



The Abbey
School

“Be The Best You Can Be”

Weekly Newsletter

2025/26

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STARS OF THE WEEK

Well done to the following students for collecting the most house points this week!
KEEP UP THE AMAZING WORK!



Mitchell J
Year 8
64HP



Sinead B
Year 8
87HP



Sophie B
Year 8
103HP



Aden H
Year 10
39HP

#WAKE UP WEDNESDAY

SENECA CHAMPIONS

At the National College, our **WakeUpWednesday** guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

CREATIVE WAYS TO ENCOURAGE READING

Reading regularly has a life-long impact, yet recent data from the National Literacy Trust shows a decline in reading for pleasure among 10- to 16-year-olds, with just 22% enjoying it in 2025. Despite growing distractions, there are practical ways adults can spark a love of reading. This guide offers strategies and resources to help inspire young readers.

- 1 VALUE ALL READING**
When we think about reading, it's very easy to get stuck in a narrow definition of a fictional novel. However, reading is so much more than that. It's about connecting, exploring and learning. It's about the joy of finding out something new. It's about the power of words to transport us to another world. It's about the pleasure of reading for its own sake. It's about the many ways we turn to reading.
- 2 WIDEN THE SELECTION**
Once we know reading can be varied, we need to think about the selection of reading materials they can access. Visit a shop selling magazines, newspapers and books. Consider the range of material that is available within their home. Consider how you might broaden their reading choices, so all young people have access to a wide and varied selection.
- 3 GIFT A BOOK**
One simple way to encourage reading is to make books less special. Giving books some value and status (it's something to be treasured, wrapped up and presented) can make them a barrier, leaving the young person choosing a film or game over a book. Let them choose a book or pack and let them know they will enjoy it. You could also include a personal note inside.
- 4 CONNECT WITH AUTHORS**
Meeting authors can certainly spark an interest in their reading material. This might be through a live event or a book launch. It's about the wealth of online material that is now available. Encourage young people to connect with authors using free resources such as www.authorsoftheworld.com and www.authorsoftheworld.com.
- 5 BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE**
Access to online reading for pleasure is to help your understanding of the topics and issues currently being discussed. Explore a wide range of free resources that can be found online. The more you know, the better placed you are to inspire a love of reading in others.
- 6 TALK BOOKS**
There are times when we need advice to read and focus on our book. However, we know that reading is a social experience, so we must look for ways to encourage reading. It's about the joy of finding out something new. It's about the power of words to transport us to another world. It's about the pleasure of reading for its own sake. It's about the many ways we turn to reading.
- 7 RECOMMENDATIONS**
As well as talking about the content of books, we can share what we've read. However, it can be difficult to get young people to read. It's about the joy of finding out something new. It's about the power of words to transport us to another world. It's about the pleasure of reading for its own sake. It's about the many ways we turn to reading.
- 8 GO DIGITAL**
With the rise in online digital material, we can easily focus on the negative, however, it can bring a wealth of opportunities. Resources can be used and shared, and reading can be more fun. It's about the joy of finding out something new. It's about the power of words to transport us to another world. It's about the pleasure of reading for its own sake. It's about the many ways we turn to reading.
- 9 RECONNECT**
There can come a time when a love of reading seems to disappear. It can be a long time before a reading material sparks their current interests. The National Literacy Trust has a range of resources that can help you reconnect. It's about the joy of finding out something new. It's about the power of words to transport us to another world. It's about the pleasure of reading for its own sake. It's about the many ways we turn to reading.
- 10 LEAD BY EXAMPLE**
Let them see you reading. If you make time to read, you send a message to children: reading is important. It's about the joy of finding out something new. It's about the power of words to transport us to another world. It's about the pleasure of reading for its own sake. It's about the many ways we turn to reading.

Meet Our Expert
Carl Farnham is a literacy adviser and early reading expert at The National College. Through his experience, he supports schools to improve reading outcomes. He is also a member of the National Literacy Trust's Early Reading Hub and the National Literacy Trust's Early Reading Hub.

www.nationalcollege.com
@wake_up_weds | www.thenationalcollege | @wakeupwednesday | @wakeupwednesday

Year Group	Learning Time	Average Score	Time Champion	Score Champion
12 & 13	7h 43min	84%	Oliver S	Oliver S
11	78h 32min	67%	Reuben M	Charlie L-W
10	23h 53min	64%	Liam C	Scott W
9	61h 44min	58%	Hayden T	Jacob F
8	7h 30min	71%	Maxwell Saint F	Ellie M
7	15h 16min	62%	Joshua A	Elsie H-G

CANTEEN MENU 2025/26

Click the images below to view the canteen menu for Term 4!

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT,
CLICK HERE TO SEE OUR PREVIOUS
NEWSLETTER!





YEAR 7 SWIMMING LESSONS!

Well done to the Year 7 students on completing their first swimming lesson last week!

#BeTheBestYouCanBe

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY!

We will be proud to mark International Women's Day on Sunday 8th March - celebrating women's achievements and championing gender equality for over 100 years.

We're inviting students to share a picture, either a photograph or a drawing of a woman who inspires them. It could be their mum, nan, auntie, a teacher, or someone further afield such as a famous athlete or historical figure.

Please email submissions to:
alebrunn-healey@abbey-school-faversham.co.uk

Alternatively, students may hand their entry in at Reception.

Every student who takes part will receive a Special International Women's Day Golden Ticket and the images will be brought together in a celebratory collage shared on our social media.

Please be aware – Consent and GDPR

Please ensure you have appropriate permission before submitting any personal photographs (for example, of family members or friends).

Images of public figures or celebrities may be shared without individual consent; however, please ensure that any image used is appropriate and respectful.

Let's celebrate the women who inspire us, support us and shape our world.

SPORTING SUCCESS!

Massive congratulations to Jake F, Zeki Al, Toby S, Archie Suter and Logan S who represented Faversham Strikeforce U16s in the Albert and Gill Baines Cup Final of the East Kent Football League on Sunday 1st March.

The team delivered a brilliant performance against a strong Folkestone Invicta side securing an outstanding 2-0 victory!

Even more impressive, this is the second year in a row the team has lifted the cup! An incredible achievement and a testament to the hard work, talent and determination of the whole squad. Well done, boys!

FAVERSHAM

STRIKE
FORCE

FC

NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK!

National Careers Week (NCW) is a UK wide celebration dedicated to careers guidance and free educational resources. Taking place over one exciting week, NCW shines a spotlight on the importance of supporting young people as they explore their future pathways.

At a key point in the academic calendar, it's all about building awareness, raising aspirations and inspiring students to feel confident and excited about the opportunities ahead.

Head over to <https://nationalcareersweek.com/> where you can find out a lot more about this week!

YEAR 9 PARENTS' EVENING

Thank you to all the parents/carers who attended the Year 9 Parents' Evening yesterday afternoon. It was brilliant to see so many of you and to discuss your child's progress, achievements and next steps.

Your support and involvement play an important role in your child's education, and we greatly appreciate you taking the time to join us.

#BeTheBestYouCanBe



SCHOOLS GOLF UK EVENT

It was a proud and memorable day for the Golf Academy as we fielded our first-ever team in a Schools Golf UK event. The team travelled to the impressive Cuddington Golf Club, where they enjoyed fantastic weather and a great day of competitive golf.

Their efforts were rewarded with some excellent results across the competition. Collectively, the team secured an impressive 5th place finish in the Stableford event, alongside another top-10 finish in the Scratch event. The day was capped off with a strong 5th place finish in the team competition, highlighting the growing strength of the squad.

Everyone at The Abbey School and The Golf Academy is delighted with the continued progress the team is making. Seeing our players compete at this level for the first time and achieve such encouraging results, is a testament to their hard work and commitment.

We are incredibly proud of the team and look forward to seeing what they accomplish in future competitions.

SPOTLIGHT ON MATHS

Sparx Success

Students receive personalised Maths homework each week on their Sparx account and the data shows the effort and achievements by our students on the platform.

668,420
9,759
134

QUESTIONS ANSWERED CORRECTLY IN
SPARX MATHS SO FAR THIS YEAR!

HAVE BEEN COMPLETED BY STUDENTS
OF PERSONALISED TRAINING!

STUDENTS HAVE ALREADY IMPROVED
AT THEIR TIMES TABLES!

Mr Sargeant is running a Sparx homework support every Monday lunchtime, through both 3a and 3b in C17 for drop in support during the school day and a chance to complete your homework. Homework club is still available after school in B3.

Sparx Champions

As we reach the mid-way point of the year, the following students have been identified for their consistent efforts, hard work and Sparx commitments, taking them to the top of the points leaderboard for homework completion! A big congratulations to the following students who have all won a mathematical inspired reading book, along with sweet treat! More prizes to follow for those at the top at the end of the year!

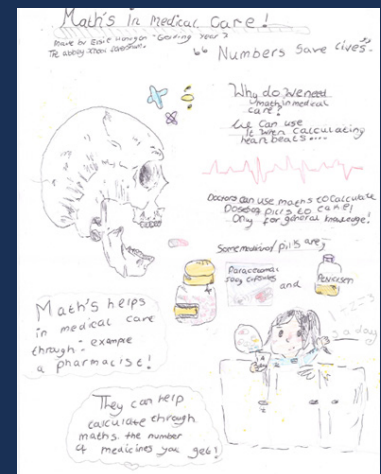
Year 7	Amelia R	21,300 points
Year 8	Maxwell S	21,300 points
Year 9	Colton O	21,800 points
Year 10	Jorja J	17,300 points
Year 11	Llybah C	14,400 points

Maths Careers Poster Competition

We are keeping our fingers crossed for all those students who took up the opportunity to enter this competition with mathscareers.org! It was promoted in assemblies and form time and we had some creative and well-researched entries. The theme this year was Maths in Medicine and Healthcare and we want to wish good luck to all those who entered!

One of the year 7 entries from Elsie....

Visit mathscareers.org.uk/ for more information of a variety of maths careers, industry links and help for anyone thinking about where their maths skills can take them!



What are we studying this term?

Year 7

Year 7 are diving into fractions and percentages, tackling real-world problems that show how maths connects to everyday life. Later this term, they'll explore probability and start predicting the chances of different events with confidence and curiosity!

Year 8

Year 8 are bringing maths to life through real-world graphs and linear graphs, learning how to interpret and represent information just like data analysts and scientists. They're developing the skills to spot patterns, trends and relationships all around them.

Year 9

Year 9 are strengthening their GCSE foundations by mastering fractions, decimals, percentages and ratio problems. These essential skills are key building blocks for exam success and real-world problem solving.

Year 10

Year 10 are focusing on multiplicative reasoning, deepening their understanding of financial calculations, proportionality and growth. This powerful thinking skill unlocks higher-grade GCSE questions and real-life applications in finance, science and beyond.

Year 11

Year 11 are working through past papers and engaging in targeted revision to sharpen exam technique and build confidence. With focused practice and personalised support, they're preparing to perform at their very best this summer.

Year 11 revision support

8 school weeks to go! Year 11 students are encouraged to be working through their past paper packs each week. More past papers are available in the maths corridor, along with text books.

Period 6 continues to run each Wednesday with a focus on key revision areas from the Term 3 mock exams.

SPOTLIGHT ON DRAMA

Our Drama Club has been busy stepping into the magical world of *The Wizard of Oz*, and the rehearsal room has been full of energy, imagination, and a fair bit of sparkle. The students have been putting in fantastic effort each week.

It's wonderful to see their confidence growing as they bring this beloved story to life. The dedication and teamwork on display have been truly impressive, and the group should be very proud of the progress they're making.

We're hoping to showcase all of their hard work in a performance this summer, giving our young performers the chance to share their creativity and talent with the school community. Watch this space!

Also a massive shoutout to a wonderful year 11's prepping for their live exam in three weeks, they have taken on some really challenging plays and made them into something really creative - Best of luck to them on 1st April.



EXTRA CURRICULAR PROGRAMME TERM 4

This term, our extracurricular programme is full of exciting opportunities, with something to suit everyone's interests. There are sports, creative clubs and new activities to try out. Joining in is not just about fun, it's also a chance to discover new talents, meet different people, and grow in confidence.

Trying new things is especially valuable because it helps you step outside your comfort zone. You may uncover hidden skills you didn't know you had, or find a passion that could shape your future. It also teaches resilience, problem-solving, and teamwork skills that are useful both in and out of school.

Most importantly, extracurricular activities bring balance to your life. They give you a break from classroom learning while still helping you develop in meaningful ways. Whether you continue with something familiar or try something completely new, you'll gain experiences and memories that will last well beyond this term.

Click the image below to see what is happening this term!



STUDENT SHOUTOUT!

We love celebrating our amazing students and their achievements! Parents and carers, we'd love to hear from you! If your child has achieved something they're proud of (big or small!), send it in and we will share this with our school community.

Achievements could include:

- Academic successes
- Sporting achievements
- Creative talents
- Personal milestones
- Acts of kindness or resilience

To take part, simply email us with:

Your child's achievement
Their name
A photo (optional)

info@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk

Let's work together to celebrate our students and recognise their hard work!

#BeTheBestYouCanBe



Ramadan and Lent

Supporting Our Students and Staff

**A Quiet Room is Available
in the Centre at Lunchtimes.**



Some may not be eating or drinking



Energy levels might be lower



Quiet reflection & prayer may be happening

Ramadan 2026

18 Feb – 19 Mar

Lent 2026

18 Feb – 29 Mar

Thank you for being mindful & respectful

**JOEY AND FREDDIE
WISHES YOU ALL A GREAT WEEKEND!**



We have worked with you
listened to your ideas and made lots of changes
over the last few years.

You asked.....

"Why do we have to wait outside the canteen before lunch for so long?"

We did.....

"We have now got some good walkie talkies, so your HOY only calls you over to the canteen when it is virtually time for you to go in, so you get more time outside"



THE WORRY BOX

Checked daily during school hours

www.theabbey-that.org.uk/worrybox

Not checked at the weekends or evenings. For urgent help, contact NSPCC, Action for Children or Childline



Faversham Golf
Academy



The Abbey
School



GOLF *Day*

Fundraising for Faversham Golf Academy

@Faversham Golf Club

Wednesday 6th May - 2pm Shotgun Start

Cost: £30 Members / £70 Non Members

- Prizes for: Top 4, Nearest to the Pins & Longest Drive
- Sponsorship opportunities (£50 per hole)
- Meal provided (burger and chips)

Register today!



Further information, please contact:
golfacademy@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk


Darryl Creed Roofing Services



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The Abbey
School

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NO EXCUSE FOR ABUSE



At The Abbey School, we strive to create a **safe and secure** environment for the school community. Our school is a **welcoming and inclusive place** where we all show one another respect and look out for each other.

We will not tolerate any **threatening, abusive or violent** behaviour and action will be taken when necessary.



Secondary School of the Year

Recognising the exemplary use of STEER to proactively safeguard children and young people, and your role in supporting proactive safeguarding across your sector.

2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Walker'.

Simon Walker
STEER Founder



**The Abbey
School**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jo Walker'.

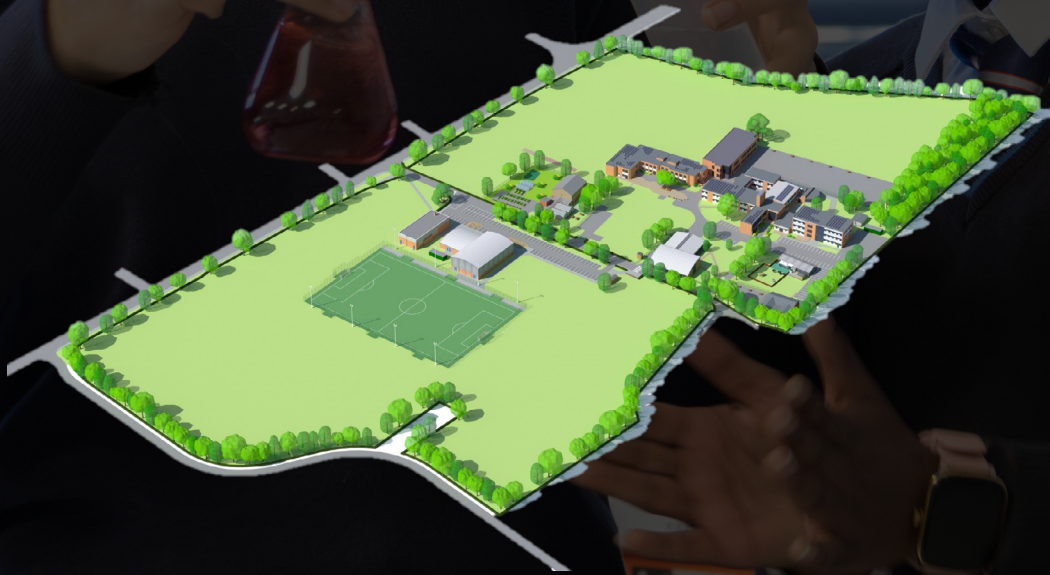
Jo Walker
STEER Founder





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