



# Abbey Lane Primary School

## Summer 2 2023-24 Newsletter

### The year comes to a close!

Wow, this year has absolutely flown by! It has been a year full of challenges but I can honestly say that it has been the best year of my career so far. I have thoroughly enjoyed leading this amazing school with its brilliant children, supportive families and talented staff team. It's been incredibly hard work but I already can't wait for September (after a nice, long August first!)

I hope that everyone has a well-deserved rest over the holidays and that you have all got lots of exciting things planned.

Thank you for all your continued support this year and I look forward to seeing the children back at school again on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

**Mr Calcutt**

### Staffing

We have a few more staffing changes as this year comes to a close. Firstly, our Business Manager, Ms Field, who joined the school in December 2022, will be leaving us to join another school in September. We wish Ms Field all the best in her new role.

Secondly, we say goodbye to Miss Muir who is currently one of the Y6 Teaching Assistants who will be retiring at the end of this school year. Miss Muir has been at Abbey Lane for 9 years and has been a very popular member of staff with the children. She is highly skilled at her role in the classroom and will be hugely missed. Good luck for the future and enjoy the peace and quiet, Miss Muir!

### Well done FS2 Staff

In June, Abbey Lane were one of only 11 schools in Sheffield to be awarded the new 'Commitment to Quality' award for FS2. This award recognises great practice in early years. Early Reading and Phonics were highlighted as a particular strength of the school which is fantastic. Staff and pupils are very proud!

### INSET Days

As a reminder, our INSET days for next year are below. These are also on the school website. Children are **not** in school on these days:

Monday 2nd September 2024  
Tuesday 3rd September 2024  
Friday 25th October 2024  
Monday 6th January 2025  
Friday 28th March 2025

## Skipping

Back in June, some of the Y2s entered a skipping competition which took place at Ponds Forge. The children had a brilliant time and they came back with the 1<sup>st</sup> place trophy! Excellent work Y2s!



## Woodseats Art Competition

Jemima, a very talented artist in Y5HL, won 1<sup>st</sup> prize recently for her brilliant painting which she could talk so eloquently about:

*"I was delighted and shocked to know that I had won first prize for Woodseats Art Competition 2024. I felt a burst of pride and happiness, as I collected the framed picture of my work, which was a group of swimmers wearing black swimming costumes and one in the centre with bright red to stand out."*



## Sheffield Star

As most of you already know, we had the Sheffield Star come to Abbey Lane this half term (the children in the photo were very excited to be featured in the newspaper!). It's a really positive article about the school and the direction that we are going in, highlighted by our great Ofsted feedback. If you haven't seen it, click on the following link:

<https://www.thestar.co.uk/education/sheffield-d-schools-raac-repairs-thing-past-time-glowing-ofsted-report-4662623>

## BBC Radio Sheffield

We were also lucky enough to be paid a visit by Ellie Colton and her BBC Radio Sheffield Breakfast Show where they asked some of our children questions about the election:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0j73r3z>

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/1482356195714759>

## Attendance

School attendance is a hugely important factor in children's academic, wellbeing and wider development. Evidence and research tells us that regular school attendance is key to improving children's longer term educational, economic and social outcomes. National data also suggests that children who perform best at the end of primary school (and secondary school) missed fewer school days than those who didn't perform as well.

This is also true of children who regularly arrive late for school. They miss the same parts of the day frequently which causes large gaps to form in their education, meaning that they will fall further behind their peers – both educationally and socially. Currently, there is a big push on school attendance, locally and nationally, and we want to also ensure that the attendance of all children at Abbey Lane is the best that it can be.

Please click on the following link from the Sheffield City Council website to find out more information about attendance:

<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/schools-childcare/school-attendance-truancy>

Attendance in general at Abbey Lane is good and above the national average so thank you to everyone whose children are in school on time every day. We celebrate this in school with weekly Attendance Champions and also class attendance certificates. Below are our attendance figures so far this academic year, broken down into separate year groups.

Year Group	Attendance so far this year
Reception	95.3%
Y1	94.4%
Y2	94.6%
Y3	95.4%
Y4	94.8%
Y5	95.1%
Y6	95.2%

## Sports Days

### Reception Sports Day:

Firstly, we had a brilliant sports day for Reception last week with lots of races and events taking place. The weather was incredible and all of the children had lots of fun competing in the various activities. We had lots of parents and family members who turned up to support the children and enjoy the event. Thank you so much for attending this and cheering on the children – it's amazing to have such supportive parents at events like these. Well done to the Reception team for organising this – your efforts don't go unnoticed.

### KS1 Sports Day:

Thank you to the KS1 team for putting together a brilliant KS1 sports day back in June. Again, the weather was amazing. The children had a fantastic time and behaved incredibly well! Thanks also to all the parents and carers for coming and supporting and making this a memorable event for the children. It was amazing to see the really good turnout of parents on the afternoon and hear you all cheer your children on.

### KS2 Sports Day:

Thank you to Mrs Gorman and the rest of the KS2 staff for organising an incredibly enjoyable event at Graves Tennis Centre. The children all had a brilliant time and had a variety of activities to take part in. The children behaved impeccably all day and this was commented on by the sports coaches who helped out with some of the activities. Thank you also to all parents that helped with the walk to and from school and whilst the children were competing. I'd also like to thank all the parents and family members who came to watch and support their children on the day. I understand that the limiting of tickets due to safety reasons can be a bit frustrating but everyone on the day was so positive about the event and I wanted to let you know that your support is invaluable.

## Reception Places for September

We have a limited number of Reception places still available for children due to start school in September 2024. Please contact the school on 0114 2745054 or via email at [enquiries@abbeylane.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@abbeylane.sheffield.sch.uk) for further information.

If you have any friends or family whose children are yet to be placed in a school, or who aren't entirely satisfied with where they have been placed, and would like to consider being part of our wonderful family here at Abbey Lane, please pass this message on and we would be more than happy to discuss it with them and arrange a visit to school.

## Y1 Trip to Cleethorpes

Earlier this term, the Y1s went on an exciting trip all the way to Cleethorpes and had a brilliant time. Here's what some of the children said about it:

*Isaac R (Y1S) - I loved running over sandworms and getting sand on my feet.*

*Isabel B (Y1AB) - I loved marking snow angels in the sand!*

*Harlen (Y1AB) - I really liked digging a big hole in the sand.*



## Everyone a Writer

Some of our children have recently written poetry for the Everyone a Writer competition organised by Meadowhead. The event was held at the start of July. Well done to all the children that took part – below is a list of children who were brave enough to read their poems out on the evening:

- Olivia L, Reggie C, Maryam O (all Y2), Herbie W (Y3), Jialong D (Y5), Isla E, Maya M, Amilah C, Rosa S (all Y6)

Here are the Abbey Lane winners from the evening. Well done to all of these and for everyone for taking part in this:

Category	Winner	Highly Commended
Abbey Lane – Y2/Y3	Lyra	Herbie, Olivia
Abbey Lane – Y4/Y5	Faria	Cleo, Emily B
Abbey Lane – Y6	Maya	James B, Awesome

## Hello from PALS!

Hello from PALS! We have made it through another amazing school year! The biggest news for this newsletter is the summer fair! We had a fantastic day on the 6th July here at school! It was such a great community event and we loved being able to have it in the school grounds. On the day we made an incredible profit of £2399. This money will go towards making our childrens school experience even more special than it already is! This event could not have taken place without all of the amazing PALS volunteers, teachers, your donations and attendance on the day, Mr and Mrs Naylor and Mr Calcutt's support. Thank you all!

We have finished fundraising events for this school year now and we are very pleased to share that we have spent £8919 on school activities this year. This includes a theatre trip, new planters and benches in the quiet area, new books for all years, book tokens and prizes and gifts for events during the year.

Thank you all for your support this year and we look forward to starting again in September. If you are interested in getting involved then please contact us on [parentsabbeylane@hotmail.com](mailto:parentsabbeylane@hotmail.com).

Finally we want to wish all of the Y6 students all the best as you leave Abbey Lane! We know you are going to achieve great things! Be brave, be kind but never stop being you!  
See you all in September! Thanks, **PALS**

## Y6 Year Group

Sadly, we will be saying goodbye to our Y6s who are moving on to secondary school after the summer holidays. They have been a fantastic year group, full of personality and character. They are also an incredibly bright bunch too! We have received our SATs scores and they are very impressive. As parents, you will get their individual scores in their school reports. As a school, our results are as follows:

Subject	Reading	Writing	Maths	SPaG	Combined
Age related expectations	85%	74%	75%	86%	70%
Greater Depth	45%	6%	31%	38%	20%
National Average	74%	72%	73%	72%	61%

I also want to say what an amazingly talented group they are as well. The Y6 performance of Darwin Rocks was absolutely brilliant and some of the individual performers were mindblowing. I have loved getting to know you all and you will be hugely missed here at Abbey Lane.

## Year Group Staff Teams for September

Please see below the staff teams for each year group for September. Teaching Assistants will not be working solely with one year group next year. Instead they will be working across a phase (Foundation Stage, Key Stage One, Lower Key Stage Two or Upper Key Stage Two).

<b>Reception Staff Team</b>
<b>Teachers:</b> Mrs Winslow, Mrs Hanvere and Mr Rawnsley <b>FS support staff:</b> Mrs Khan, Mrs Mason and Mr Uddin
<b>Y1 Staff Team</b>
<b>Teachers:</b> Mrs Aspinall/Mrs Boulton, Mr Munday and Mr Conway <b>KS1 support staff:</b> Mrs Greaves, Mr Williams, Mrs Palmer, Mrs Alexander
<b>Y2 Staff Team</b>
<b>Teachers:</b> Mrs Jackson, Miss Fry and Mr Dickenson <b>KS1 Support staff:</b> As above
<b>Y3 Staff Team</b>
<b>Teachers:</b> Mr Robinson, Miss Binney and Miss Jones <b>LKS2 support staff:</b> Mrs Mitchell, Miss Stuchbery, Mrs Hardy, Mrs Ahmed
<b>Y4 Staff Team</b>
<b>Teachers:</b> Mrs Barton, Mr Henshaw and Miss Field <b>LKS2 support staff:</b> As above
<b>Y5 Staff Team</b>
<b>Teachers:</b> Miss Bailey/Mrs French, Mrs Heafield/Mr Lawledge and Mrs Rose <b>UKS2 support staff:</b> Miss Blakey, Miss Caster, Miss Grace
<b>Y6 Staff Team</b>
<b>Teachers:</b> Mr Strutt, Mr Boulton/Mrs Gorman and Miss Blakey <b>UKS2 support staff:</b> As above

## Diary Dates

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

Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	Reports go out
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	Y2 trip to Manor Lodge Castle
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	Y6 trip to Graves Park
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	Open Day for parents
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	Y4 Trip to Thornbridge (Y4B and half of Y4H)
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	Y4 Trip to Thornbridge (Y4F and half of Y4H)
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	Y6 Leaver's Assembly
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	Reception Pirate Picnic
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	Last day of Summer term for children
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2024 – Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2024	Summer Holidays
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2024	First day of Autumn term for children