

Term 1.2 Newsletter 2023-24



Abbey School
Inspire, Believe, Achieve

Winter Wishes

Updates



To our #teamabbey families,

As we approach the end of the year and prepare for the festive season, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for your continued support throughout this academic year. Since the beginning of the school year in September, there have been numerous accomplishments to celebrate, and this half term has certainly been no exception. Highlights include our YST Netball taster day, the Remembrance assembly, Anti-Bullying Day, Children in Need, Girl Power Day, and, not to mention, our Winter Wonderland project. Additionally, the magic of our Christmas shows truly showcased the absolute best in our pupils.

It was delightful to see so many of you at the Christmas Fair, where we raised over £1,000 across both sites. Thank you so much for your generosity and support.

While Christmas is often a time of joy and celebration for many children, we also recognise that it can be a challenging period for some families. To support our community, we have introduced a Mental Health and Wellbeing section on our website. This resource contains valuable links to services that may assist those who find this festive season difficult. We encourage you to explore these resources should you feel the need. You can access this section on our website. [Click Here](#)

We feel privileged to be part of your child's educational journey and sincerely hope that you and your family enjoy a restful Christmas filled with beautiful memories together.

As a reminder, please note that pupils will break up for the Christmas holiday on 20th December at 2 PM, and will return on Tuesday, 7th January at the normal time.

We hope this half-term newsletter is both informative and entertaining.

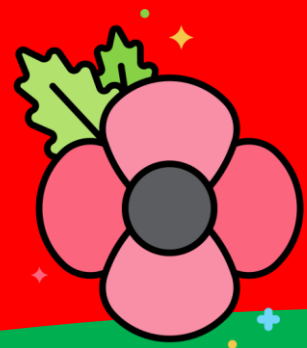
Thank you once again for your unwavering support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Windle

Mr Askham

Remembrance Assembly



our recent remembrance assembly took place at our school and was attended by all pupils. This significant event provided a poignant opportunity for reflection and instilled a sense of pride in our community.

The assembly was thoughtfully led by our pupils in collaboration with Mrs. Lewis and Miss Newbolt. It was heartening to witness the involvement of students as they took the initiative in honouring those who have served in the armed forces. Many pupils shared personal stories and memories of family members who have dedicated their lives to our country, creating an atmosphere of respect and gratitude.



Acts of remembrance not only foster respect for our history but also instil values of empathy and gratitude in our young learners..

Children in Need and Girl Power

This was a great event at our school that encompassed both celebration and meaningful engagement. Our Children in Need Day coincided with our dedicated Girl Power Day activities. This combination was not only a fun-filled day for our pupils but also the opportunity to support a vital cause and promote positive values.



Our Girl Power Day focused on empowering our young girls through sport and physical activity. This initiative aims to inspire confidence, resilience, and a strong sense of self-worth among our female students. We believe that participation in sports not only enhances physical health but also contributes significantly to mental wellbeing.

Winter Wonderland

Abbey School has recently been a part of—the St Thomas Community Hall Winter Wonderland.

Our students were thrilled to participate in the design and preparation of this enchanting event. For several weeks, they collaborated with local community members to bring their creative ideas to life. The project involved brainstorming sessions, hands-on crafting, and the decorating of the Community Hall, transforming it into a magical winter landscape. The pupils' enthusiasm and commitment to seeing this project through were truly commendable.



On the day of the Winter Wonderland event, our pupils had the unique opportunity to walk through the beautifully decorated hall, showcasing the fruits of their labour. Every corner of the hall was a testament to their hard work, filled with twinkling lights, festive displays, and immersive winter themes that captured the spirit of the season. A highlight of the visit was the opportunity to meet Father Christmas, which brought smiles and excitement not only to our students but to all the families who attended.

Staffing changes

Mrs Lazenby has been presented with an exciting opportunity to be seconded to our sister school, Discovery, where she will be covering maternity leave as Subject Lead for Maths. We are pleased to share that she will be returning to us in September. I am sure you will join me in wishing her the very best as she embarks on this new venture; we are all very excited for her, and we know you will be too.

To ensure a smooth transition and consistency for your children, Mr Edwards and Mrs Crowley will be taking on the role of your child's new class teachers. Mrs Crowley has been a valued member of our school community for a number of years and brings with her a strong background in Physical Education. Mr Edwards, who teaches Music, is also looking forward to working closely with your children.

We are delighted to welcome some new #teamabbey team members.

- Mr Busby is undertaking his Teacher Training with us and has joined L4
- Julie Lee has Joined as a new TA in L6 ,
- Sophie Redmond has joined as a new TA in U1
- Bethany Marshal out new TA in L1
- Laila Mohammed Has joined as a TA in L2
- Emily White our Apprentice TA L2
- Katie McGowan Our Apprentice TA in L1

Events Coming Up

As we approach the forthcoming half term, I am excited to remind you of several engaging events that we have organised for our families. These occasions provide a wonderful opportunity for you to engage with our school community.



Firstly, we warmly invite you to our Family Coffee Morning, which will take place on 17th January from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. This event will have an e-safety focus, offering an informal setting for us to share the latest information and strategies regarding online safety. We believe that in today's digital age, it is crucial for families to stay informed and equipped to navigate the complexities of e-safety.



Additionally, we are thrilled to announce our Chinese New Year celebration, scheduled for 29th January from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm, across all sites. This event represents a significant opportunity for our families to visit the school and partake in the celebrations. We would like to encourage any families who wish to contribute in any way to reach out to Mrs. Yorke at ryorke@nexusmat.org. Your involvement would be greatly appreciated as we celebrate this vibrant cultural event together.

Contacting Staff

Contacting staff

As within the last newsletter 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.

Our Feathers of Thanks

We want to also thank the many of you that have sent in your feathers of thanks



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	pday@nexusmat.org
Class L2	Miss James	djames@nexusmat.org
Class L3	Mr Pitchford	jpitchford@nexusmat.org
Class L4	Mr Flanagan	MFlanagan1@nexusmat.org
Class L5	Miss Hall	khall@nexusmat.org
Class L6	Miss Levitt	jlevitt@nexusmat.org

Upper School: Leader Ms J Newbolt

Upper Class and Teacher		E Mail Contact
Class U1	Miss Lazenby	Clazenby@nexusmat.org
Class U2	Mr Smith	dsmith2@nexusmat.org
Class U3	Mr Horstead	nhorstead@nexusmat.org
Class U4	Miss Drew	hdrew2@nexusmat.org
Class U5	Mrs Brown	vwarrington@nexusmat.org
Class U6	Mr Newbolt	snewbolt@nexusmat.org
Class U7	Miss Tapp	jtapp@nexusmat.org

WAVEE Post 16: Ms J Newbolt

WAVEE Class Teacher		E Mail Contact
WAVEE 1	Mrs Lewis	dlewis@nexusmat.org
WAVEE 2	Mrs Ross	zross@nexusmat.org
WAVEE 3	Miss Puente	mpunte@nexusmat.org

Abbey@HorizonHub: Leader Miss R Lang

H1 Class	Miss Wilson	hwilson@nexusmat.org
H2 Class	Miss Newall	anewall@nexusmat.org
H3 Class	Mr Warden	kwarden@nexusmat.org
H4 Class	Mrs Binnie / Mrs Proctor	nbinnie@nexusmat.org vproctor@nexusmat.org

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
Upper School & Post 16 Ms Newbolt
Horizon Hub Miss Lang

ryorke@nexusmat.org
jnewbolt@nexusmat.org
rlang@nexusmat.org

3rd Point of Contact

Head of School: Mr Askham

waskham@nexusmat.org

4th Point of Contact

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Windle

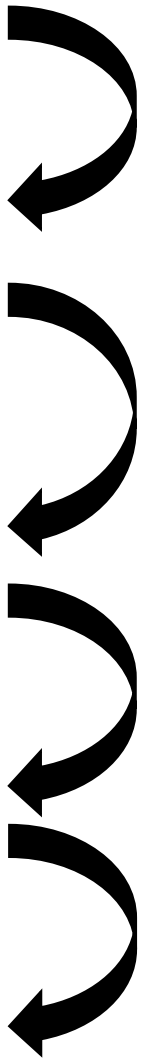
lwindle@nexusmat.org

Other Key Contacts

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Ms E Shimwell lshimwell@nexusmat.org

Deputy Safeguarding Lead: Mr T Gee tgee@nexusmat.org

Family Support &
LAC Advocate: Miss K Taylor ktaylor@nexusmat.org



The year ahead a reminder

September 2024						
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December 2024						
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February 2025						
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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						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

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

The next half term

Date	Whole school events/ pupil experiences	Family Invites
6 th January	INSET Day no pupils in school	
WC 13 th January	Exam Walk Throughs (Selected Students)	
16 th January	YST Dance Festival Preparation @ Take 2 Theatre (Selected Students)	
17 th January	Family Coffee Morning	Coffee Morning All Sites (10:00am-12:00)
21 st January	Big Write Day	
24 th January	Holocaust Day Assembly	
29 th January	Chinese New Year	
29 th January	Families into school for Chinese New Year	2:00pm-3:00pm (All Sites)
4 th February	Football League Match	
7 th February	Numeracy Day - Come dressed as a Rockstar for Times Table Rockstar Competition	
11 th February	Functional Skills Maths Examination (Selected Students)	
11 th February	Safer Internet Day	
12 th February	Functional Skills English Exam (Selected Pupils)	
12 th February	YST Dance Festival @ Take 2 In Barnsley (Selected pupils and their families invited)	
14 th February	Valentines Disco	
14 th February	Pupils Break Up for Half Term	

As with all events these can be subject to change. If this is the case we will notify you via SeeSaw, X and the Abbey school Facebook Page



*It takes a village
to raise a child*