



Abbey Lane Primary School

Spring 2 2024-25 Newsletter (2)

Over in a flash!

I can't believe Easter is already upon us – it feels like only five minutes ago that I was asking the children about their February half-term adventures. Having spoken to many of them about their Easter plans it's clear there are plenty of exciting activities lined up for the break.

There have been so many interesting and engaging lessons and activities in school this term. Year 5 enjoyed Viking Day, Year 4 impressed parents with a Quidditch demonstration, Year 2 were lucky with the weather on their trip to Ecclesall Woods and Reception had an engaging visit to White Post Farm and I could name many more. Thank you to all of our amazing staff for all of their efforts this and indeed every term. They truly make Abbey Lane an exciting place to learn for our children.

I wish everyone a relaxing break whatever you have planned and I can't wait to welcome the children back in April for our final full term of the school year.

Thank you, as ever for your continued support

Mr Calcutt

Staffing

Unfortunately, we will be bidding farewell to two valued members of our staff at Easter.

Mrs Boulton, one of our Y1 teachers, will be leaving us due to health reasons. Her departure is a significant loss for Abbey Lane as she has been a truly outstanding teacher. The children have greatly enjoyed learning with her and will miss her warmth and dedication. We wish Mrs Boulton a swift recovery and every happiness in the future.

We will also be saying goodbye to Mrs Whur, one of our lunchtime supervisors. Mrs Whur has been part of Abbey Lane for three years working tirelessly during her lunchtime shift. Her commitment and care for the children have been greatly appreciated and she will be sorely missed.

We thank both Mrs Boulton and Mrs Whur for their hard work and dedication and wish them all the very best for the future.

April will also bring the welcome return of Mrs Smith to Abbey Lane as she comes back from maternity leave. The children have greatly missed her and will be excited to see her back in Y1. Mrs Smith will be taking over from Mrs Boulton and will be sharing the class with Mrs Aspinall. We are delighted to have her back on the team.

World Book Day

The children had a fantastic day of celebrating reading on World Book Day on 6th March. There were some fantastic costumes on show! It's always a very popular day at school among children and staff.



Parking Plea

A polite reminder to all parents and carers to park considerately during drop-off and pick-up times. We have received a couple of recent complaints regarding cars blocking driveways, access points and even bus stops. We had a school trip that returned at home time earlier this term and it was a challenge for staff to get the children out safely and back into school because there were cars parked in the bus stop. **This is not permitted and we may be forced to inform the council and their parking enforcement team if this persists.**

Please be mindful of local residents and other road users when parking ensuring that everyone can get in and out safely and without disruption. Thank you for your cooperation in helping to keep our school community safe and respectful.

Mr Munday's Thanks

A word of thanks from me for all of the very kind and encouraging comments I've received, both from pupils and parents regarding my book '*A Woodland Adventure Part One - The Meeting*'. It's very gratifying to know people are keen to support my efforts in this capacity.

I will be delighted to sign any copies people may purchase when it's published on Friday 25th April.

Mr Munday

Woodseats Festival Art Competition

Would you like your artwork to be seen all over Woodseats? This year Woodseats Art Festival will once again use the winning piece of art in their poster competition to advertise the event.

The theme this year is "Festival of Flowers" and all Spring, garden and nature or environment-themed art is welcome. All entries must be on an A4 piece of paper and have your full name, year group and school name on the back.

Please send all pieces to the school office by Wednesday 7th May.

Vacancies

We currently have two vacancies at our lovely school so if you or someone you know is interested in any of the below, please get in touch or apply through the web links below. Abbey Lane really is a happy and fantastic place to work and is full of amazing children giving you the best job satisfaction possible.

Lunchtime Supervisor -

https://ce0369li.webitrent.com/ce0369li_webrecruitment/wrd/run/etrec179gf.open?WVID=156279W14I&LANG=USA&VACANCY_ID=127412gUMR

Breakfast Club Playworker –

https://ce0369li.webitrent.com/ce0369li_webrecruitment/wrd/run/etrec179gf.open?WVID=156279W14I&LANG=USA&VACANCY_ID=405263gUMR

Y6 Trip and Parent Feedback

The Y6s recently went on a trip to The National Holocaust Centre and Museum in Newark. One of our parent volunteers who supported the trip got in touch afterwards with this feedback:

I just wanted to put in writing my impressions from volunteering to help out on the Y6 trip to the National Holocaust Centre in Newark last Friday.

In short, the whole year group were a credit to the school. They exuded the Abbey Lane core values in a way that made me proud to be associated with the school. Mr Strutt and the other teachers did a fantastic job of preparing the pupils for the trip in advance. 'Respectful' was to be their watchword. And the pupils stuck to it throughout. When I overheard one pupil remind another about being respectful in such a setting as a museum about the Holocaust I knew that yours, and all the staff's, work on engraining the core values in the children had struck home.

Just wanted to let you know what a credit the Y6s were to the school in this off-site visit. The volunteers at the Centre were also effusive in their praise of them. The Y6 teaching team were brilliant in the way they prepared the pupils for the visit.

Our children often receive feedback like this following their attitude and behaviour on school trips. I couldn't be prouder. Well done the Y6 team and well done to all the Y6 children.



Netball

Earlier this term 54 adults and children from Abbey Lane watched the season opener in the Netball Super Cup at Leeds Rhinos. Some of the children even got to meet Geva Mentor, a former England international.



Also, the Y6 netball team won their first match of the league this term, against Mylnhurst, 7-3. It was a challenging match but the girls were absolutely fantastic - they are such a strong team. There will be many more victories to come. Well done Y6s!



Message from PALS

Hello from PALS. Wow, what a quick half term that was! We have had a busy couple of weeks running various events including the ever successful school discos, bags to school collection, bake sales, uniform sales at both parents evenings and our quiz night. In total all of these events have raised an amazing 2,056.41 for the school. As mentioned previously we are committing most of the funds raised this year to new playground project.

Thank you so much to everyone who volunteered their time to help make these events such a success but also to everyone who supports us through baking cakes and attending events! Our next big event will be the summer fair, held at school again after last year's success. We are still working on a date but it will be a weekend in July, so look out for further information after the holidays!

Have a lovely Easter holiday!

ReachMoreParents

To enhance our communication systems, we are moving to a new platform called **ReachMoreParents**. This system will help us keep you better informed and make it easier for you to stay up to date with school news and messages. It also includes a newsfeed feature that will link with our **X** account, providing a more streamlined way to access updates.

In addition to improving communication, **ReachMoreParents** will replace **ParentPay**, allowing you to make payments directly through the app. You will also be able to book events such as parents' evening making it a convenient all-in-one platform.

We will share more details and guidance on how to use **ReachMoreParents** after Easter, but we wanted to give you a heads-up that this positive change is on the way.

Sponsored Walk

Mrs Hibberd has organised a staff sponsored walk of the Edale Skyline to take place on 7th June to help raise funds for our playground development. We currently have 14 members of staff signed up to take on the 21 mile challenge and we would love it if we could get as many donations as possible. The gofundme link is below so please click on that to make your donation – anything is welcome!

<https://gofund.me/5f542367>



Diary Dates

Here are some provisional dates for the Summer term. There may be more details for some of these events sent out closer to the time. There will also be some dates that don't appear on this list as they haven't been finalised yet.

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| Friday 28 th March 2025 | INSET Day – children not in school |
| Monday 31 st March 2025 – Friday 11 th April 2025 | Easter holidays |
| Monday 14 th April 2025 | Y3 and Y4 Easter Service at St Chad's Church |
| Tuesday 15 th April 2025 | Y1 parents Phonics Screening Check Meeting |
| Friday 18 th April 2025 | Good Friday – children not in school |
| Monday 21 st April 2025 | Easter Monday – children not in school |
| Thursday 24 th April 2025 | Neurodiversity and Anxiety parent training |
| Monday 5 th May 2025 | Bank Holiday – children not in school |
| Tuesday 20 th May 2025 | Y5R trip to Millenium Gallery |
| Wednesday 21 st May 2025 | Y5HL trip to Millenium Gallery |
| Thursday 22 nd May 2025 | Y5BF trip to Millenium Gallery |
| Thursday 22 nd May 2025 | Y3 Egyptian Day |
| Thursday 22 nd May 2025 | Musical Evening – Elegance and Yang Hearnshaw students |
| Monday 26 th May 2025 – Friday 30 th May 2025 | Half Term |

