



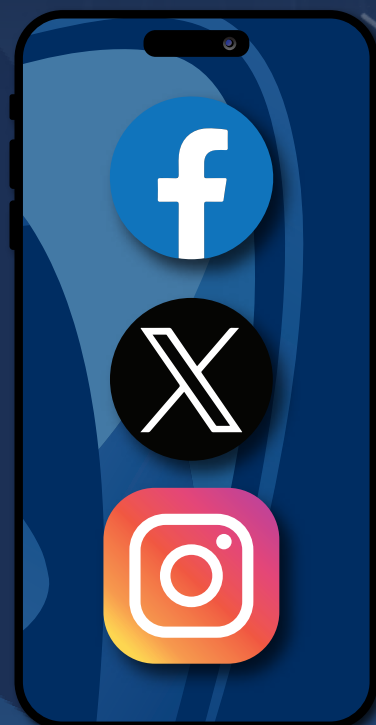
"Be The Best You Can Be"

Weekly Newsletter

2025/26

Issue Number: 12

Date: 05/12/25



END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS

As we come to the end of a busy and productive term, we would like to remind families of our closing arrangements. On Friday 19th December, all students will be dismissed shortly after 12:30pm. Please ensure appropriate collection arrangements are in place for this earlier finish (taxi and buses).

The school will close from 2:00 pm on the same day and will remain shut throughout the Christmas break. We will reopen on Monday 5th January for an INSET day for staff only. Students will return to school on Tuesday 6th January.

We wish all our students, families and staff a wonderful, restful Christmas break and look forward to welcoming everyone back in the New Year.



BOOK A TOUR TODAY!

Choosing the right school for your child is one of the most important decisions you'll make. At The Abbey School, we provide a supportive, inclusive, and high-achieving environment where every student is encouraged to reach their full potential.

What You Can Expect to See on Your Visit:

- Engaging Lessons & Inspiring Teaching – See our dedicated staff in action, delivering high-quality education.
- Excellent Facilities – Modern classrooms, specialist subject areas, a well-equipped sports hall, and vibrant social spaces.
 - Strong Pastoral Care – A nurturing and inclusive community where every child is supported.
 - Enriching Opportunities – A variety of clubs, trips, and extracurricular activities that enhance learning and personal development.
- A Safe and Welcoming Environment – High expectations, respect, and ambition at the heart of everything we do.

Accessibility & Inclusivity

We are committed to making The Abbey School accessible for all visitors. Our site offers:

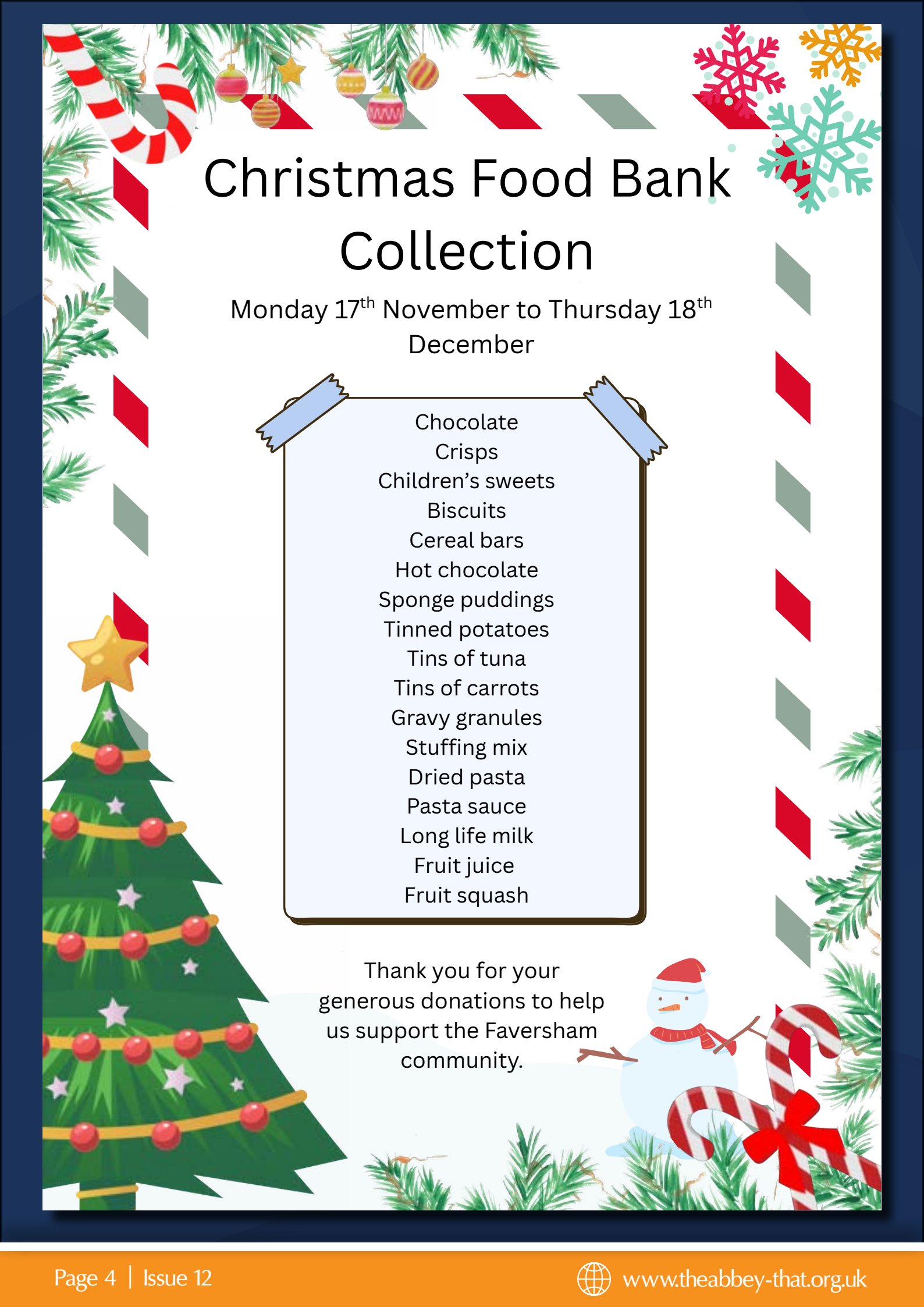
- Step-free access and wheelchair-friendly pathways.
 - On-site parking, including accessible bays.
- Easily accessible location with good transport links.

Come and see The Abbey School in action! Book a tour today and experience first hand why we are the perfect choice for your child's future.

If your child has an EHCP and you would like a tour of the SRP, please can you contact Mrs Holliday to book this: kholliday@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk

CLICK THE QR CODE BELOW TO BOOK YOUR TOUR!





Christmas Food Bank Collection

Monday 17th November to Thursday 18th
December



- Chocolate
- Crisps
- Children's sweets
- Biscuits
- Cereal bars
- Hot chocolate
- Sponge puddings
- Tinned potatoes
- Tins of tuna
- Tins of carrots
- Gravy granules
- Stuffing mix
- Dried pasta
- Pasta sauce
- Long life milk
- Fruit juice
- Fruit squash

Thank you for your
generous donations to help
us support the Faversham
community.

A photograph of a woman with long blonde hair, wearing a grey blazer over a dark top, standing on a stage and speaking to a group of students. The students are seen from behind, seated in rows. The background features a blue curtain and a large white screen.

MP VISIT

The Abbey School was pleased to welcome Helen Whately MP for a visit on Friday 28th November.

During her visit, Ms Whately delivered a talk to students about her career journey and development into becoming a Member of Parliament. She spoke about the responsibilities of public service, the importance of democratic engagement, and the experiences that shaped her path into politics. Students were then given the opportunity to pose their own questions, with many offering thoughtful and challenging perspectives on current issues. Ms Whately engaged openly with the discussion, encouraging students to think critically and take an active interest in public life. "We were delighted to host Ms Whately and to give our students the chance to hear first-hand about the realities of parliamentary work. Their questions showed real maturity and curiosity, and we are proud of the way they represented our school." The Abbey School looks forward to continuing to provide meaningful opportunities for our students.

We are grateful for the time given to our students.

IMMUNISATION SERVICE

The Immunisation Service would like to invite parents to book an appointment at one of their community clinics if your child missed the FLU vaccination during the recent school visit.

If you gave consent but your child was not immunised, you will have received an automated email with a link to book an appointment.

Alternatively, if you missed the opportunity for your child to be vaccination at the school session you can complete a consent form via our website at <https://www.kentimmunisations.co.uk/> using the school code: KT149893 please contact the team directly on 0300 123 5205 option 1 for more information about community clinic availability & bookings.

If your child was vaccinated on their recent visit, you are invited to complete the following surveys [Parent / Carer Survey](#) or [Young Persons Survey 11-19 year olds](#).

You can also visit the Immunisation Service website for further details: <https://family.kentcht.nhs.uk/imms>

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Thursday 11th December is Christmas jumper day, in aid of Save the children. If you have paid your £5 for the year, you have already paid, and a fifth of the money from everyone will go to the charity.

You can wear a festive jumper (this must be one suitable for school and not offensive). You will need to wear the rest of your uniform as normal, including your shirt and tie, and the same rules for make-up and jewellery.

We look forward to seeing an amazing array of festive jumpers to get us thinking about the holiday season and also those who may need our support at this time.



THE WORRY BOX

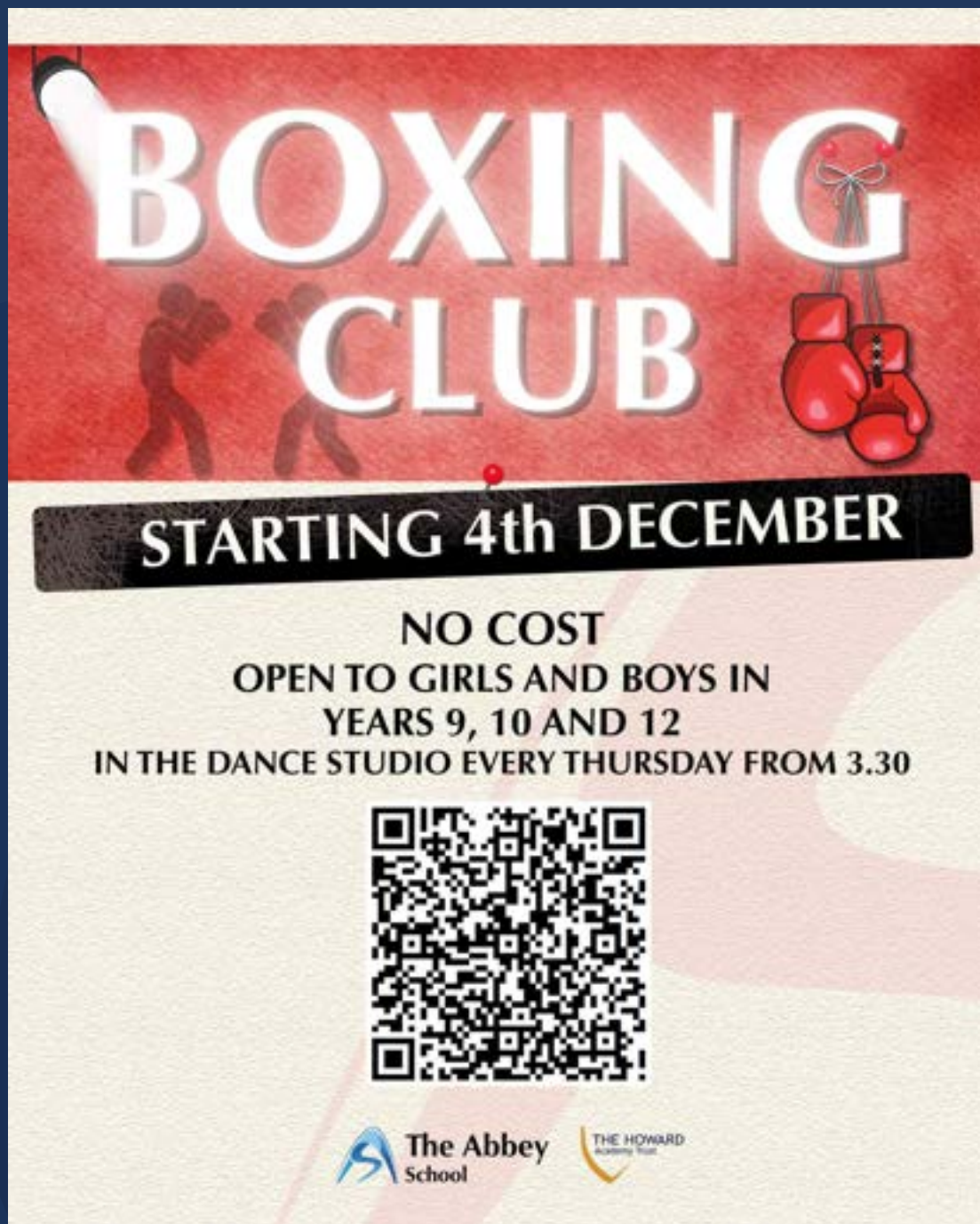


Checked daily during school hours

www.theabbey-that.org.uk/worrybox

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





We are excited to announce our new Boxing Club for students in Years 9, 10 and 12, starting on 4th December!

This is a fantastic opportunity to build confidence, improve fitness and learn new skills in a supportive environment. Both boys and girls are welcome, and no previous experience is needed.

Sessions are completely free, so why not come along, give it a try, and discover a sport you might love?

Sign up by clicking the QR code.



BOXING CLUB

It was a great turn out for our first session of Boxing Club yesterday! The energy in the room was incredible as students of all experiences came together for our very first session.

We're excited for the journey ahead, and there's still time to join! Come be part of a growing community that values strength, discipline, and teamwork.

WELCOME TO THE ABBEY SCHOOL

Click the image below to view our brand new promotion video!



Growing Together in Kindness

We would like to remind parents and carers of who we are and what we stand for. We are proud to be an integral part of the Faversham community - some of our students' families have roots here going back generations. Though our buildings, uniforms, and staff may have changed over time, our core values remain steadfast and we believe they always will.

We are a school that lives by our motto: "Be the Best You Can Be." As a dedicated team, we strive to nurture in our students a strong sense of character and purpose. We promote values such as aspiration, curiosity, integrity, persistence, altruism, creativity, resourcefulness, and reflection - and, perhaps most importantly in today's world, a deep commitment to community and responsibility.

We teach our students to treat others with respect and compassion, regardless of background. Everyone deserves to feel they belong - no matter their race, nationality, religion, sex, gender, age, disability or any other aspect of their identity.

At The Abbey School, we see diversity and inclusion as strengths to be celebrated. Our aim is to prepare students not only for academic achievement but to become kind, empathetic individuals who make a positive difference in the world. Because in the end, isn't it kindness that matters most - that we look out for one another, no matter our differences?



The Abbey
School



CELEBRATE TOGETHER

If your son or daughter achieved something special, we want to celebrate it!

Whether it's a sporting success, a creative project, volunteering, or a personal milestone, please send us the details (and a photo if you'd like!) so we can share their fantastic achievements.

Send us as much information as you like and we can post it on our socials so we can share the fantastic news with our community!

Email: info@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk

We look forward to hearing from you!

#BeTheBestYouCanBe

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

The Abbey School received a wonderful gift from Stephen Palmer, a War Memorials Register Volunteer with the Imperial War Museum.

Stephen generously presented us with a Book of Remembrance, a remarkable collection that tells the stories of local men who lost their lives in war. The book also includes photographs and personal details that help bring these stories to life.

We are incredibly grateful for this thoughtful donation, which will serve as a lasting reminder of the bravery and sacrifice of our local heroes.

Below is the link for the book!





Winter Festival Service – YEAR 8 ONLY
St Catherine's Church, Faversham — Thursday 11th December

We're delighted to share that all Year 8 students are expected to attend our Winter Festival Service at St Catherine's Church as part of The Abbey School's Culture Curriculum. This special community celebration is an important SMSC opportunity, giving students the chance to experience tradition, reflection, music and togetherness at this time of year.

Key Information

After lunch, Year 8 will walk to the church for a 1:30pm start.

The service lasts around 45 minutes, finishing between 2:15pm and 2:30pm.

Students may be dismissed from the church with parental permission, or walk back to school under staff supervision.

This visit is a valued part of our curriculum, helping students develop as thoughtful, well-rounded individuals while engaging with local culture and a historic community space.

Parents/Carers of Year 8:

Please complete the permission form to confirm dismissal arrangements. A response is required so we can plan safely and accurately.

Click below to sign up!



You can make a difference!

Are you passionate about making a difference in education and shaping the future of young learners? The Abbey School is seeking a dedicated Parent Governor to join our board and help support our school community.

Interested in joining us?

Email: sphillipson@thatrust.org.uk



Become a Parent Governor

- Help shape meaningful decisions that truly impact young lives.
- Grow and develop new skills in a rewarding role.
- Be part of a supportive organisation that truly makes a difference.
- Help us remove barriers to education.

Email: sphillipson@thatrust.org.uk

What we offer:

- Enjoy a flexible commitment that fits around your schedule.
- Access comprehensive support and training to help you thrive in your role.
- Take advantage of valuable professional development opportunities.



ATTENDANCE MATTERS



TIME LOST DUE TO LATENESS

AMOUNT	MINS LATE	HOURS MISSED END OF SCHOOL YEAR	SCHOOL DAYS LOST
1 LATE PER WEEK	10	6.5 HOURS	1.3 DAYS
2 LATES PER WEEK	10	13 HOURS	2.6 DAYS
3 LATES PER WEEK	10	19.5 HOURS	3.9 DAYS
4 LATES PER WEEK	10	26 HOURS	5.2 DAYS
5 LATES PER WEEK	10	32.5 HOURS	6.5 DAYS



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

Simon Walker
STEER Founder



**The Abbey
School**

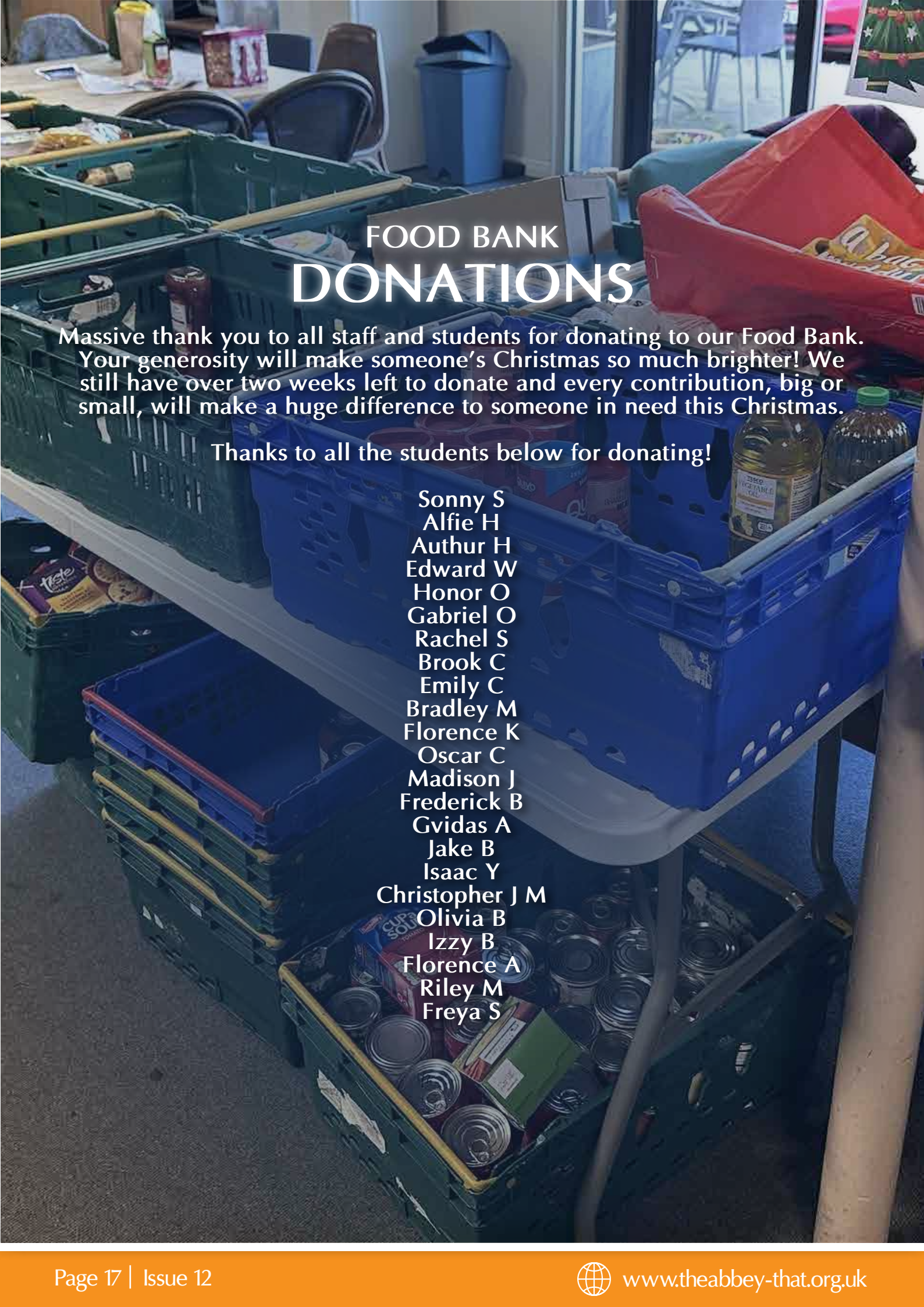
Jo Walker
STEER Founder

SENECA CHAMPIONS

Well done to our Seneca Champions from this week!

Year Group	Learning Time	Average Score	Time Champion	Score Champion
12 & 13	2h 0min	86%	Chloe H	Oliver S
11	55h 16min	70%	Reuben M	Logan W
10	32h 6min	64%	Mia E	Ashley B
9	55h 42min	63%	Kieron B	Dimitar D
8	17h 9min	66%	Joseph N	Arabella S
7	26h 51min	69%	Austen C	Zoe G-S





FOOD BANK DONATIONS

Massive thank you to all staff and students for donating to our Food Bank. Your generosity will make someone's Christmas so much brighter! We still have over two weeks left to donate and every contribution, big or small, will make a huge difference to someone in need this Christmas.

Thanks to all the students below for donating!

Sonny S
Alfie H
Authur H
Edward W
Honor O
Gabriel O
Rachel S
Brook C
Emily C
Bradley M
Florence K
Oscar C
Madison J
Frederick B
Gvidas A
Jake B
Isaac Y
Christopher J M
Olivia B
Izzy B
Florence A
Riley M
Freya S



CAREERS IN DRAMA

This week, our GCSE Drama students took part in a 'Careers in Drama' event designed to broaden their understanding of professional pathways within performing arts. The day highlighted two specialist fields, stage combat and special effects (SFX) makeup while clearly aligning with the Gatsby Benchmarks for excellent careers education.

The stage combat, delivered by our external visitor, offered engaging demonstrations and practical exercises that focussed on the technical precision behind on-stage fight sequences. They explored safe physical techniques, partner awareness, and industry-standard choreography methods used in theatre, film, and television.

They also explored the technical detail of SFX makeup, examined products, tools, and processes used to create bruises and injuries used within the arts industry. This experience offered a practical window into backstage and production-based careers which some of our students are excited to explore for their post 16 options.

Throughout the day, students were offered the opportunity to ask questions about training routes, these conversations strengthened our students understanding of the realities of creative careers.

Our Drama students thoroughly enjoyed this opportunity and made the school extremely proud with the conduct and professionalism throughout the afternoon.



GIRLS GYM DEVELOPMENT

Big updates are happening in the Girls Gym over the next few weeks as it's being transformed into a Performing Arts Studio! We will keep you updated throughout the conversion.

SPOTLIGHT ON.... PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

'Personal Development' is a term we hear often these days - both in schools and in the workplace. But as parents, you might wonder what it really means and how it impacts your son or daughter.

In line with government expectations, Personal Development is the part of the school curriculum that goes beyond academic, technical, or vocational learning. It's about helping students grow as individuals - supporting them to develop the knowledge, skills, and values they need to thrive in all areas of life.

At The Abbey School, our Personal Development curriculum encourages students to explore important themes such as equality, respect, relationships, online safety, mental and physical health, and preparation for adult life. These lessons are designed to help students build confidence, resilience, empathy, and independence as they progress through school.

The key takeaway is that Personal Development is made up of many connected parts, all working together to help each student reach what we call their BIG END GOAL. (We use capitals because it's an important one!) By the time students leave The Abbey School, we aim for them to have developed the knowledge and attributes that support their own and others' wellbeing and success, and to become happy, confident adults who make a positive contribution to society (Secretary of State, 2021).

Of course, achieving this goal involves many different elements working together. To help explain this, we use the analogy of a 'School Backpack', which represents the various components that make up each student's Personal Development journey. You can see the illustration below and it can also be found in your son or daughter's planner

We are also fully aware of the updated 2025 RSHE guidance and are currently reviewing our curriculum to ensure that all new recommendations - including those relating to online safety, consent, mental health, and respectful relationships - are reflected in what we offer. Our goal is to make sure The Abbey School continues to provide a relevant, inclusive, and up-to-date Personal Development programme that prepares every student for life beyond school.

If you would like further information on anything that you have read above, please get in touch via The Abbey Helpdesk using the subject line: Personal Development.

This finally leads to sharing with you what is being delivered to your son or daughter in PSHE/RSE during Term 2, either during tutor time or in Core Lessons for Sixth Form students. We will give you a termly update of what is being covered so that you can continue to support their learning and discussions at home.

Year Group	Topic
7	Living in the wider world Equality Act 2010 – Learn how the law protects people from unfair treatment. Courts & Tribunals – Find out how legal disputes are settled fairly. Making Sense of Money – Understand how money works in everyday life. Budgeting Basics – Learn how to plan your spending and save wisely. Bank Accounts – Discover how to use different bank accounts safely. Smart Saving – Pick up tips on saving money and reaching your goals.
8	Health and Wellbeing Sharing Information Online – Learn how to stay safe and protect your privacy when posting online. The Limitless Internet – Explore how the internet connects people and ideas all over the world. Viewing Harmful Content – Understand what to do if you see something upsetting or unsafe online. Gender-Based Discrimination – Learn why everyone deserves respect, regardless of gender. Racism and Discrimination – Understand the impact of racism and how to challenge unfair treatment. Homophobia – Learn about inclusion and why it's important to respect everyone's identity.
9	Relationships and Sex Education Safe & Healthy Sex – Learn how to make safe, responsible choices in relationships. Sexually Transmitted Infections – Understand how STIs spread and how to protect yourself. Reproductive Health – Find out how to look after your body and understand how it works. Pregnancy Choices – Learn about the options and support available during pregnancy. Forced Marriages – Understand why consent matters and how to get help if you're worried. Respecting Transgender Identities – Learn about gender identity and the importance of respect for everyone.
10	Relationships and Sex Education The Spectrum of Relationships – Learn about different types of healthy and respectful relationships. Recognising Signs of Coercive Control – Understand how to spot and respond to controlling or harmful behaviour. Sexting – Find out how to stay safe and understand the risks of sharing images online. The Distorted Reality of Pornography – Learn how porn can give false ideas about relationships and consent. Fertility & Reproductive Health – Understand how the body works and how to look after reproductive health. Self-Examination and Screening – Learn how to check your own health and the importance of regular screenings.
11	Exam Stress Fertility & Pregnancy – Learn how pregnancy happens and how to make informed choices. Forced & Arranged Marriages – Understand the difference between the two and why consent is essential. Contraception Considerations – Find out about different contraception methods and how they work. Sex & Substances – Learn how alcohol or drugs can affect decision-making and consent. Safe Relationships Online – Understand how to build healthy, respectful connections in digital spaces. Sexual Violence & Abuse – Learn what consent means, how to get help, and how to support others.
12	Health and Wellbeing Caring for Your Mental Health – Learn ways to look after your wellbeing and manage stress. Optimism – Discover how a positive mindset can help you face challenges. Exploring Emotional Intelligence – Understand your emotions and how to respond to others with empathy. Help-Seeking and Peer Support – Know when and how to ask for help, and how to support friends. The Science of Flow – Learn how focus and enjoyment can boost motivation and performance. Navigating Conflict – Explore healthy ways to manage disagreements and find solutions.
13	Health and Wellbeing Substance Use & The Law – Learn about the effects of drugs and alcohol and the laws around their use. Overcoming Mob Mentality – Understand how group pressure can influence behaviour and how to make your own choices. Criminal Exploitation – Learn how some people take advantage of others and how to stay safe and seek help.



**“Out of all of the Open Evenings
we have done, this one was by far
the best one we’ve attended!”**

Parent Survey
Open Evening 2025



**The Abbey
School**



**THE HOWARD
Academy Trust**



THE ABBEY LESSON

THE ABBEY CLOCK: HOW WE HELP STUDENTS LEARN WITH PURPOSE

At The Abbey School, every lesson follows a clear rhythm designed to help students remember more, understand deeply and make strong progress. This structure, known as The Abbey Clock, ensures the learning journey is consistent, ambitious and supportive for all students.

Starter Slide

At the start of each lesson, students connect previous learning to the new knowledge they will explore.

This moment helps them understand:

- What they are learning
 - Why it matters
- How today's learning builds on earlier content

Students are expected to:

- Write the date and Big Question/title
- Open their Knowledge Organiser on the correct page
- Listen carefully to understand "why this, why now"
 - Make links to prior learning

End Slide

The End Slide brings the lesson full circle.

Students:

- Reflect on what they've learned
- Check their understanding against the success criteria
 - Identify strengths
- Notice what they need to revisit or revise

This supports long-term progress and helps teachers respond quickly to learning needs.

Knowledge Organisers (KOs)
Knowledge Organisers sit at the heart of learning at The Abbey School.
Students must have them on their desks every lesson.

KOs help students retrieve key facts and vocabulary, complete home learning and prepare for assessments.

Every KO includes RAG boxes so students can traffic-light their confidence:

Red – I don't understand yet
Amber – I understand some parts
Green – I'm confident

Students use these RAG ratings to track what they know and what they need to revise or ask about. This builds independence and a clear sense of progress.

Stamps & House Points

During lessons, teachers circulate to check work and give quick, targeted feedback. Students receive stamps when:

Work has been checked
Effort is strong
Learning is accurate
Misconceptions have been addressed

To reward consistency:

3 stamps on a page = 1 House Point (KS3/4)
Stamps encourage effort, pride and progress, and help students build a clear record of their learning.

Together, these routines help every student learn with purpose, clarity and ambition, preparing them for life, not just exams.



THE ABBEY CLOCK

30



WHY DO WE FOLLOW STAR?

The Abbey School, like many other schools, uses STAR because all students deserve the chance to learn and enjoy their lessons without disruption. STAR makes it possible for our students to get it right all of the time. This means they are in lessons working towards being the 'the best you can be'.

A call for STAR behaviour is the verbal prompt for students to show they are ready to listen, learn and be respectful towards others.

Star



Sit Up Straight



Track The Teacher



*Always Address
The Teacher
With
Hands Up*



*Respect
Through
Silence*

ATTENDANCE MATTERS AT THE ABBEY SCHOOL

You may have noticed that we've have started using our new Attend system more regularly to communicate with you about your child's attendance. These updates are designed to keep you informed about your child's attendance percentage, celebrate positive attendance, and let you know how many more days are needed to reach the next attendance milestone.

Our goal is to make it easier for parents and carers to stay up to date and to identify any issues that may be affecting your child's attendance. If you have any concerns or circumstances you'd like us to be aware of, please don't hesitate to get in touch with our attendance team.

Attendance Contacts:

Miss L. Thomson (Attendance Manager) – lthomson@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk

Miss I. Streatfield (Attendance Officer) – attendance@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk

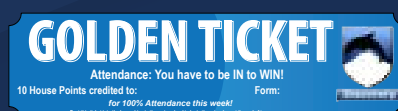
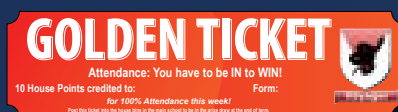
Miss K. Rickard (Attendance Officer) – attendance@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk

Attendance Golden Tickets

At The Abbey School, we love celebrating great attendance! Every student who attends school for a full week receives an Attendance Golden Ticket. Each ticket earns them an entry into our end-of-term prize draw, meaning the more full weeks they attend, the greater their chance of winning!

This term's prizes: Four lucky students will each win a £50 Amazon voucher — simply for being in school!

Remember: You've got to be in to win!



Weekly Attendance Rewards

We've listened to our students' feedback and have introduced more frequent, smaller rewards to recognise consistent attendance and progress toward individual goals. Each Friday during afternoon line-up, we'll hand out fun prizes such as pens, sweets, motivational notepads, squishes, and other treats!

Winners will be selected from those with 100% attendance for the week and students who have achieved their attendance milestone.

100% Attendance – End of Year Rewards

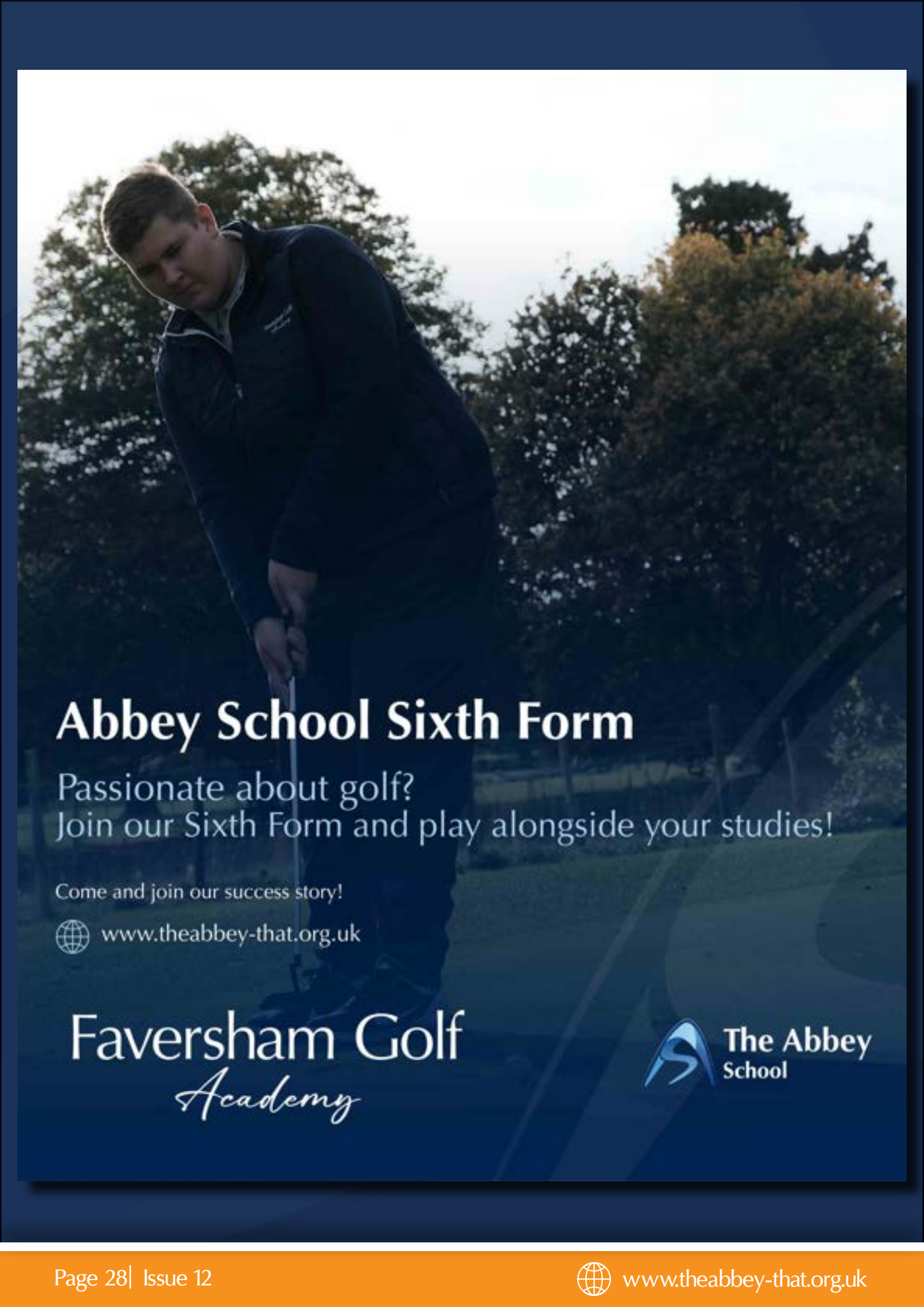
We're thrilled to announce this year's 100% attendance rewards! Students who achieve full attendance for the entire academic year will be entered into a special prize draw to win:

A brand-new PlayStation 5
A brand-new Laptop
A brand-new Tablet

We may even add more prizes later in the year!

We also recognise that some students have medical conditions that may require unavoidable absences for appointments. These students will still be included in our prize draws where appropriate.





Abbey School Sixth Form

Passionate about golf?
Join our Sixth Form and play alongside your studies!

Come and join our success story!

 www.theabbey-that.org.uk

Faversham Golf
Academy



The Abbey
School



YOU SAID WE DID



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 Abbey School

COLD WEATHER REMINDER

As the weather has turned colder and temperatures continue to drop, please ensure your child comes to school with a warm coat each day. We want all children to stay comfortable and safe during their time at school.

Thank you for your support and cooperation.



PASTORAL SPOTLIGHT ON.... IS YOUR CHILD A YOUNG CARER?

At our school, we know that some children take on important caring roles at home - supporting a family member who may be unwell, disabled, experiencing mental health difficulties, or facing challenges with day-to-day tasks. These young people show incredible strength, responsibility and compassion.

We want every Young Carer in our school community to feel seen, supported and understood.

What Is a Young Carer?

A Young Carer is a child or young person who helps to care for a parent, sibling or relative. This may include:

- Helping with household tasks
- Providing emotional support
- Looking after siblings
- Helping someone manage an illness, disability or additional needs

Support Available in School

We are committed to making sure Young Carers have space, understanding and time for themselves during the school week. Here's what we offer:

Thursday Drop-In Sessions

Every Thursday afternoon, we run informal Young Carer drop-ins. Children can come along for a chat, support or just a moment of calm.

Weekly Meet-Ups

A member of our pastoral team meets weekly with some of our Young Carers on a rotation basis, ensuring everyone has regular time to talk and feel supported.

Are You Registered with Imago Young Carers?

If your child is not yet registered with Imago Young Carers, please consider signing up. Registration can open the door to additional support, activities and guidance designed specifically for Young Carers and their families.

Please Let Us Know

If you think your child may be a Young Carer please contact us. The information you share will be treated sensitively and will help us support your child in the best possible way.

POST 18 DESTINATIONS

When you finish school at 18, you enter one of the most flexible stages of your life. There's no single "right" path, just the one that fits your goals, interests and learning style. Two of the most popular routes are university and apprenticeships, each offering unique benefits and opportunities for growth.

University

University is ideal for students who enjoy academic study and want to gain in-depth knowledge in a particular subject. Degrees usually take three to four years and allow you to explore your field through lectures, research and independent learning. Many careers such as medicine, engineering, teaching and law require a university qualification. Beyond academics, university also offers a chance to gain independence, meet new people and take part in societies, sports and work placements.

Apprenticeships

For students who prefer hands-on learning, apprenticeships combine practical work experience with paid employment. You train on the job while studying part-time for a qualification. This route is excellent for developing real-world skills, earning a wage and avoiding traditional tuition fees. Apprenticeships are available in a wide range of industries, including digital technology, healthcare, construction, business, engineering and creative sectors.

If you have any questions or need any support, speak to a member of the Sixth Form Team!

SWALE YOUTH DEMOCRACY EVENT

The student voice was lucky enough to be invited to the Swale Youth Democracy Event. This was hosted at the council chambers, and we were introduced to the mayor and other important members, who taught us important issues concerned with rights and democracy. After an interesting introduction, we then were told about a fun activity for us all to try: A mock polling station.

First each school was told about three different parties:

1. **The party of perpetual snacks / POPS**
2. **The highly qualified Unicorns**
3. **The anti-adulging force**

Each party offered different things.

For example, POPS (the party of perpetual snacks) offered daily muffin breaks every two hours and free infinite pizza!

We then were given a voting slip with each party on it, and next to it a tick box. It was a hard decision, but we all voted....and it was a tie...so the Mayor put two slips on the table, mixed the slips around and picked a random slip.

POPS WON! We all cheered; perpetual snacks for everyone!

We noticed that many of the council members were wearing a white ribbon and asked about this. The white ribbon campaign was founded in Canada between late 80's and early 90's for men to help other men stop the domestic abuse and to stop women from being targeted because they are women.

Women do not deserve to be targeted, so men and women took action to stop men from abusing women. The white ribbon is a global symbol of the campaign to end violence against women and girls.

We also had a presentation from PC Amy Tyler and PC Craig Henders, who are part of Kent police-child centred. We heard about the work the police were doing for young people, and how they are trying to break down barriers between the police and young people, so that the police are not seen as the enemy but are there to help and support. We raised issues about how the police could support young people in Swale, and what measures could be put in place to make young people feel safer.

Within a population of around 151,700 people in a 139 squared miles of land the Swale borough council have much to do. Some of the key services are planning for local events, maintenance in the parks for local residents and much more. The council has an election every 4 years, this allows time for the mayor to make changes in the community but still allows for changes within political power.

We all had a fantastic time at the event and enjoyed being part of the democratic process. We hope to attend more of these events and also to inform people in school about the importance of democracy.



YEAR 7 WINTER SEASON CELEBRATION

Our Year 7 students enjoyed a wonderful first Culture Curriculum enrichment day this week as they took part in our Winter Season Celebration.

Throughout the day, they explored the themes of creativity, culture and kindness through a range of enrichment experiences, including:

- Creative winter enrichment workshops
- Designing their own Kindness Advent Calendars as part of our personal development enrichment
- A joyful winter performance to celebrate their learning together

Their enthusiasm, teamwork and commitment to enrichment shone throughout the day. We are incredibly proud of how they represented The Abbey School.

Share Your Kindness Enrichment at Home!

As a spin-off from the day, we'd love families to continue that enrichment at home by sending:

- A photo of the Kindness Advent Calendar displayed at home
- A photo of your child completing one of their kindness enrichment challenges

Every photo submitted earns a Golden Ticket and will be shared on our social media!

Photos can be sent to:
alebrunn-healey@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk





EXTRA CURRICULAR PROGRAMME TERM 2

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!



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

TOTAL NUMBER OF DAYS ABSENT IN A SCHOOL YEAR	ATTENDANCE RATE %	ACTUAL ATTENDANCE	LESSONS LOST
0	100%	190 DAYS	0
10	95%	180 DAYS	50
20	90%	170 DAYS	100
30	85%	160 DAYS	150
40	80%	150 DAYS	200



ABOVE 95% ATTENDANCE =
VERY GOOD CHANCE OF 5 GCSEs

ABOVE 94% ATTENDANCE =
GOOD CHANCE OF 5 GCSEs

ABOVE 92% ATTENDANCE =
FAIR CHANCE OF 5 GCSEs

ABOVE 90% ATTENDANCE =
LESS THAN 50% CHANCE OF 5 GCSEs

88% ATTENDANCE =

LESS THAN 35% CHANCE OF 5 GCSEs

LESS THAN 85% ATTENDANCE =
LESS THAN 30% CHANCE OF 5 GCSEs



CHRISTMAS DANCE-A-THON

Wednesday 17th December 2025

Periods 4 and 5

Please see Miss Nunn if you wish to sign up for some festive fun of singing and dancing!



Work Experience Programme for Year 10 Students 2026

We are pleased to announce that our Work Experience Programme for Year 10 students, taking place from Monday 29th June to Friday 4th July 2026. This compulsory, week-long placement gives students the opportunity to step away from their usual school timetable and gain invaluable first-hand experience in the world of work.

To introduce the programme, we will be holding an assembly for all Year 10 students, where they will receive clear guidance on how to source, apply for, and follow up on work placements. This session will also offer practical advice on approaching employers and making the most of this experience.

Why Work Experience Matters

At this important stage of their education, work experience plays a vital role in helping students:

- Explore potential career paths and industries of interest
- Build independence and confidence through real-world experience
- Enhance CVs and future applications for sixth form, college, apprenticeships, or university
- Develop transferable skills, such as communication, teamwork, and problem-solving

Students are expected to arrange their own placement, ideally in a field that interests them. This process not only gives students a sense of ownership over their future, but also helps them develop essential skills for future job searches and applications.

Supporting Your Child

We ask for your support in encouraging your child to actively pursue a placement that aligns with their interests or future aspirations. Whether it's in healthcare, business, the arts, engineering, education, or another field, every experience will help broaden their understanding of the working world.

Students will be guided through the process in school, and I will be available to offer support and advice as needed.

This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to gain meaningful insight into the world beyond school, and we look forward to seeing the positive impact it will have on their confidence, motivation, and future goals.

Mrs Priestley
Careers Support Co-ordinator



The Abbey School

is proud to be a part of
FAVERSHAM'S STORY!



We are **proud** of our strong connections with the community of Faversham and our involvement in local life.

Through partnerships with local organisations and participation in community initiatives, we encourage all of our students to **grow, contribute and succeed.**





CAREER SPOTLIGHT OF THE WEEK: THE ENTREPRENEUR

Subject Spotlight: Business Studies

Have you ever had a brilliant idea and thought, “Someone should make this!”? Well, entrepreneurs are the people who do! They’re the creative risk-takers who turn clever ideas into real businesses whether it’s a small online shop, a local café, or the next big global brand.

What is an Entrepreneur?

Entrepreneurs are opportunity-spotters. They notice a problem, create a solution, and build a business around it. This takes courage, creativity, and a LOT of determination. Sometimes things go wrong but successful entrepreneurs learn, adapt, and keep going.

What Skills Do They Need?

- To grow a successful business, entrepreneurs rely on:
- Creativity – imagining new products or services
- Resilience – bouncing back when challenges arise
- Financial know-how – managing money wisely
- Strategic thinking – planning the future and making smart decisions
- Teamwork and communication – because no business runs alone!

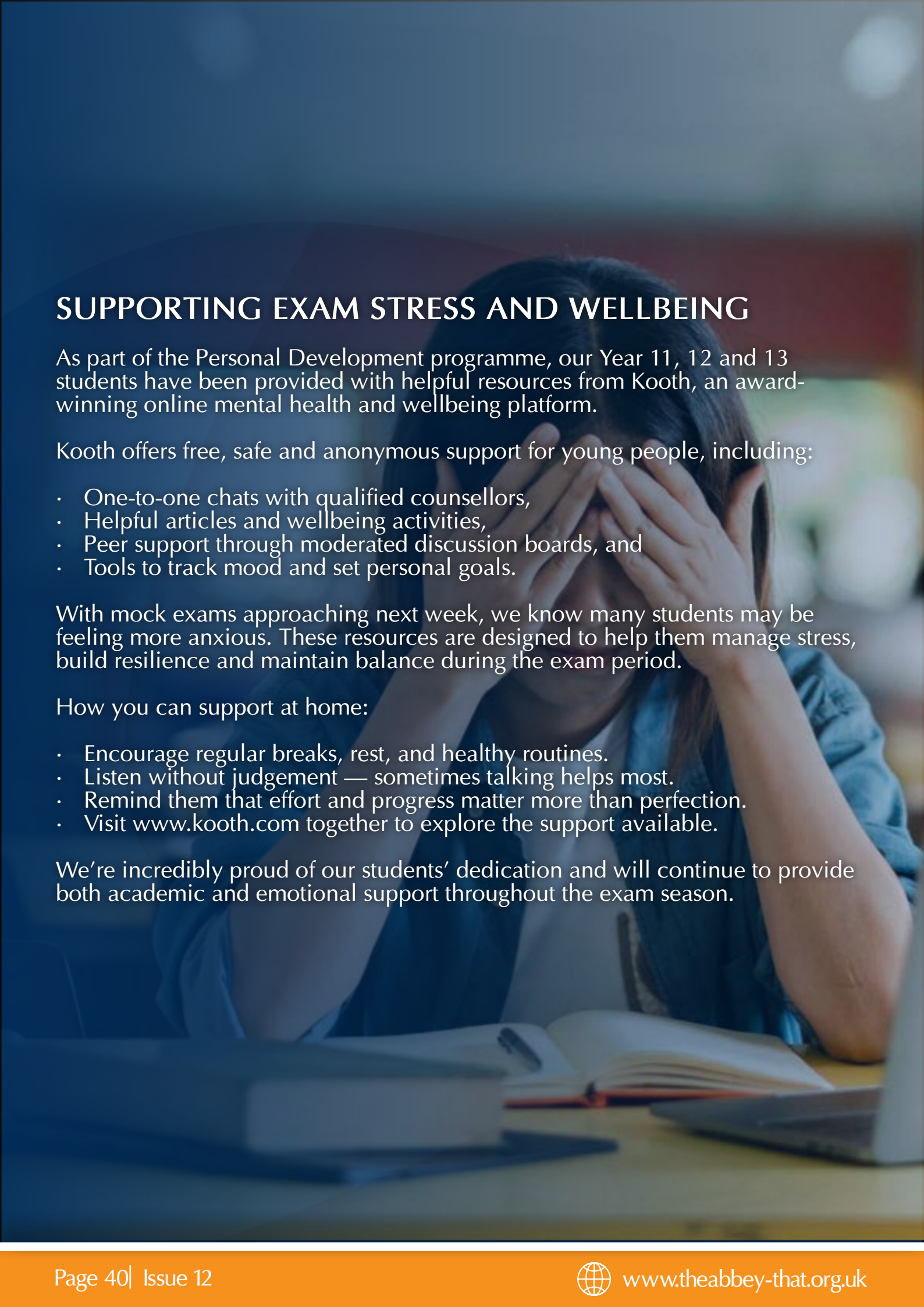
How Does Business Studies Help?

Our Business Studies subject gives students a head start in the world of entrepreneurship. In class, they learn:

- How to create a business plan
- How marketing works (and why some ads are irresistible!)
- How money moves in a business
- How companies operate day-to-day
- These lessons build the foundation for students who dream of launching the next big idea or simply want to understand how businesses around them work.

For any questions relating to Careers

Please contact spriestley@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk



SUPPORTING EXAM STRESS AND WELLBEING

As part of the Personal Development programme, our Year 11, 12 and 13 students have been provided with helpful resources from Kooth, an award-winning online mental health and wellbeing platform.

Kooth offers free, safe and anonymous support for young people, including:

- One-to-one chats with qualified counsellors,
- Helpful articles and wellbeing activities,
- Peer support through moderated discussion boards, and
- Tools to track mood and set personal goals.

With mock exams approaching next week, we know many students may be feeling more anxious. These resources are designed to help them manage stress, build resilience and maintain balance during the exam period.

How you can support at home:

- Encourage regular breaks, rest, and healthy routines.
- Listen without judgement — sometimes talking helps most.
- Remind them that effort and progress matter more than perfection.
- Visit www.kooth.com together to explore the support available.

We're incredibly proud of our students' dedication and will continue to provide both academic and emotional support throughout the exam season.

E-scooters – are you breaking the law?



Can I ride my e-scooter to school or work?

No, it's Illegal...

E-scooters are classed as motor vehicles and are required to be taxed and insured. It's not possible to get insurance for privately owned e-scooters, which means it's illegal to use them.

Can I ride my e-scooter on the pavement?

No, it's Illegal...

You cannot use e-scooters on public footpaths, cycle lanes or roads.

What happens if I'm caught using my e-scooter in public spaces?

The scooter may be seized and as a result, destroyed.

If stopped by an officer, you may be asked to complete a breath and drugs test. You also risk a £300 fine and six penalty points on your licence for no insurance.



**Kent
Police**

Think before you buy:

The number of electrical scooters being used on our streets has risen, as well as reports of serious injury and fatalities.

For more information and advice on the use of e-scooters visit www.kent.police.uk/road-safety



12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS ATTENDANCE REWARDS

Thu 4th Dec

Golden Ticket chocolate
coin exchange



Everyone with a GT!

Fri 5th Dec

Cake Treat



100% Attendance this Week

Mon 8th Dec

Candy Cane Exit



Everyone

Tue 9th Dec

2-4-1 Golden Tickets



Everyone

Wed 10th Dec

Haribo-ho-ho



100% Attendance & No C3s

Thu 11th Dec

Christmas Jumper Day



Everyone who has made
their non uniform donation

Fri 12th Dec

Disco Music Lunch



Everyone

Mon 15th Dec

Yr Group Breakfast Treats



Everyone

Tue 16th Dec

Candy Cane Exit



Everyone

Wed 17th Dec

Christmas Dinner Day



Annual event for all to
purchase – served by your
teachers!

Thu 18th Dec

Mini-selection Boxes



100% Attendance all month
& no C3s

Fri 19th Dec

Festive Non-Uniform



Everyone plus a bonus
prize draw for 100%
attendance this week

RULES:

- 100% attendance from 1st Dec 2025 and runs weekly unless stated otherwise
 - 1st Dec 2025 – 5th Dec 2025
 - 8th Dec 2025 – 12th Dec 2025
 - 15th Dec 2025 – 19th Dec 2025
- No C3s – during the course of the week (this resets every week unless stated otherwise)





HIRE OUR FACILITIES

CLICK THE QR CODE TO BOOK NOW!



Consideration In The Community

Most of you are wonderful ambassadors of the school through your kind and considerate actions towards others in our local community, especially when travelling to and from school.

Remember it is **not** fair for anyone to be allowed to deliberately make life miserable for others. **We will never tolerate nasty behaviour, thoughtless actions or bullying towards those in our school or in the local community.** In school always ask an adult for help if you are being treated unkindly or if you feel frustrated about the way others are treating you. **In the community** we need to show we are caring and considerate towards those who live and work near the school, so everyone feels safe and happy when they meet Abbey students.

DO

Move aside on the pavement to allow to use it.

Speak using appropriate tone and at a sensible level to those you are with, using language that is not offensive or swearing.

Cross roads safely, using the bridge to navigate the A3 and by looking up and checking the traffic for all other streets where there are no pedestrian crossing facilities

Respect residents' property by walking on the pavements, keeping away from cars, bin, doors and driveways. Be polite to those who live near our school.

DO NOT

Monopolise the whole pavement space by walking in a group forcing elderly, those with prams or indeed anyone from the community into the road.

Shriek, shout, threaten or swear to those around you, be they friends, members of the public or students who attend other schools - this is intimidating behaviour brings our school into disrepute and this will be followed up and dealt with.

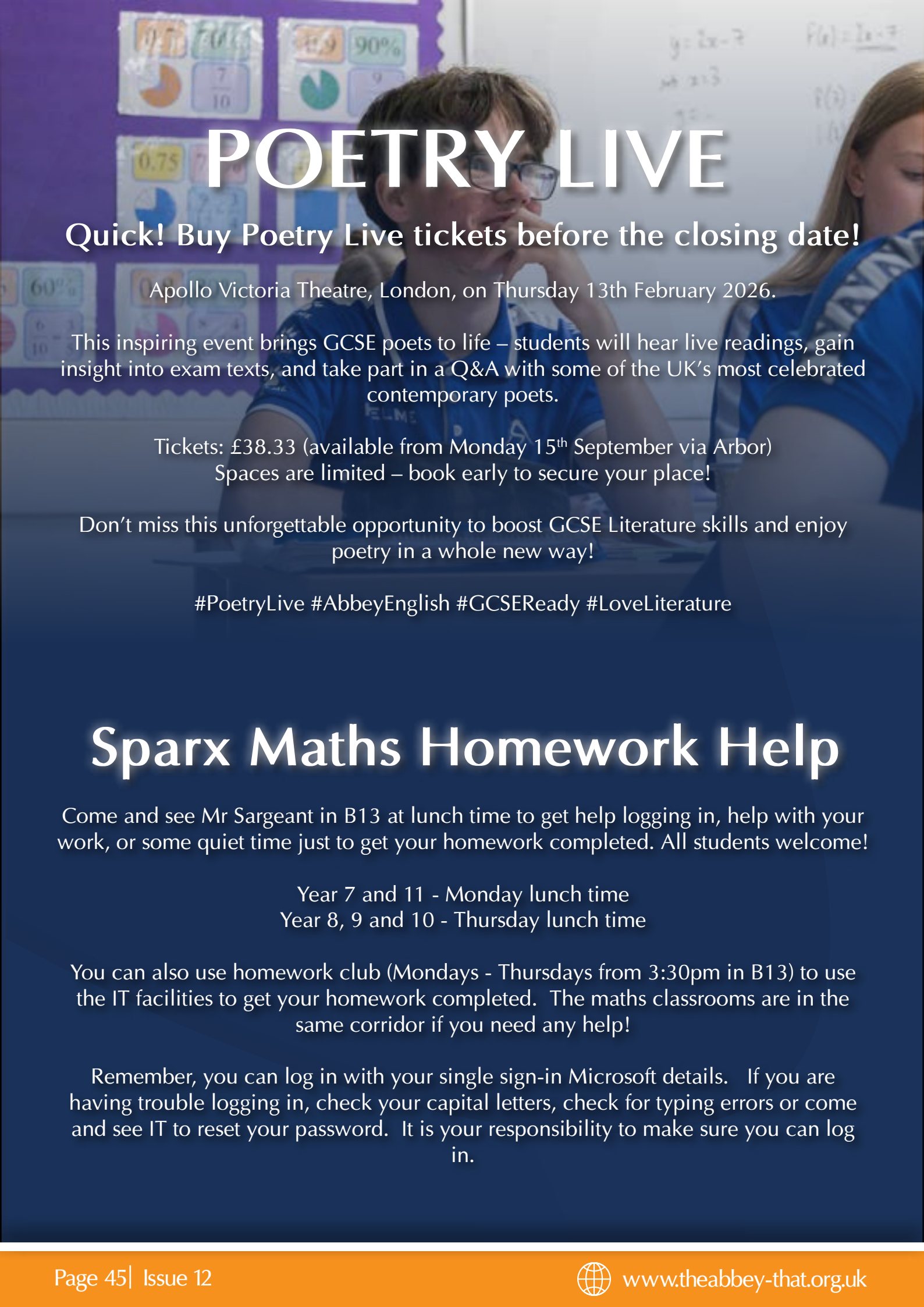
Run across the A3, this is a busy road with TWO speed cameras on it for a reason - the number of accidents. **DO NOT** become a statistic (injured or worse). Do not walk out directly in front of cars and expect them to stop.

Trespass onto people's property or cause damage to their property, if this happens residents should report this to the police, and we will always help the police identify who has caused the problem so they can take the action they need to (this could include prosecution for criminal damage or harassment etc).

CANTEEN MENU 2025/26

Click the images below to view the canteen menu for Term 2!





POETRY LIVE

Quick! Buy Poetry Live tickets before the closing date!

Apollo Victoria Theatre, London, on Thursday 13th February 2026.

This inspiring event brings GCSE poets to life – students will hear live readings, gain insight into exam texts, and take part in a Q&A with some of the UK's most celebrated contemporary poets.

Tickets: £38.33 (available from Monday 15th September via Arbor)

Spaces are limited – book early to secure your place!

Don't miss this unforgettable opportunity to boost GCSE Literature skills and enjoy poetry in a whole new way!

#PoetryLive #AbbeyEnglish #GCSEReady #LoveLiterature

Sparx Maths Homework Help

Come and see Mr Sargeant in B13 at lunch time to get help logging in, help with your work, or some quiet time just to get your homework completed. All students welcome!

Year 7 and 11 - Monday lunch time
Year 8, 9 and 10 - Thursday lunch time

You can also use homework club (Mondays - Thursdays from 3:30pm in B13) to use the IT facilities to get your homework completed. The maths classrooms are in the same corridor if you need any help!

Remember, you can log in with your single sign-in Microsoft details. If you are having trouble logging in, check your capital letters, check for typing errors or come and see IT to reset your password. It is your responsibility to make sure you can log in.

STARS OF THE WEEK

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



Lilly H
Year 7
41HP



Ezra E
Year 7
32HP



Carly-Jayne S
Year 8
121HP



Ava B
Year 8
28HP

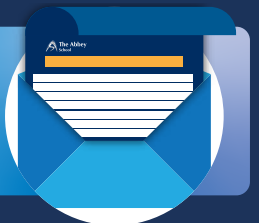
#WAKE UP WEDNESDAY

Celebrating Your Achievements



Email us your child's achievement
info@abbey-school-faversham.co.uk

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



Staggered Dismissal Times

Staggered dismissal times have now been replaced with afternoon line up on the playground. Each year will then be dismissed one at a time in no particular order. In the event of wet weather, afternoon line up will be cancelled and we will revert to dismissing each year group one at a time from their classrooms.



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.

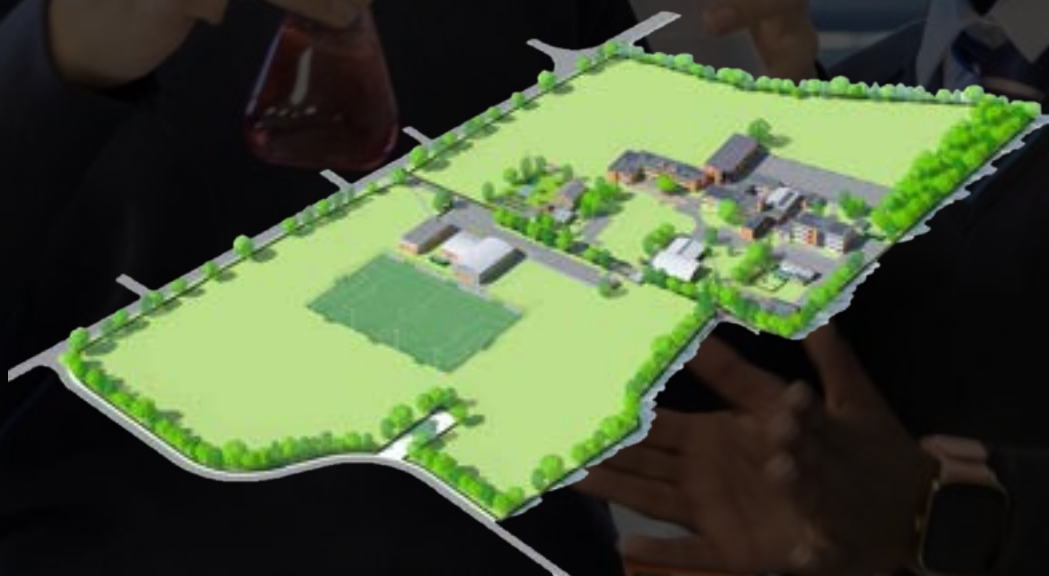
We will not tolerate any **threatening, abusive or violent** behaviour and action will be taken when necessary.





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ME14 8RZ

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info@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk
01795 532633



Attendance Office
01795 542477
attendance@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk

“BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE”



The Abbey
School