

Weekly Family Update – 03.10.25

Please read, share, and encourage others to do the same.



A Wonderful Evening of Celebration and Community

Open Evening on Tuesday was an overwhelming success! We had an incredible turnout, and I couldn't have been prouder of our students who represented the school so beautifully. Their enthusiasm, knowledge, and maturity were exceptional, and I know that families who visited were very complimentary about how well our students conducted themselves. They were a great credit to you and to the school.

*We're also pleased to share a new initiative to support our families: we've launched a dedicated **Medical inbox** to make communication with our First Aid Team even smoother. This new system allows you to send medical updates, questions, and documents directly to the team, ensuring everything is handled securely and efficiently.*

 Medical@Abbey.College

Thank you for your continued support — together, we're building something very special.

Andy Christofrou, Headteacher

Parent Forum Guarantee:

The Parent Forum Guarantee gives all parents the right to speak directly to the **Headteacher/Deputy Headteacher**, within 24 hours, if you feel your question has not been answered by those you have already contacted.

- Call: 01487 812352 and quote the Parent Forum Guarantee.
- Email: office@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk using the subject header 'Parent Forum Guarantee.'

Parent Friendly Policy Guide:

<https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/about-us/statutory-information>

Please read on for essential updates.

Vacancies at Abbey College

Click here: <https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/about-us/vacancies>

Celebration of Spirit - Recognition



Headteacher Commendations w/c 29/09/24

The following students have been awarded with Headteacher's Commendations this week. They will receive 10 Spirit points and a special postcard home.

Oggy	Year 10	Chemistry	Always striving to do his best.
Max	Year 11	Attendance	Making an exceptional effort to improve his attendance
Maisy	Year 11	MO	For engaging in meaningful and respectful conversations surrounding Hajj; being inquisitive, thoughtful and hardworking in each lesson.
Charlie	Year 10	ASDAN	Excellent engagement in our reading sessions.
Olivia	Year 9	Maths	A great focused start to the year
Maisy	Year 11	ASDAN	Excellent engagement in our revision sessions.
Bradley	Year 11	ASDAN	Excellent engagement in our revision sessions.
Chloe	Year 8	Kindness	Being supportive and caring for other students.
Alayna	Year 8	Learning	Passion, engagement and always trying very hard during lessons.
Mathilde	Year 10	English	For your beautiful creative writing - it was a joy to read!
Olivia	Year 10	English	For implementing our lessons so well into your Language Paper 1 assessment. Well done!
Leo	Year 10	English	For implementing our lessons so well into your Language Paper 1 assessment. Well done!
Martha	Year 8	<u>T.A</u>	Great Resilience
William	Year 9		A fantastic start to year 9
Codee	Year 11	English	Attending English Interact to improve confidence in understanding Language Techniques
Meg	Year 11	English	Attending English Interact to improve confidence in Language and Structure Techniques
Shannon	Year 11	English	For persevering in constantly trying to improve her English Grade & attending English Interact.
Euan	Year 11	OOP	For being such a positive influence on newbies to the hobby and sharing your expertise
Alex	Year 11	OOP	For being such a positive influence on newbies to the hobby and sharing your expertise
Ella	Year 10		Perseverance and determination completing assessments.
Ethan	Year 10		Well done, Ethan for your positive attitude towards school and assistance from staff since the start of year 10.
Ronnie	Year 7		For his efforts and hard work in lessons. Well done!
Joseph	Year 7		For his efforts and hard work in lessons. Well done!
Oggy	Year 10	English Language	Well done on your excellent efforts on your Language Paper 1 mock. You have achieved a great grade and you should be really proud of your hard work.
Olivia-Jane	Year 10	English Language	Well done on your excellent efforts on your Language Paper 1 mock. You have achieved a great grade and you should be <u>really proud</u> of your hard work.
Freya	Year 10	English Language	Well done on your excellent efforts on your Language Paper 1 mock. You have achieved a great grade and you should be <u>really proud</u> of your hard work.
Lola	Year 10	English Language	Well done on your excellent efforts on your Language Paper 1 mock. You have achieved a great grade and you should be <u>really proud</u> of your hard work.
Autumn	Year 10	English Language	Well done on your excellent efforts on your Language Paper 1 mock. You have achieved a great grade and you should be <u>really proud</u> of your hard work.
Alice	Year 10	English Language	Well done on your excellent efforts on your Language Paper 1 mock. You have achieved a great grade and you should be <u>really proud</u> of your hard work.
Henry	Year 9	Music	Stepping in to perform as part of a band at very short notice
Harry	Year 9	Music	Stepping in to perform as part of a band at very short notice
Ethan	Year 9	Music	Stepping in to perform as part of a band at very short notice
Georgie	Year 8	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening

Skye	Year 7	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Isla	Year 7	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Thomas	Year 8	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Tammy	Year 8	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Hannah	Year 7	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Lilly-May	Year 8	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Jasmine	Year 7	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Madi	Year 7	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Elena	Year 8	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Sam	Year 7	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Ollie	Year 8	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Mia	Year 7	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Poppy	Year 7	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Aria	Year 8	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Esinam	Year 7	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Rhys	Year 7	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Ethan	Year 9	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Thomas	Year 8	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Ethan	Year 9	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Semina	Year 7	Performing arts	For a fantastic performance in choir and drama group during open evening
Leo	Year 8	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Seren	Year 7	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Amy	Year 8	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Hannah	Year 8	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Emeline	Year 9	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Ashley-Grace	Year 8	Music	For a fantastic performance in choir during open evening
Sam	Year 8	Spanish	For providing outstanding support during open evening.
Aarav	Year 8	Spanish	For providing outstanding support during open evening.
Aidan	Year 10	Maths	Being an amazing student voice ambassador for maths
Oggy	Year 10	Maths	Being an amazing student voice ambassador for maths
Archie	Year 10	Maths	Being an amazing student voice ambassador for maths
Harry	Year 10	Maths	Being an amazing student voice ambassador for maths
Layla	Year 10	Maths	Being an amazing student voice ambassador for maths
Zara	Year 10	Maths	Being an amazing student voice ambassador for maths
Rosie	Year 10	Maths	Being an amazing student voice ambassador for maths
Owen	Year 12	Maths	Fantastic Open Evening ambassador for maths!
Georgia	Year 12	Maths	Being an amazing student voice ambassador for maths

Staff member of the week

Mrs Neville – Humility: For her fantastic work in settling Year 12, especially the external students, into life at Ramsey Gatehouse Sixth Form

Tell us about something brilliant!

If you would like to nominate someone for an Abbey College Spirit Award for any out of school success stories, then please follow this [link](#) or email the Office office@abbey.college .

Parent information

Parent's Forum



Please email ParentsForum@abbey.college if you would like a link to the meeting.

Please find our minutes here: [Parent Forum - Abbey College, Secondary School and Sixth Form in Ramsey](#)

If you would like further information on the Parent's Forum, please email: ParentsForum@abbey.college

Genevieve Wardle - Chair of Parent's Forum

Parent Diary Dates

Upcoming INSET Days – A Focus on Growth and Excellence

We'd like to give families advance notice of two upcoming INSET days this term. These are valuable opportunities for our staff to engage in high-quality professional development that directly benefits our students.

Monday 3rd November 2025

- Focus: *Meridian Trust-wide Subject Input Day*. Our teachers will be working collaboratively across the Trust to deepen subject expertise and share best practices, ensuring a rich and consistent learning experience for all pupils.

Friday 28th November 2025

- Focus: *Staff Professional Learning on Special Educational Needs*. This day is dedicated to enhancing our understanding and support for students with additional needs, helping us to create an even more inclusive and supportive school environment.

We appreciate your support as we invest in the ongoing development of our staff — because great teaching makes a great difference.

Important Notice: Booths Hill Works Starting 7th October

Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) have asked us to communicate that construction work will be undertaken at Booths Hill (entrance to Abbey Road) clearing the site and restoring the moat to enhance the natural beauty of the area.

Please be aware that there may be some impact on the pathway during this time. Staff will be on duty at the end of the school day to support and ensure safety.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Friday 10 th October	Flu Immunisations
Wednesday 15 th and Friday 17 th October	CRC Apprenticeship Presentations
Monday 27 th – Friday 31 st October	Half Term
Monday 3 rd November	INSET Day
Tuesday 4 th November	Y13 Virtual Parents Evening
Friday 28 th November	INSET Day
Monday 1 st December	Y12 Parliament Trip
Tuesday 9 th December	Y11 Virtual Parents Evening
Friday 19 th December	Last Day of Term

Assessment calendar: How your child is doing?

Autumn 1 Assessment Information for Parents

Year group	When will my child be assessed?	When will reports be published on MCAS?	What information will I receive?
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading tests in English lessons (10th- 19th Sept) English, Maths, Science and Reasoning baseline tests (22nd-26th Sept) 	Half term 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading proficiency report English baseline report Maths baseline report Science baseline report CAT4 report (reasoning abilities)
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No formal assessments this half term 		
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No formal subject assessments this half term Reading tests in English lessons (w/c 22nd Sept) 	KS4 entry report: 10 th Oct Reading: Half Term 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spirit grade Any early barriers to learning that have been identified by class teachers. Reading proficiency report
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In class: 22nd Sept – 4th Oct Not all subjects will assess during this window, details will be shared in advance via Teams for each class 	10 th Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spirit Current grade (based on end of y9 and early y10 testing) GCSE target grade
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No formal assessments this half term 	19 th Sept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spirit GCSE predicted grade GCSE target grades
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One-month tests: 22nd Sept – 4th Oct 	17 th Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spirit Current grade Target grades Any early barriers to learning that have been identified by class teachers
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No formal assessments this half term 	3 rd Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spirit Current grade (based on end of y12 and early y13 testing) Target grade

Please note that this table details the formal assessments that will be taking place this half term. Your child will complete topic tests across their range of subjects as they reach the end of a unit of work. Where students are required to prepare for these, details will be shared via Teams.

Student expectations and safety

Equipment Check Next Week

Next week, we will be checking that all students have their calculator with them.

Student welfare and wellbeing

Mental Health: Self-Care

This week's focus is on looking after mental health through sleep, nutrition, and movement. Encourage small daily habits like a walk after school or a screen-free bedtime routine. Let your child know that their wellbeing matters, and that support is always available.

Helpful Resources:

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- *Young Minds – Mental Health Support: <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/>*
 - *Unicef – Supporting Teen Mental Health: <https://www.unicef.org/parenting/health/four-things-you-can-do-support-your-teens-mental-health>*
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Student attendance - Week 4

- ***Huge congratulations to Form Groups 11HSH, 11SSI, 11VIS, 7EWI and 7HMU as your attendance is outstanding. Keep that streak alive!***
 - ***Important: Regular attendance is your key to success. Remember, the law supports this too.***
 - ***How can you help: Talk to your child about the importance of attendance and how it shapes their future.***
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Student wider personal development

Offer & Opportunity Programme (OOPs) - Autumn Term

The Abbey College Offer & Opportunity Programme is being launched again for 2025-2026. We had a fantastic previous year with over 100 offers running throughout the year across academic support and revision sessions, to creative outlets and variety of sports.



THE ABBEY COLLEGE OOP

STEP IN. STAND OUT. BELONG HERE.



WHAT IS AN OOP?

THE OOP IS OUR OFFER AND OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMME. IT IS A WHOLE SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME FOR STUDENTS THAT RUNS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR FOR ALL YEAR GROUPS. OOPS RUN DURING BOTH LUNCHTIME AND AFTERSCHOOL.



IT HAS A HUGE VARIETY TO CHOOSE FROM, WITH 'OPEN' OFFERS WHICH ANYONE CAN SIGN UP TO OR 'APPLICATION' BASED OFFERS. ALL OF THE INFORMATION ABOUT THE OOPS ARE AVAILABLE ON BROMCOM UNDER THE 'CLUBS' TAB.

WHY SHOULD I DO AN OOP?

BEING A PART OF THE ABBEY COLLEGE COMMUNITY GIVES YOU LOTS OF NEW EXPERIENCES AND CAN HELP IGNITE NEW PASSIONS AND INTERESTS
TRY SOMETHING NEW!



HOW DO I SIGN UP?

YOU ACCESS MCAS AND FIND THE 'CLUBS' TAB. THERE YOU WILL SEE WHAT OOPS ARE AVAILABLE AND SIGN UP TO YOUR OFFER.




WHEN CAN I SIGN UP?

THE OOPS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON MCAS FROM MONDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER. THESE WILL BE UPDATED REGULARLY SO MAKE SURE YOU CHECK FOR ALL OUR EXCITING OOPS!

Student curriculum

Abbey College Curriculum Aims



 <p>Inclusive</p>	<p>The curriculum provides a clear programme of understanding to a range of diverse cultures and religions.</p>
 <p>Challenging</p>	<p>To have a challenging and aspirational curriculum that provides opportunities to ensure no learner is left behind.</p>
 <p>Cultural Capital</p>	<p>All learners will receive a wide and fulfilling educational experience.</p>

How can I find out what my child is learning in each subject?

Curriculums

All taught curriculums are available to view on our website. You'll find a variety of resources, including learning journeys and knowledge organisers—particularly useful for revision.

- Click here <https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/students/curriculum> to read about the curriculums we offer.

Abbey College Reading Challenge

Students are being introduced to the new Abbey College Reading Challenge.

There are three exciting reading challenges—one for each year group:

- *Year 7: 15 in 15*
- *Year 8: Beyond 15*
- *Year 9: 15 Plus*

*Each challenge is built around the number 15, which represents the minimum reading age we want all pupils to achieve. **The average reading age required to access a GCSE exam paper is 15.7**, so reaching this level gives students the best possible chance of success.*

15 IN 15

15 books in a year, 15 minutes at a time

15 in 15 is your chance to read 15 books across the school year by reading for a minimum of 15 minutes at a time. It's all about building great reading habits, discovering new stories, and finding books that surprise, challenge, or excite you. All the books are available in the school library, so you can get started anytime!



Please ensure you share the description of the book with a parent or carer. They will need to decide whether it is appropriate for you to read.

Communicating with us and how to raise concerns.

[Click here](#) to access this Communication Flowchart on our website.

Other news updates can be found here:

- 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/