



# Abbey Lane Primary School

## Autumn 1 2023-24 Newsletter

### Welcome Back!

Hello everyone and welcome back for another fantastic year at Abbey Lane. I personally can't wait to see everyone back again and really look forward to hearing about what adventures the children have embarked on over the Summer holidays – when you see me walking into your class during the first week, make sure you tell me what exciting things you've been up to.

I am especially looking forward to welcoming our new reception children into school and I know everyone is eager to watch them develop and grow over the course of the year. If you are a new parent to school, please don't hesitate to contact school if you have any worries or queries about anything at all.

Your children have always been a credit to you and to the school and, because of this, we are all extremely confident that it is going to be a great start to Autumn term.

Here's to a brilliant and positive year ahead!

**Mr Calcutt**

### Senior Leadership Team

As we move into the start of a new school year, we wanted to keep you updated on the situation with our Senior Leadership Team. As things stand, Mrs Stafford will still not be in school for the time-being and Mr Calcutt will continue as Acting Headteacher. There are also other changes to our SLT as we begin Autumn Term. Please see below:

**Acting Headteacher** – Mr Calcutt

**Assistant Headteacher/SENCO** – Miss Bryan

**Assistant Headteacher** – Miss Bailey

**School Business Manager** – Ms Field

**Foundation Stage Phase Leader** – Mrs Winslow

**Key Stage One Phase Leader** – Miss Craig

**Lower Key Stage Two Phase Leader** – Mrs Pearson

**Upper Key Stage Two Phase Leader** – Mr Strutt

### Allergies

We have several children in school with severe nut allergies. Please can we remind you that snacks and packed lunches should not contain nuts or nut-based products including Peanut Butter or Nutella sandwiches. As the protein in certain seeds resembles the same proteins in nuts and may trigger an allergic reaction, we would also ask that you avoid sending your children products that contain seeds too. In addition, some chocolate bars/biscuits also have 'may contain nuts/traces of nuts' on the packaging. These can still cause allergic reactions if they were to come in contact with a child with a nut allergy.

I'm sorry for the inconvenience that this causes but we really have to look out for the safety of all of our children.

Thank you for your continued co-operation with this. We really appreciate it.

### Building Work Update

As you may have noticed, the building work to replace the RAACs in some of the roofing around school is well underway. Key staff, including Ms Field, the business manager, and Mrs Naylor, the school's site manager, have been working closely with the builders to ensure that all areas of school are safe in preparation for the return of the children on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September (despite some incorrect reports in the media of Abbey Lane being closed or partially closed this week).

The builders have provided school with temporary replacement rooms for the ones that are currently out of action due to the building work. These have been placed on the playground which has, unfortunately, reduced our playground space for the time being. This is not an ideal situation for our playtimes and lunchtimes but there is still plenty of space for the children to enjoy.

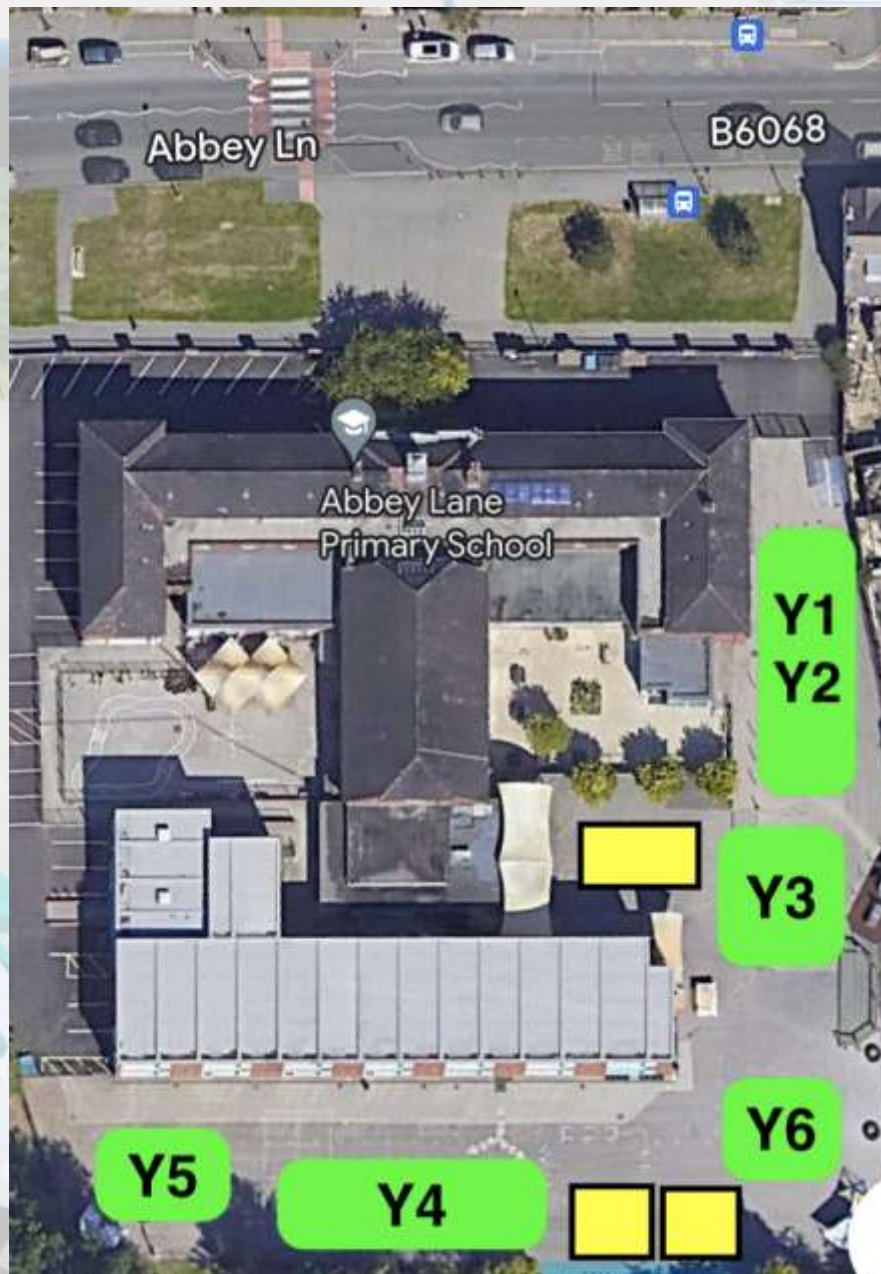
To keep you in the loop, all RAAC has been removed over the summer holiday and the remaining building work is due to be completed before Christmas but, as with all work of this scale, this may well change.

## Changes to Drop Off and Home Time

Due to the reduced space on the playground already mentioned, we are making some alterations to where you will be picking up your children at home time. As before, you will be able to come onto the playground from 3.00pm to wait for your child's class to be released. In the map below, the yellow squares denote the temporary buildings that the builders have provided for the school. The green boxes show where parents/carers will need to stand on the playground to collect their children. It is really important that Y4, Y5 and Y6 parents leave space for the classes to come out of the building before being released to parents. Reception parents, you will pick your children up from the reception playground but your teachers will be in touch with you about the logistics of this.

Thanks again to everyone for supporting us with changes such as this as we do our best to function around the building works. Your cooperation and support means a lot to the school.

In addition to this, we'd like to reintroduce the opportunity for parents and carers to bring their children into the school playground at drop off time in the morning. You can walk them to the external door of the building that their classroom is in and they can walk inside to their classrooms independently, much like they did before the summer holidays. We will still have staff on the gate greeting the children so you can continue dropping your child off at the gate if you prefer doing that. All we ask is that you drop off your children near the door that they need to go in and not enter into the building itself as this will ease congestion. Also, the school playground will need to be cleared by 8.45am as this is when the school gates will be locked. It really will be great to welcome families back onto the school playground before school.



## Getting in Touch

Please ensure that you keep your contact details, email and mobile number up to date on ParentPay to ensure you receive all information and communications from school. It is possible for more than one parent/carer to have access to ParentPay. Please see the school office who will be able to arrange this for you. If you haven't already activated your ParentPay account, please do so as soon as possible. ParentPay is our main method of whole school communication and you could be missing out on valuable information and opportunities. New starters will shortly receive ParentPay activation letters, please see the school office if you require any help activating your ParentPay account.

We will use the permission forms, which were previously completed, for various events/activities. If you wish to alter any of your permission preferences please contact the school office. We automatically presume that we can give permission to take photographs at school performances unless you stipulate otherwise on the form or write a letter to your child's class teacher.

If you need to contact school about your child, there are a number of ways this can be done. If it is an urgent matter, then it is best to telephone the school office. They will always pass on any urgent messages. If it is not urgent, but a general query, then the best way is through the year group emails below:

Reception/FS2 – [fs2@abbeylane.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:fs2@abbeylane.sheffield.sch.uk)

Y1 – [y1@abbeylane.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:y1@abbeylane.sheffield.sch.uk)

Y2 – [y2@abbeylane.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:y2@abbeylane.sheffield.sch.uk)

Y3 – [y3@abbeylane.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:y3@abbeylane.sheffield.sch.uk)

Y4 – [y4@abbeylane.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:y4@abbeylane.sheffield.sch.uk)

Y5 – [y5@abbeylane.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:y5@abbeylane.sheffield.sch.uk)

Y6 – [y6@abbeylane.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:y6@abbeylane.sheffield.sch.uk)

## Diary Dates

Please find below a list of provisional dates for Autumn term. We have tried to include as many **provisional** dates as possible. We will send more dates out once they have been finalised.

Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2023	INSET (children not in school)
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> September 2023	Weekly swimming sessions begin for Y4B
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2023	Children's first day back in school
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> September 2023	Photographer coming in to take individual photos
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> September 2023	European Day of Languages Celebration in School
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Y5 trip to Yorkshire Sculpture Park
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Prime VR in school for Y4 and Y6
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2023 Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	Parents Evening (we will send out information about this closer to the time)
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October – Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	School closed for October Half Term
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2023 – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2023	Y6 Thornbridge Residential – Y6R
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2023 – Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Y6 Thornbridge Residential – Y6S
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2023 – Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Y6 Thornbridge Residential – Y6BG
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2023	INSET (children not in school)
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> December 2023 – Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	School closed for Christmas holidays