



Weekly Newsletter

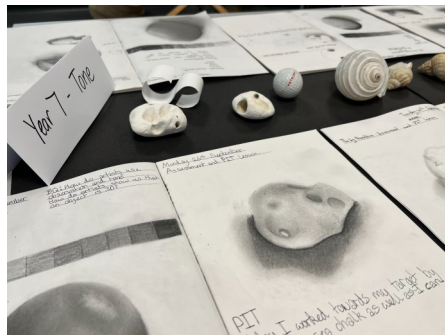
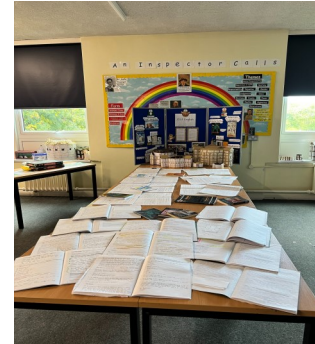
Issue 4 September 30th 2022

OPEN EVENING 2022

On Wednesday evening, we held our annual opening and welcomed huge numbers of parents, carers and children in years 4, 5 and 6, and from 27 different primary schools. They were all really interested and excited to see what The Abbey has to offer. We all felt such a sense of pride walking around the site; the energy was electric and we have already received such positive feedback from those who visited.

We really must extend our thanks and appreciation to everyone who played their part; it is a huge team effort but it's important to acknowledge our wonderful guides and subject helpers. We recruited around 220 this year, across all year groups, and each and every one of them did an excellent job.. They were all bursting with energy, enthusiasm and were so excited to be part of such a big event. A lot of visitors stopped to speak to us at the end and commented on how knowledgeable the students were about the school, their learning and the opportunities available to them. This, alongside what they saw when touring the site, has given them confidence that we are the right place for their young people.

Our student volunteers will all be rewarded with a certificate and 50 house points for being such positive role models.



OPEN MORNINGS

7th, 12th and 31st October

Turn up from 9:30am at our Main Reception.

No booking required

A prospective parent sent us this message: *"My two (Yr 5 and 4) talked about it all the way home and again today and said they wanted to start there this morning! Congratulations to all staff and pupils who gave so much time and hard work making it all happen. And especially to our Year 7 tour guides Alexa and Ellie. They were great and excellent advocates for their school."*

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MORE FABULOUS FEEDBACK FROM OPEN EVENING:



"I feel compelled to write to you this morning regarding the young man that acted as our tour guide at The Abbey School yesterday evening. We arrived at the school with an admittedly shaded view of the school and didn't hold high expectations of anything changing that. However, after meeting this young man and hearing what he had to say, we are now happy to place The Abbey school on our list. Our guide was knowledgeable, polite, respectful and honest. He didn't misrepresent the school by telling us it is the best school in the world but, he spoke of it with respect, understanding and pride. He spoke highly of his teachers was able to answer the many questions we asked him. The young man in question is called Callum and is in year eleven.

I would like to thank you for giving us the opportunity of looking round the school and to tell you how impressed we are with what we saw and heard."

Earlier this week, a group of our students represented The Abbey at the Swale Youth Forum and we were delighted to receive the following email:

Dear Dr Speller,

I met some of your students and Mrs Green at the Swale Youth Forum held on the 28th of September at Swallows Leisure Centre and wanted to take the time to say what brilliant ambassadors the students were for your school. I would like to express how impressed I have been with how they behaved and interacted with my staff, users of the facility and the members of the Forum.

Their behaviour is a demonstration of the hard work that you and your colleagues are doing at the school. We look forward to welcoming your students back at the next Swale Youth Forum.



SAVE THE DATE

SAVE THE DATE - DANCE STUDENTS

Due to the heatwave cancelling our dance show in July, Miss Nunn has organised an alternative date.

Students will have the opportunity to perform in two shows meaning there will be more tickets available!

This is NOT something students have to do but we hope students will see this as a fantastic opportunity to show you all of their hard work.

A letter with further details is to follow.

In the meantime, please SAVE THE DATE.

SATURDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2022



**STAGGERED DISMISSAL TIMES
TERM 1 WEEK 5**

Monday	3.10pm	Year 7
Tuesday	3.15pm	Year 11
Wednesday	3.20pm	Year 10
Friday	3.25pm	Year 9
	3.30pm	Year 8 / 12 / 13
Thursday	2.10pm	Year 7
	2.15pm	Year 11
	2.20pm	Year 10
	2.25pm	Year 9
	2.30pm	Year 8 / 12 / 13

Upcoming Key Dates—October

CCCU University Presentation	Tuesday 4th
EKST Workshop (Theatre group) Y7 & 8	Wednesday 5th
EKST Big Design Challenge—5 x Y9s	Wednesday 5th
Year 7 Parent-Tutor Consultation Evening	Wednesday 5th
Open Morning	Friday 7th
House Council workshop and meeting	Friday 7th
Open Morning	Wednesday 12th
Tower of London Reward Trip	Wednesday 12th
KS4 Dance Workshop	Friday 14th
Last day of term	Friday 14th
TERM 2	
Return to school for Term 2	Monday 31st
Y11 & Y13 Mock Exam Week	w/c Monday 31st

Focus on the Learning Resource Centre

The Learning Resource Centre comprises a Library and a Computer Suite

Did you know that 1 in 8 schools in Kent do not have a Library? Here at The Abbey School, we are exceedingly lucky to have a permanently staffed, fully functioning School Library.

Our Library is part of the lifeblood of the school as every student will at some time or another frequent and utilise this space. With over 5000 fiction books to choose from, there is something for everyone.

Fluency in reading is a fundamental skill that students require in order to progress through GCSEs, BTECs, A Levels and beyond.

Reading opens the door to every subject taught in school.

With this in mind, we operate the Accelerated Reader Programme for students in years 7 and 8. The aim is to keep a reading momentum going, building on students' Primary School reading practices. These young people should be reading for pleasure 30-60 minutes each and every day. Reading expands their vocabulary, improves their own writing skills and increases their reading speed.



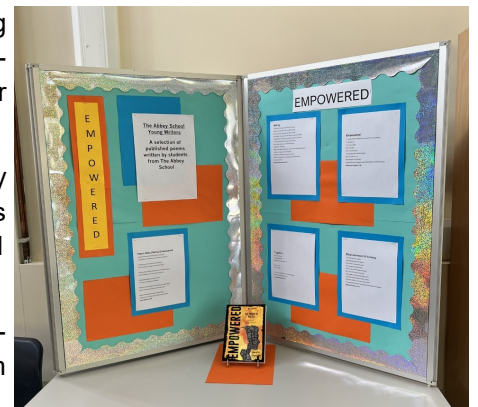
A literary celebration of HRH Queen Elizabeth

Many students arrive at The Abbey School never having been in a lending Library. The process of borrowing a book; perusing the shelves; choosing a book; getting it scanned; having it date stamped—all a novel experience for them. Coming into the Library for the first time can be an exciting and overwhelming event.

As the school librarian, I try to encourage students to challenge themselves in their reading choices. To move on from novels they read in Primary School and try something different. Having such a large stock of texts enables students to experiment; stretch themselves; delve into unfamiliar genres and explore different authors.

Attached to the Library is a computer suite used by staff and students alike. Here, students complete Accelerated Reader tests and quizzes or work on their homework. Every lunchtime many year 11 students can be found here working on their homework. It gets very busy!

Alternatively, at lunchtime, students can play chess. The Learning Resource Centre is where Chess Club takes place every Wednesday from 3.30pm to 4.30pm after school.

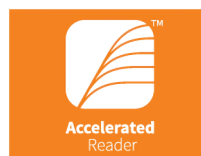


A display of Abbey School Writers published work

Miss L Evans

Learning Resource Centre Coordinator

Chess Club—Wednesdays at 3.30pm



Accelerated Reader™
Renaissance Learning

