



Weekly Newsletter

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Term 2 Week 3 - Mock Examinations

We'd like to send our congratulations to all year 11 students on their conduct and attitude to what has been a very successful first week of this term's mock examinations. We wish all of them the very best for week two and hope that all the preparation over the next few days helps them to be in the best position to succeed.



Music Lessons Opportunity!

On Thursday, students in Y7 and 8 received a music demo assembly from Andrew Parry who informed them of an exciting opportunity we have starting at The Abbey School. This year Music has been re-established on our KS3 curriculum meaning pupils in Year 7 and 8 are currently experiencing one lesson a fortnight in Music. Students are learning a variety of topics across the year:

Year 7:

- Singing
- Keyboard
- Exploring Instruments of an Orchestra

Year 8:

- Ukulele
- The Blues
- Exploring Popular Songs

In addition to this, our current year 8 pupils will have the opportunity to choose Music as a GCSE subject next year. Those students considering GCSE Music may benefit from engaging in private musical instrument lessons. Therefore The Abbey School is pleased to inform you that we are going to start offering this with the teaching company *Andrew Parry Music*. These lessons will take place during school time and will be taught by external peripatetic teachers. To begin with, the instruments available to learn are guitar, drum kit, piano/keyboard and voice.

At this stage in the process, we are keen to find out about those who would be interested in having lessons, we cannot guarantee all lessons will go ahead until we have further details on interest. If lessons do go ahead, you will be notified with a schedule and further information. If you do wish to apply please visit [Apply For Lessons — Andrew Parry Music](#) to register your interest.

Lessons do cost and this is something arranged directly with Andrew Parry Music.

- Individual 30 mins: £16.00 per lesson [£80 for 1 term]
- Individual 20 mins: £11.00 per lesson [£55 for 1 term]

The company usually aim to teach 5 lessons per student each term, however, due to school activities and term lengths, sometimes this is not possible. In these cases lessons run forwards into the next term. Eg: a student may have 4 lessons one term and then 6 in the next. A full year of lessons is typically 30.

Payments: It is standard practice for the teachers to send out lesson invoices via email at the beginning of every half term. Instructions for payment by bank transfer can be found on your invoice. Andrew Parry prefer this method of payment as it is more secure. Payment is directly made with Andrew Parry Music and not The Abbey School.

We really hope you see this as an exciting opportunity for your child! If you have any further questions please email Miss Nunn or Mrs Ward for further information.

sunn@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk - Head of Performing Arts

cward@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk - Teacher of Music

For more information and to apply, please visit their website:

[Apply For Lessons — Andrew Parry Music](#)

SAVE THE DATE – “Musical Medley”



Later this academic year, The Abbey School will be putting on a showcase 'Musical Medley' at the Gulbenkian Theatre in Canterbury on **Friday 1st March 2024**. Tickets will be available to purchase for friends and family to watch nearer the time, but in the meantime please save the date!

Any students still wishing to take part in our acting, singing or dancing segments of the show, are still welcome and should speak to Miss Nunn. We would love to see as many students taking part as possible!

The Gulbenkian is the University of Kent's Arts Centre offering innovative, engaging and high quality arts activity for the public, staff and students. It provides a key role in delivering the University commitment to public engagement and has a particular focus on the creative empowerment of children and young people.



Edible Culture Visit



On Monday 13th November, 10 students attended a workshop at Edible Culture, the garden centre on site. We were shown around the areas surrounding the nursery, and given a talk about how to compost different materials and the way in which material is broken down. We were taught how to make our own compost area using wooden pallets. We were then given really useful information on how to create a forest garden for wildlife, using nut trees and herbs, and having water butts to give birds a source of water. We were also advised about the best season to plant trees and fruit bushes, as well as herbs and vegetables.

Edible Culture have kindly agreed to come over to our gardening sites at the Abbey and advise us on how to set up gardens which allow us to grow fruit and vegetables, as well as cater for wildlife. They have also said that they will be able to donate some trees. Students asked some really great questions and hopefully now know how to transfer some of these great ideas to the Abbey grounds.



On a separate note, we have also been donated 1000 bulbs by Faversham rotary club, so anyone wanting to come and help us plant these (as well as helping set up the gardens), may be interested to join eco-gardening and craft club on a Monday 3:30-4:30. Last week we made friendship bracelets and did some origami, and we are looking to making some seasonal gifts as well in the coming weeks!

[Peat pesticide plastic free garden centre & nursery | edibleculture](#)

Christmas Card Competition

DON'T FORGET – we need to see more entries in the Christmas Card competition. Your designs should be given to Dr Moseley by Friday 24th November. You can come and give them to her in S23, or ask your tutor for the entry to be put in her pigeon hole. Show off your creative talent, support our worthwhile charities, and win yourself a prize!



STARS OF THE WEEK

Well done to our Stars of the Week for w/c 13th November 2023



Darcie
Glass
Y7

153 House Points



Reuben
Moore
Y9

150 House Points



Emilija
Jodcika
Y8

188 House Points



Charlotte
Smith
Y9

186 House Points

STAGGERED DISMISSAL TIMES for w/c 20th November 2023

Day	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri	3.25pm	3.20pm	3.15pm	3.10pm	3.30pm	3.30pm	3.30pm
Thursday only	2.25pm	2.20pm	2.15pm	2.10pm	2.30pm	2.30pm	2.30pm

Spotlight on...School Ambassadors!

Earlier this month, we received a delightful email from a local resident who wanted to share with us her experience of meeting some of our students during a commute from Faversham to London.

"It was around 4.pm and there were quite a number of Abbey students waiting for trains on either side of the station. They all looked well behaved and chatted with each other happily. I happened on two girls waiting for the train I thought might be the one I needed and so I asked them if it was going to London.

Having told me that yes, it was, they went on to engage me in conversation for a few minutes and answered my questions with smiles and interest, telling me how much they loved their school, their teachers and particular subjects. They were Year 8 girls and were definitely a credit to your school.

To take the time to be kind and speak to a seventy-year-old woman who they didn't know was admirable. I was truly impressed. I wish I could give you their names. I'm not in the habit of writing to headteachers or authorities, but I was struck by their joy, especially when talking about their school, so thought you'd like to know".



As you can imagine, it gave us great pleasure to hear such positive comments about our students so after some brilliant investigative work, our Head of Year, Mr Youard, identified these star students! Earlier this week, Dr Speller met with both Georgi and Maddie to present them with a Headteacher's Certificate and a small gift to show our grateful appreciation for being such superb ambassadors for the school. These two model students really are **The Best They Can Be** and are fantastic role models – well done from us all!

Anti-Bullying week and Children in Need

A huge **THANK YOU** to all who have generously donated to Children in Need and the Anti-Bullying Alliance charities; so far, we have raised an impressive **£150.63** and will be collecting again during tutor time on Monday for any further donations.



We're supporting Well done to all students who also helped to raise awareness for these fantastic causes by sporting their odd socks today!

Our next whole school fundraising event will be **Christmas Jumper Day** at the beginning of December - more details to follow.

More Fundraising...

Thank you to Miss Jones and Mrs Thompson who baked some delicious tray-bakes with the current 6th form students for this week's 6th form Open evening to sell for donations to our charities – Demelza and Kent Air Ambulance. Thank you also to everyone who donated generously to these causes.



Kent Police Workshop

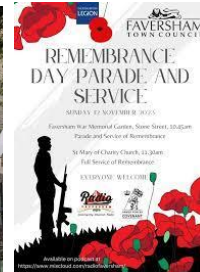


We have also had a great opportunity for a small group of Year 8 and 9 students who were selected to be a part of a Kent Police workshop. Kent Police are aiming to listen to and work with young people more, and workshops are being offered and delivered at schools across the county. We hope to be able to

access lots of these across the year to make sure students are well informed and aware of support and initiatives in their local community.

Remembrance Day Parade and Service

On Sunday 12th November, 6th form student, Sam Dawson, proudly represented The Abbey School at the remembrance service which took place at the Faversham War Memorial Garden. Sam commented, "On Remembrance Day I saw the scouts, army cadets, marine cadets and air cadets present a wreath and carry their flags across Faversham. Afterwards, I placed my wreath and walked with the parade to the church where the service was carried out. I can personally say that the parade was a beautiful display of remembrance for the ones we lost and continuing to lose."



Upcoming Key Dates

Year 11 & 13 Mocks – Week #2

Year 11 Parents' Evening

Why go to University Assembly Y9

Apprenticeship Workshop

Year 11 BIG INTERVIEWS

Year 11 BIG INTERVIEWS

Rewards Breakfast

Year 11 BIG INTERVIEWS

Why go to University Assembly Y9

PEC Attendance Rewards Trip

Y12 Dance Leadership Activity

Y11 Dance Practical Mock Exam

Y13 Personal Statement Writing Workshop

Y12 Dance Leadership Activity

ACS Trip, Somerset House

Year 7 Pantomime Trip to the Marlowe

Year 11 Practical Mock

Christmas Holiday

Return to school for Term 3

w/c 20th November

Wednesday 29th November

Wednesday 29th November

Wednesday 6th December

Wednesday 6th December

Thursday 7th December

Thursday 7th December

Friday 8th December

Friday 8th December

Friday 8th December

Monday 11th December

Monday 11th December

Tuesday 12th December

Tuesday 12th December

Wednesday 13th December

Wednesday 13th December

16th December – 1st January

Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Items on loan to students – a reminder:

The Pastoral team have loaned students a large number of items in the last few weeks; blazers, skirts, ties, PE kit, shoes, trousers and pencil cases.

We are awaiting the return of these items in order to support as many students as we can. Please, therefore, we would ask that parents/carers return any items your child has borrowed as a matter of urgency.

Many thanks from the Pastoral team.

The Abbey School Foodbank – 'The Giving Tree'

It's hard to hear it, but we know that there is great need in our community and that there are many families who are having to make a hard decision between having food in their fridge or paying their energy bill. With this in mind, we are launching another food collection campaign, similar to last year – 'The Giving Tree Wish List'. Between this Monday and the 13th December we are collecting as many items as possible, from the list below, which will be donated once again to the Faversham Foodbank. Although we have received plenty of donations from staff, our 'bins' are not yet filling up so this is a shout-out to our parents, carers and students to please consider donating any of the items listed below. Drop off point will be in the boxes under the Giving Tree in main reception. Thank you for your support!

The Giving Tree Wish List

13th November to 13th December

Tinned foods

Soup - all varieties including packet soups.

Fruit - peaches, fruit cocktail, pears, mandarins, pineapple, prunes

Vegetables - peas, carrots, sweetcorn, potatoes, green beans, beans

Fish - tuna, salmon, sardines, mackerel, anchovies

Cold meats - corned beef, spam, cooked ham

Meals - tinned pies, curries, chilli, mac & cheese, ravioli, meatballs

Desserts - custard, rice pudding, sponge puddings

Jars

Toast toppers - jam, marmalade, honey, chocolate spread, marmite

Cooking sauces - pasta sauce, curry sauce, pesto, lasagne sauce

Long life

Milk - whole, semi - skimmed & skimmed

Juice - orange, apple, pineapple, cranberry, squash

Dry foods

Biscuits - all varieties

Pasta & rice - all varieties

Cereals - all varieties

Tea & coffee - instant coffee, tea bags

Thank you for your generosity!

