



**The Abbey  
School**

“Be The Best You Can Be”

# Weekly Newsletter

**2025/26**

Issue Number: 24

Date: 20/03/26





*“supported”*

*“motivated to  
succeed”*

*“safe”*

*“inclusive  
culture”*

*“calm”*

*“broad range  
of enrichment”*



*“meaningful  
opportunities”*

*“significant  
positive change”*

*“the curriculum  
is ambitious”*

## OFSTED RESULTS!

“Pupils feel part of a community that believes in them, challenges them and helps them to succeed.”  
The Abbey School is proud to share our latest Ofsted Report, following our January inspection, which took place under the new Ofsted framework.

Inspectors noted that “the school has been through significant positive change”, judging Personal Development and Wellbeing and Post-16 Provision to be Strong Standard, and confirming that Curriculum and Teaching, Attendance and Behaviour, Inclusion, and Leadership and Governance are operating at the Expected Standard.

Particular praise was given to our Pastoral Support Team, with inspectors commenting that “Pastoral support is a strength. Pupils trust staff to help them manage worries, and... feel safe and supported”.  
“We are pleased that Ofsted recognised the strength of our work in personal development, safeguarding and sixth-form provision, which reflects the values and culture we work hard to build every day.

Inspectors recognised that pupils are learning well, feel safe, and are prepared for their next stage, including strong sixth-form retention and positive destinations. Our priority now is to continue strengthening key stage 4 outcomes so they fully reflect the learning and progress we see across the school.” - Dr Speller, Principal

“I would like to recognise the commitment of the leadership team and staff who have led this work with determination and care. Together they have focused on ensuring that pupils feel safe, supported and that they truly belong within their school community.” - Owen McColgan, Chief Executive of THAT

Read the full report by clicking the image below!





# YEAR 8 GCSE TASTER DAY!

Well done to all of Year 8 students for completing their taster days this week!

They had the opportunity to explore subjects, many of which you may not have experienced before. These taster sessions are an important step in helping students make informed decisions about the subjects they'd like to study at GCSE over the next few years. We hope they've given you a clearer insight into what each course involves and inspired you to think about your future pathways.

Take time to reflect on what you enjoyed most, what challenged you, and where your strengths lie.

We're proud of the positive attitude you've shown, well done Year 8!

# EASTER EGG DONATIONS!



We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has generously donated Easter eggs over the past two weeks. Your kindness and community spirit have truly been incredible, and we are so grateful for the support shown by our students and families.

The Canterbury Care Home (next to Aldi) reached out to us to help bring some joy to their residents this Easter. Many residents have no friends or family able to visit, and some are living with dementia. Thanks to your generosity, we are helping make their Easter a little brighter.

Last year, we were overwhelmed by your support, donating Easter eggs to three care homes in the town and this year, with the amazing number of donations we have already received, we are hoping to do the same again and share Easter eggs with even more care homes.

If you would like to help again this year, students are welcome to donate an Easter egg by bringing it to the main reception.

All students who donate will receive a Charity Golden Ticket and 30 house points in recognition of their kindness and support for the community.

Closing date for donations: Wednesday 1st April

Delivery to care homes: Thursday 2nd April (depending on the number of donations received)

Please bring any donated eggs to main reception.

Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity.

#BeTheBestYouCanBe

Massive thanks to the following students for donating this week!


Maisie J - Y8  
 Martyna E - Y8  
 Maisie T - Y9  
 Olivia B - Y10  
 Isabella B - Y8  
 Rachel S - Y7  
 Lucy M - Y10  
 Ben D - Y9  
 Alice M-D - Y10

Callum S - Y9  
 Brandon H - Y9  
 Jack F - Y7  
 Hollie M - Y8  
 Ella J - Y10  
 Lacey F - Y8  
 Saif M - Y8  
 Florence K - Y10

Ellie M - Y8  
 Isabella S - Y7  
 Alexander P - Y7  
 Jacob L - Y9  
 Ethan B - Y11  
 Reuben M - Y10  
 Colton O - Y9  
 Alex M - Y11

Ava R - Y7  
 Keiron B - Y9  
 Liam M - Y10  
 Emma P - Y7  
 Hannah M - Y11  
 Olivia L - Y7  
 Mila E-H - Y9  
 Milo Y - Y9





# YEAR 7 SWIMMING LESSONS

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

#BeTheBestYouCanBe

# YEAR 8 PARENTS EVENING

Reminder to parents and carers that its Year 8 Parents' Evening next Thursday.

This is an important opportunity to meet your child's teachers and have a discussion about how they have been getting on in their learning and progress. We strongly encourage you to attend and be involved in supporting your child's education.

We look forward to seeing you there!

# FOOD INGREDIENTS PAYMENTS

A reminder has been sent via Arbor to parents and carers of Year 7 and Year 8 students who have not yet paid the contribution towards the annual food ingredients payment. Please check your Arbor account to ensure you have made the payment.

Payments for food ingredients used in practical lessons must be made promptly. Without sufficient contributions, the department cannot sustainably run practical lessons, which may impact the participation for students who have not paid.

If you are experiencing difficulty, please contact the school and we will consider on a case-by-case basis. Otherwise, we expect payments to be brought up to date without delay.  
Thank you for your prompt attention.



# DANCE STUDIO UPGRADES

Exciting updates to our dance studio!

We're continuing to invest in improvements to create the best possible space for our students. A brand new sound system is currently being installed, along with a 3m projector to enhance lessons, performances, and presentations.

We can't wait for everyone to experience these fantastic new additions, watch this space for more updates!

# SPOTLIGHT ON CAREERS!

Looking for a career that is exciting, purposeful and full of opportunity?

The UK Armed Forces offer just that - with pathways in the British Army, Royal Navy and Royal Air Force (RAF) that can take you further than you ever imagined.

## Why consider the Armed Forces?

- Travel the world
- Gain qualifications while you work
- Build confidence, resilience and leadership skills
- Be part of a strong team with real purpose
- Access excellent career progression opportunities

## British Army

Think action, teamwork and leadership. The Army offers roles far beyond the frontline — from engineering and cyber security to medicine and logistics. If you enjoy pushing yourself, working in a team and developing leadership skills, the Army could be your path.

## Royal Navy

A career like no other. Travel across the globe while working in cutting-edge environments - from ships and submarines to aviation and engineering. The Royal Navy is perfect for those who want adventure, technical skills and strong team bonds.

## Royal Air Force (RAF)

Take your future to new heights. The RAF offers careers in aviation, intelligence, engineering and space technology. Ideal for those who are interested in innovation, precision and high-tech careers.

## Real Experience: Year 10 Royal Navy Days

At the end of February, our Year 10 students took part in Royal Navy Days, getting hands-on experience of life in the Armed Forces. From team challenges to leadership activities, students gained a real insight into the skills, mindset and opportunities these careers offer - and for many, it sparked a real interest in their future pathways.

## Want to find out more?

Talk to Mrs Priesley our on site careers advisor. She will be able to take the next step and explore your future.

Equally, there is a range of information that can be accessed on the websites below:

British Army Careers

[apply.army.mod.uk](http://apply.army.mod.uk)

Visit your local Army Careers Centre

Royal Navy Careers

[royalnavy.mod.uk/careers](http://royalnavy.mod.uk/careers)

Speak to your nearest Armed Forces Careers Office

Royal Air Force Careers

[raf.mod.uk/recruitment](http://raf.mod.uk/recruitment)

Talk to an RAF Careers Adviser

You can also visit a local Armed Forces Careers Office (AFCO) to speak directly with trained advisers who can guide you through your options.



# SPOTLIGHT ON HISTORY!

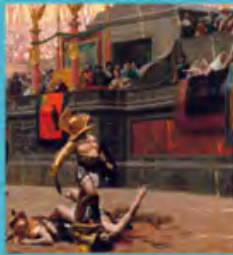
Year 11 History students have been working incredibly hard with their revision, with more and more attending 'Period 6' revision sessions on a Thursday. Well done all who have attended for their dedication. All Year 11 History students are welcome to these sessions – they can enjoy snacks - and receive a full set of revision guides worth over £20 if they attend 3 or more sessions!

## Coming soon – Classics!

Year 8s enjoyed a taster session of a new subject being offered for the first time at GCSE in 2026-27 – Classical Civilisation, led by Mr Roberts. Students should remember to think carefully about all of their options choices and discuss these with parents and carers. For any questions about Classics, students should see Mr Roberts. For questions about History, students should see Ms Satchell, or their History teacher.

### What is Classical Civilisation?

Classical Civilisation is the study of ancient **Greece and Rome**. In this subject, we explore their **myths, stories, history, beliefs, and culture**, and learn about how people lived thousands of years ago.



**HISTORY PERIOD 6**

Period 6 is being offered every **Thursday** afterschool  
Food and Drink are offered to all and all Year 11s are welcome  
If you attend **3 Sessions** you will receive your own copies of an Oxford University Press Revision Guide!

HISTORY HISTORY HISTORY HISTORY

## Politics

A Level Politics students, along with Criminology students, recently attended a trip to the Supreme Court to take part in a Mock Trial. Perhaps in future some of them will be there as real lawyers in real trials – some could even be both politicians and lawyers, like our current Prime Minister!

Year 11 students also enjoyed their sixth form taster, where they took part in a Mock Election. We hope to see many of them in our Politics classes next year.



# 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@abbey-school-faversham.co.uk](mailto:info@abbey-school-faversham.co.uk)

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

#BeTheBestYouCanBe



# STAFF NOMINATE A MEMBER OF OUR STAFF AWARDS!

Don't forget to nominate a member of The Abbey School Staff for a THAT Staff Award!

It's quick, easy, and only takes a few minutes - a great way to recognise the staff who make a real difference to school life.

Submit by 24<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Remember:

- Parents, carers, guardians and pupils are all encouraged to submit nominations
  - Nominations must be at least 250 characters
- There's no limit to how many nominations you can make

Submit your nominations online: [bit.ly/StaffAwards2026](https://bit.ly/StaffAwards2026)  
or via a postcard at our school office.

Please make sure you submit your nominations by April 24th.

Let's come together to celebrate the amazing people who support, inspire, and care for our school community every day.

Thank you!

## WORK EXPERIENCE PLACES!

We are delighted to celebrate the impressive number of students who have already secured their work experience placements. It takes initiative, courage, and a willingness to step beyond the familiar, so well done!

Work experience is more than a week away from the classroom. It is a glimpse into the real world. It teaches resilience, communication, independence. It shapes confidence in ways that no textbook ever could. And for many of our students, this is the first step in discovering who they are becoming.

To those who have secured placements, well done. You've taken ownership of your future, and were very proud of you.

For families whose children are still searching, now is the moment to act. Your support is crucial. Encouraging your child to reach out, follow up, and explore opportunities will make all the difference. This process can feel daunting, but it is a vital part of their growth—not just for their CV, but for their sense of self.

Every email sent, every phone call made, every conversation started is a step forward. If there is anything we can do to support you, please contact Mrs Priestly or Mrs Bevan.

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

**You asked.....**  
*"Can you make line-ups better?"*

**We did.....**  
*"Your HOY now celebrates your successes, birthdays, rewards and attendance in your line ups as well as sharing important news – it is great to see the competition between you all (as well as your tutors and HOY)!"*



# THE WORRY BOX

Checked daily during school hours

[www.theabbey-that.org.uk/worrybox](http://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 6<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:golfacademy@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

  
Darryl Creed Roofing Services



MAGEE GAMMON  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS  
TAX & BUSINESS ADVISORS

SchoolHire 



The Abbey  
School

# HIRE OUR FACILITES

CLICK THE QR CODE TO BOOK NOW!



# 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 'S Walker'.

Simon Walker  
STEER Founder



**The Abbey  
School**

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

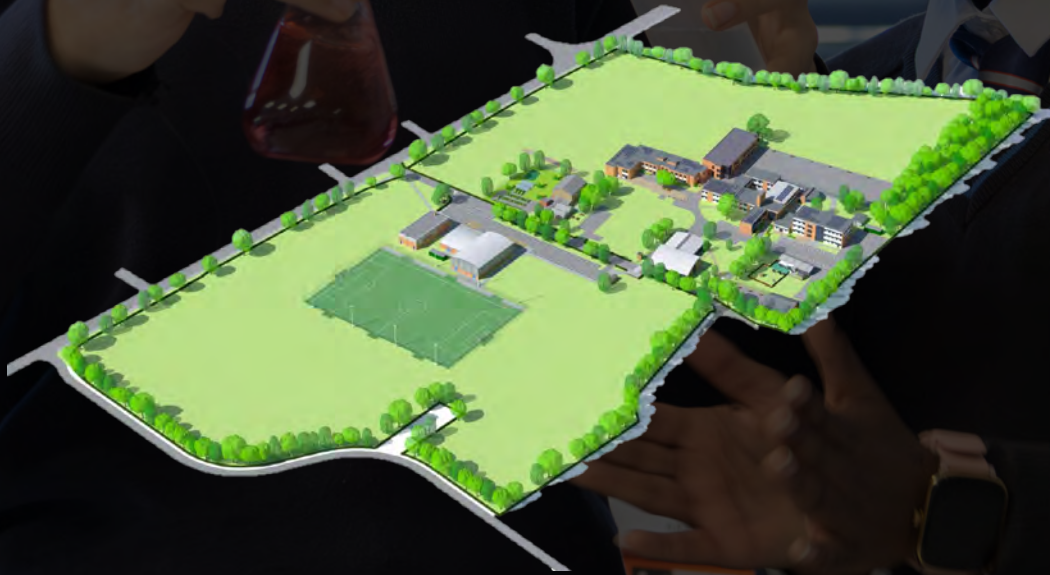
Jo Walker  
STEER Founder





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