

Abbey College Community Round-up February 2026

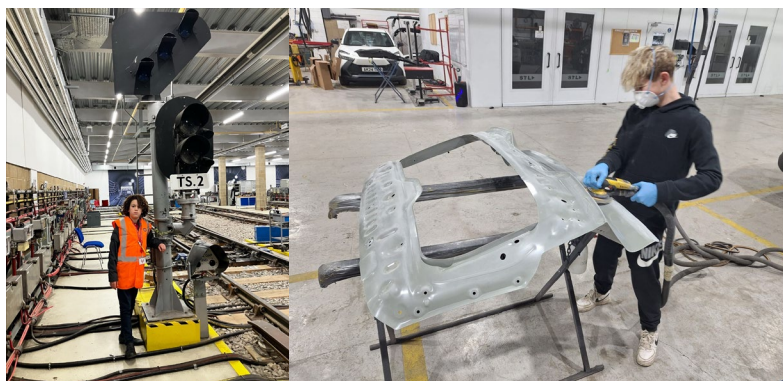
Headteacher's Welcome

The students have settled back into school really well after a very busy build-up to Christmas. We are especially proud of our Year 11s, who showed great focus and effort during their Trial Exams. Teachers have looked carefully at their results and are ready to support them as they work towards their next exams. It was also wonderful to see them enjoy the Macbeth performance, which helped bring their learning to life.

Year 8 had a fantastic Careers Week. They took part in lots of fun and interesting activities that helped them learn about different jobs and think about their futures. Their enthusiasm was brilliant to see.

All year groups earned a Non-Uniform Day this half term for meeting their Spirit Ratio goals. This is a great achievement, and we are very proud of everyone's hard work and positive attitude.

Thank you for reading this update. I hope you all have a calm, happy, and restful half-term break. You've all earned it.



Creative Arts

This term has been a busy and creative one in Creative Arts Department and students have produced some fantastic work.

Year 8 – Textiles

Year 8 students have been designing and making cushions inspired by the bold styles of the 1960s using tie dye techniques. They explored bright colours, patterns and shapes. The finished cushions look amazing, and students should be very proud of their hard work and sewing skills.

Year 9 – Fine Art

Our Year 9 Fine Art students have been creating highly detailed coloured pencil drawings. They focused on showing form and texture, carefully looking at shape, light and detail. The results show great concentration and growing confidence.

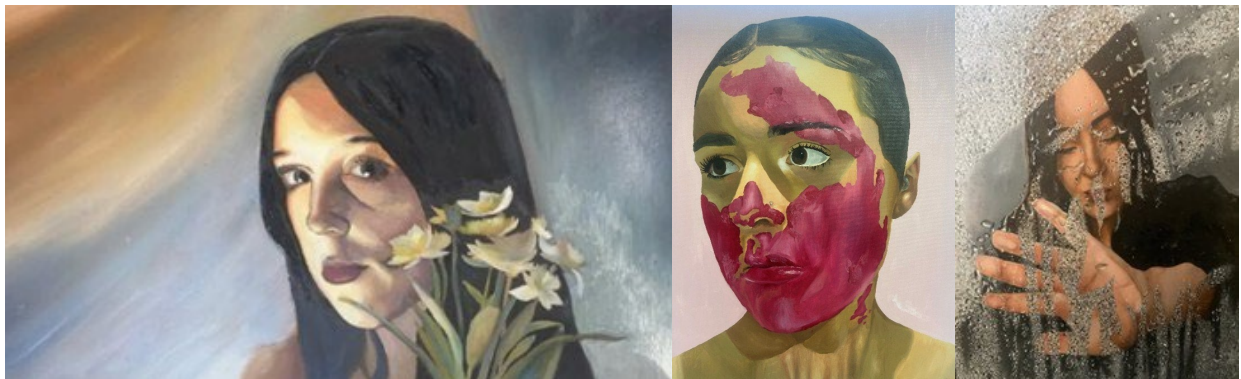
Year 9 – Photography

Year 9 Photography students took their cameras outside onto the school site. They photographed the Abbey and explored different views and angles. They captured some beautiful images and made excellent use of natural light.

Sixth Form – ASHYAC Competition

We would like to wish *good luck* to our three Sixth Form students who have been selected to enter the ASHYAC competition. Well done to **Vivian, Tia and Izzie** for taking part in this exciting opportunity. We are very proud of you and look forward to hearing how you get on.

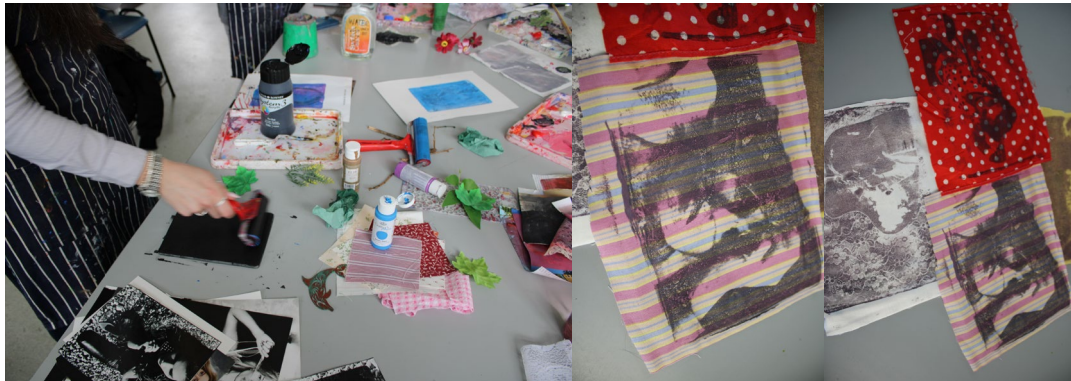
More information about the competition can be found here:





Our Year 12s have been exploring and experimenting with Gelli Plate Printing in today's lesson, thanks to the generous donation from our Parent Forum. 🎨

They've absolutely loved it and really enjoyed learning about this exciting printmaking process. We can't wait to see how these works develop over time!



Social Science

This half-term has been a very successful one for the Social Science Department, with students taking part in a range of important activities.

Our Year 12 Law students completed their first law moot, where they argued a fictional criminal law case. Students showed strong communication skills and worked hard to prepare their legal arguments.

Year 12 and Year 13 Criminology students have also been busy completing their controlled assessments for the Level 3 Diploma. Their focus and commitment have been impressive throughout the assessment period.

As part of their recent visit to ARU Cambridge, Year 12 students attended a session on policing apprenticeships. They learned about the different routes into policing and what the training involves.

We would also like to congratulate our Year 13 students who completed their Level 3 EPQ last year. They achieved an outstanding **100% A-B***, reflecting their hard work and dedication.

It has been a fantastic half-term for all our Social Science students—well done to everyone involved!

BITE (Business, IT, Economics)



🎉 **Fantastic Achievement – Congratulations!** 🎉

Four more **Year 7 students** are already making their mark at **Abbey College**, excelling both in their learning and within the **BITE Department** by successfully achieving their **Bronze iDEA Badge** in their first term. 🌟

Their motivation, digital skills, and positive approach to learning reflect the high standards we encourage in BITE lessons. A brilliant start to their journey with us — well done to all! 🙌

PE Highlights



PE Successes This Half Term

Our PE teams have had a brilliant half term, full of hard work, teamwork, and fantastic achievements.

Football

- **U15 Girls' Football Team** They reached the **top 32 schools in the country** in the ESFA Cup, an amazing achievement! We are very proud of them.
- **Year 7 Boys:** They showed great effort in their matches against Ely College and Longsands. They were knocked out in the County Cup quarter-finals but played with real determination.
- **Year 8 and Year 10 Boys:** Both teams won their first district matches against Longsands. Year 8 won 8–2 and Year 10 won 2–1.
- **Year 9 Boys:** They won 5–4 after extra time against Sawtry, taking them into the semi-finals of the Peterborough Schools Cup. We are excited to share that they went on to win 2–1 against Linton Village College, they are now through to the final!
- **U16 Girls:** They are through to the semi-finals of the Cambs School FA Cup after a close 4–3 win against St Bede's.
- **Year 7 Girls:** Both the A and B teams took part in their District Competition and finished second in their leagues, each losing only one game. A brilliant result!
- **Refereeing Success:** Fourteen girls from Years 10 and 11 attended the *Game On Girls Football Referee Workshop*. We are proud to say that four students were offered the chance to train as qualified referees for free.

Swimming

Our Year 7 and 8 swimmers did an amazing job at the District Swimming Gala. They swam with confidence, and one of our Year 7 girls even swam in an older age group, coming third in several races. A great effort from everyone.

Basketball

Our Year 7, 8 and 9 Girls' Basketball Teams have been excellent in their fixtures, showing great skills, teamwork, and sportsmanship.

Looking Ahead

After half term, we are excited for:

- Year 8 and 9 Netball
- Year 7 Football

We can't wait to see what our students achieve next!

National Schools Equestrian Associations (NSEA) Success

Abbey College Equestrian Team - Fantastic Start!



The Abbey College Equestrian Team had a brilliant start to their National Schools Equestrian Association (NSEA) season at their first event on Sunday 18th January.

Our riders completed three excellent clear rounds in the show jumping, placing first. They showed great riding skills, wonderful teamwork, and real support for each other.

Because of this amazing result, the team has now qualified for the NSEA Championships at Hickstead. Well done to Nya Aggett, Florence Smith and Scarlett Robinson.

If any other students would like to join the team and have access to a horse for events, please contact Miss Mott, and everyone is welcome!

If jumping isn't for you, we will also be entering Dressage events soon.

Ramsey Gatehouse Sixth Form



Year 12 and 13: A Busy and Inspiring Half Term

Our Year 12 students have enjoyed a wide range of Social Studies sessions this half term. Each activity has helped them build important life skills and learn more about the world outside school.

Learning for Life

Financial Skills

Students worked with Financial Advisor Mrs Grainge to learn about budgeting, spending wisely and planning for the future.

Cooking on a Budget

Chef Thomas Clark showed students how to make simple, healthy meals without spending too much — a brilliant skill as they begin to think about life after sixth form.

Road Safety: The Fatal Five

Cambridgeshire Police visited to talk about the biggest dangers on the road. This helped students think about making safe choices as many start learning to drive.

Planning for the Future

Year 12 have also started exploring their Post-18 options. They enjoyed a talk from Josie at the University of East Anglia, followed by an exciting Apprenticeship Discovery Day at Anglia Ruskin University.

Mrs Neville has now launched our Work Shadowing Programme, and we can't wait to hear about the experiences students will gain in the coming months.

Social Action and Leadership

Following the success of our Christmas Food Bank collection, Mrs Stollery has launched our new Social Action Committees. Students have chosen a number of charities to support, and you'll soon see events and activities they're planning.

Year 12 have also continued to mentor our Year 7s, sharing helpful presentations about good sleep routines and using time well.

Head Students Announced

We are delighted to introduce our new Head and Deputy Head Students:

- Head Students: Lillibet and Marissa
- Deputy Head Students: Ethan, Kaylie and Ruby

These outstanding students will lead across three important areas:

- Enrichment and Engagement
- Student Voice and Inclusion
- Leadership and Citizenship

We are extremely proud of them and look forward to all they will bring to our school community.

Year 13: Preparing for Their Next Steps

Year 13 have stayed focused on their exams and future plans. We are proud that 83% have now submitted their UCAS applications, choosing a wide range of courses that match their interests and ambitions.

A special congratulations goes to Emily, who has received a conditional offer to study Medicine at Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge, a fantastic achievement.

Many other students are applying for degree apprenticeships, especially in Engineering, while others are preparing to move into skilled employment. Their hard work and maturity are impressive.

Summer Ball

Our Summer Ball Committee is now in place, and planning has already begun for a wonderful evening on **26th June**.

Please visit our Facebook and Instagram accounts from regular updates:

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61552379454095&locale=en_GB

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/ramseygatehousesixthform/>

Parent's Forum



We held our first ever hybrid meeting on 11th February. Some parents joined us online, while others came to the boardroom in person.

The group talked about how the school shares information with parents, and we will be putting some of their new ideas into place. They also discussed some fun fundraising plans to help support the school.

Thanks to the brilliant work of our uniform shop this year, we have been able to buy two new air fryers for the Catering Department and important fieldwork equipment for our A Level Biology students.

If you would like to be involved in a small fundraising group, please email Parentsforum@abbey.college

Previous minutes are available on the website (<https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/parents-carers/parent-forum>) so that you can see the responses to questions asked from the surveys.

- If you can volunteer some time to help run the shop, please email parentsforum@abbey.college
- The Preloved Uniform Shop can be contacted via this link: <https://www.facebook.com/login/?next=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fgroups%2F4133239840069866>

If you would like any further information on the Parent's Forum, please email parentsforum@abbey.college or see <https://www.facebook.com/groups/abbeycollegeparentsforum>

A Few Reminders.....

To support learning and help students make the most of every lesson, all students are expected to bring the following items to school each day:

- Black or blue pen
- Green pen
- Whiteboard pen
- Glue stick
- Pencil and rubber
- Ruler (15cm or longer)
- Scientific calculator
- A copy of their timetable (this will be provided on the first day of term)

Uniform and Appearance Expectations

We expect all students to return in full school uniform in September, ready to start the year positively and confidently. To help avoid any issues at the start of term, we kindly ask families to keep the following in mind:

- **Appearance:** Any temporary changes made over the summer — such as false nails, false eyelashes, or hair dyed in unnatural colours — should be reversed before the first day of term.
- **Piercings:** Students are permitted **one small stud per ear**. If your child is considering additional piercings over the summer, please ensure they are able to remove them before returning to school.
- **PE Safety:** If earrings cannot be removed for PE lessons, students must bring a **plaster or tape** to cover them for safety reasons

Social Media

Please continue to follow us on:

- Our news page: <https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/news/letters-to-parents>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/RamseyAbbeyCollege/posts/>
- Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/abbeycollege_ramsey/

We'd love to hear about any amazing achievements or activities outside of school. If you have any stories of student success beyond the classroom, please share them with us by sending an email to the office (office@abbey.college).

Dates for the diary

Monday 16th – Friday 20th February - Half Term

Monday 23rd February - Y11 Trial 2 Exams Start

Tuesday 10th March - Y10 Virtual Parents Evening

Tuesday 24th March - Y8 Options Evening

Wednesday 25th March - Y7/8 Science Trips

Friday 27th March - Y12 Great Fen Geography Trip

Friday 27th March - End of Term

Contact Us - <https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/contact-us>