 2024						
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November 2024						
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December 2024						
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January 2025						
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February 2025						
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March 2025						
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31						

April 2025						
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May 2025						
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June 2025						
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July 2025						
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August 2025						
Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
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School Holidays

Inset Days

Bank Holidays

Term / Half Term Dates	Term Starts	1/2 Term Hols Start (off school)	Back to School	Hols Start (off School)	Back to School
Autumn Term	4/9/2024	28/10/2024	4/11/2024	20/12/2024	7/1/2025
Spring	7/1/2025	17/2/2025	24/2/2025	31/3/2025	14/4/2025
Summer	14/4/2025	26/5/2025	2/6/2025	23/7/2025	1/9/2025

Due to unforeseen circumstances the February INSET for the Trust has been changed from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup>

# Term 1.2

## October – December 2024

Changes in red Additions in green

Date	Whole school events/ pupil experiences	Family Invites
4 <sup>th</sup> November	Pupils return to school (Normal Time)	
6 <sup>th</sup> November	YST Netball taster day	
7 <sup>th</sup> November	School Photographer - Horizon site	
11 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance Assembly	
12 <sup>th</sup> November	Maths Functional Skills Exam (Selected Pupils)	
13 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti-Bullying Day	
13 <sup>th</sup> November	English Functional Skills Exam (Selected Pupils)	
15 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need Dress Up Day Girl Power Day	
WC 18 <sup>th</sup> November	GCSE Mock Examinations (Selected Pupils)	
19 <sup>th</sup> November	Family Coffee Morning	10:00am-12pm (All Sites)
21 <sup>st</sup> November	Football League Match	
22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Art Enrichment Day (Pupils to come dressed in old clothes)	
28 <sup>th</sup> November	Winter Wonderland Visits for pupils	
29 <sup>th</sup> November	INSET Day No Pupils In School	
2 <sup>nd</sup> December	INSET Day No pupils in School	
4 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Fayre Pupils can wear a Christmas Jumper if they wish	All Sites 1:30-2:30pm
5 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Church Visit Pupils can wear a Christmas jumper if they wish	
11 <sup>th</sup> December	Lower School Christmas Show	1:30pm Start at St Thomas Community Hall - Ticketed Event
12 <sup>th</sup> December - Due to availability of hall	Christmas Performance Upper School - St Thomas Community Centre Horizon - at the Horizon Hub	Ticketed Event Upper School and Horizon Christmas Performances 1:30pm Start.
18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Dinner	
20 <sup>th</sup> December	Disco and Strictly Come Dancing House Event	
20 <sup>th</sup> December	Pupils Break up for Christmas 2:00pm	



*It takes a village  
to raise a child*