



# Abbey Lane Primary School

## Autumn 2 2023-24 Newsletter

### We're back into it already

It's ridiculous how quickly time is going this year! Half term already feels like a distant memory but I hope you all managed to have a lovely time and I know, having spoken to many of the children, that there were lots of exciting things going on during that week.

As I mentioned in the previous newsletter, we are focussing on our Core Values at Abbey Lane at the moment and I have to say, your children are fantastic at demonstrating these. The politeness and respect that the children show each morning and afternoon as they walk past me on the gate is a joy to see. They are a credit to all of you. Connected to this, the Y6s have recently made the school proud during their residential trips to Thornbridge where they were amazing ambassadors for Abbey Lane. A special thank you needs to go out to the Y6 team for organising this brilliant opportunity for our children. Many staff members, from across school, gave up some of their time to help out with this residential and it really couldn't have gone ahead without their support so a huge thank you to everyone who volunteered (even when the weather wasn't the best that it could be!)

We have had some really nice comments from parents since school has started back up in September and I just wanted to say thank you to anyone that has made the effort to do this. The staff here work incredibly hard and it is such a nice feeling to be able to share positive feedback with them – it helps to give them the pat on the back that they all deserve.

Let's have a great end to Autumn term and hope that it doesn't get too cold!

**Mr Calcutt**

### Harvest Donations

Thank you again for all of the amazing Harvest donations that you brought into school before half term. Grace Foodbank, who collected the donations from school, have sent us a message which I've copied below:

*To all the children and their grown-ups at Abbey Lane Primary School,*

**THANK YOU**

*Thank you so much for your Harvest donations. This is a really important time of year for us and gives us a chance to restock our shelves. We are operating at record levels and we know we will only get busier as the weather gets colder, so thank you for your Harvest gifts. We couldn't help people without all our wonderful supporters – you're all amazing!*

*Thank you again,*

*Jackie Butcher, Grace Foodbank Manager*

### Christmas Dates

We are coming into a very busy and exciting time of the year in school when all of the Christmas festivities get into full swing.

You will notice lots of Christmas dates on the 'Diary Dates' section below. More information will follow about all of these events so you can plan being able to come into school and see your children perform/sing on the dates specified.

### SEND Reviews

If your child is on the SEND register at Abbey Lane, you will be having a review of your child's needs with Miss Bryan, the SENCo, and your child's class teacher.

These will be held over the next few weeks and you should have already received information about this via ParentPay.

## Pumpkin Competition Winners

During our first week back, we held a pumpkin carving competition and there were some brilliant entries! All entrants received a Halloween snapband as a prize but one child from each year group took home an amazing hamper as year group winner. The year group winners were: Hazel (FS2) Martha (Y1) Ethan (Y2) Dexter (Y3) Will (Y4) Eli (Y5) and Huw (Y6).



Well done to everyone who entered the competition!

A big thank you needs to also go to Miss Hunt who organised the competition and prizes, and took part in the judging of the pumpkins.

## Remembrance Day

As a school, we will be commemorating Remembrance Day on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November. In class, the children will spend some time with their teacher discussing Remembrance Day and reflecting upon the importance of this date. Pupils will also be discussing the importance of the poppy as a symbol of remembrance and working together to produce remembrance wreaths, which will be displayed in the school entrance hall.

Unfortunately, we are unable to sell poppies this year in school, as the Royal British Legion have been unable to supply us with enough poppies for the children in school. However, we do encourage pupils who have purchased a poppy to wear them in school, particularly on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November. Should you wish to make a donation to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal via school, we will ensure that all contributions are sent directly to the charity.

## Children in Need

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November, it will be Children in Need. Children in Need is a charity that raises money to support children from all over the UK.

In school, we will be inviting children to come to school in non-uniform for that day and your child will also be entered into a prize draw to win a Build-a-Bear. For this, we are asking for a donation of £2 which will all go towards raising money for Children in Need and the charities and projects which they help to fund.

Ideally, this donation will be made via ParentPay but we will accept cash donations as well, if necessary. More details about how to make your donation via ParentPay will be shared separately, at a later date.

## Y6 Thornbridge Residential

*During our visit, we gained independence and experienced ecstatic amounts of fun, through a plethora of activities. On our first day, we got taught resilience, as we faced a number of separate problems. As we entered the lodge in the evening, we met the aroma of delectable, filling food cooked by our excellent teachers. As we awoke in the morning from our sleep, we got dressed and showered (in the warm showers) to get ready for our day ahead. As we left we wanted it to never end, as our trip was the most memorable trip in our seven years at Abbey Lane 😊*

**By Eliza, Ben and Amber (Y6R)**

## Diary Dates

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

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
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Weekly Y5 badminton sessions begin – more information to follow
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November 2023 & Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Heights and Weights in school for FS2 and Y6
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Children in Need
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> November 2023	School Disco – details from PALS to follow
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Flu vaccines
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Y1 Animal Encounter Experience
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Reception Nativity performances
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day (children welcomed to wear a Christmas jumper and bring a donation)
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Y2 Nativity performances
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Y1 Christmas Songs Performance
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Y5 and Y6 to visit the church for a Christmas service
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Y3 and Y4 Christmas Songs Performance
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Christmas Dinner Day (Christmas jumpers welcomed for this day)
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2023	Christmas Party Day
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2023	Y5 and Y6 Christmas Songs Performance
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2023	INSET (children not in school)
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> December 2023 –	School closed for Christmas holidays