

## Weekly Family Update – 06.02.26



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



## Headteacher's Update: Keeping You Informed About What Matters Most

### ***A Look Ahead: Preparing Our Students for the Future***

*There is always so much happening in school each week, but we wanted to highlight an exciting programme coming up for our Year 8 students, a week designed to help them explore careers, develop key skills and think ahead to their future pathways. Although this is a Year 8 initiative, the themes of aspiration, curiosity and personal growth run through our work with every year group.*

### ***Year 8 Careers Week: 9 to 13 February 2026***

*Throughout the week, students will take part in a range of activities that introduce them to the world beyond school:*

- ***Monday: Farm to Fork.*** Exploring careers linked to food production, with local producers, hands-on activities and a poster competition.
- ***Tuesday: Workplace Experience.*** Students will either accompany a family member to work or take part in in-school opportunities such as UniFrog quizzes, NHS workshops, employer Q&As and “Interview the Teacher.”
- ***Wednesday: Careers Awareness.*** Guest speakers, escape rooms, games, Civil Service and conservation sessions, plus “Meet the Professional.”
- ***Thursday: Skills for Success.*** Teamwork, communication and problem-solving through challenges, museum visits and fieldwork.
- ***Friday: GCSE Options and Next Steps.*** A celebration assembly followed by three GCSE taster lessons to help students make informed choices.

*This programme reflects our wider commitment to helping all students recognise their strengths, explore new opportunities and feel confident about the road ahead. We look forward to sharing highlights with you.*

*Thank you for your continued support, and wishing you a lovely weekend.*

**Important Safeguarding Reminder:**

*Please take a moment to ensure your contact details on MCAS are up to date. Keeping this information current helps us reach you quickly if needed. If anything has changed, such as addresses, phone numbers or medical information, please let us know as soon as possible.*

**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](mailto: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>

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*Please read on for essential updates.*

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**Vacancies at Abbey College**

- Click [here](#) for all vacancies

**Celebration of Spirit - Recognition**



## Headteacher Commendations w/c 02/02/26

Jack	Year 10	Geography	Reaching target Grade
Sophie	Year 11	Mentoring	Excellent extra work completed to increase spirit ratio in Maths and English; you will get there.
Austin	Year 7	PE	Excellent attitude and effort in year 7 football fixture
Henry	Year 8	Drama	Excellent effort and passion shown in all lessons- well done!
Harley	Year 8	Drama	Excellent effort and passion shown in all lessons- well done!
Will	Year 8	Drama	Excellent effort and passion shown in all lessons- well done!
Sam	Year 8	Drama	Excellent effort and passion shown in all lessons- well done!
Isaac-Lee	Year 10	Maths	Excellent progress
Logan	Year 8	Drama	Excellent effort and passion shown in all lessons- well done!
Alexander	Year 10	History	Fantastic work in recent History lessons
Bonnie	Year 9	History	Fantastic work in recent History lessons
Lewis	Year 12	English	Excellent working in English. Superb notes for revision, resulting in improved grades. Well done.
Chloe	Year 11	History	Excellent answer to a 12 marker, and for consistently working hard in lessons
Bradley	Year 11	English Maths & Science	Continued effort into improving notes and revision across your subjects.
Jamie	Year 11	English revision plan	Excellent explanation of his chosen revision technique and how it has improved his understanding and knowledge.
Sophie	Year 11	English Maths science	Sophie went above and beyond producing excellent revision notes, she showed the techniques and how the process supports her understanding.
Ava	Year 7	Science	Excellent attitude towards learning. Always ready to learn, asks for help when needed. Helps her friends and is kind to others.
Axel	Year 11		Achieving 90% in his Entry Level 3 maths paper
Ethan	Year 11	MO	Ethan has shown outstanding improvement in his effort and engagement within MO, demonstrating a positive attitude, consistent participation, and a growing commitment to his learning.
Kwezi	Year 11		Kwezi has shown outstanding improvement in his effort and engagement within MO, demonstrating a positive attitude, consistent participation, and a growing commitment to his learning.
Lexiee	Year 8	Working Hard	Working hard to attain the points required at NH to attain the Head Teacher's Commendation
Dominic	Year 11	Working Hard	Working hard to attain the points required at NH to attain the Head Teacher's Commendation
Ellie Mae	Year 11	Working Hard	Working hard to attain the points required at NH to attain the Head Teacher's Commendation
Olivia	Year 9	All	Giving verbal contribution in <u>lessons</u> , <u>showing</u> increasing confidence
Jack	Year 11	MO	Jack consistently provides profoundly thoughtful verbal and written responses to the most challenging topics within the MO curriculum, demonstrating empathy and understanding. Well done!
Maicee	Year 11	MO	For providing profoundly thoughtful verbal and written responses when considering the most challenging topics within the MO curriculum. Well done!
Luke	Year 8	Year 8	Year Group Legend awarded to recognise that Luke encapsulates everything that we look for in an Abbey College Student - a wonderful role model to all his peers.

Charlie	Year 8	Drama	Excellent final performance for Drama- so much thought and consideration had gone into it!
Theo	Year 8	Drama	Excellent final performance for Drama- so much thought and consideration had gone into it!
Sean	Year 8	Drama	Excellent final performance for Drama- so much thought and consideration had gone into it!
Kaeden	Year 8	Drama	Excellent final performance for Drama- so much thought and consideration had gone into it!
Harvey	Year 8	Drama	Excellent final performance for Drama- so much thought and consideration had gone into it!
Shannon	Year 11	Maths and Geography	Amazing explanations in lessons.
Maisy	Year 11	English	Attending after school interact revision for English
Meg	Year 11	English	Attending English interact revision
Jessica	Year 11	Maths	For perseverance and resilience
Megan	Year 10	PE	Scoring 4 goals in a 4-3 win for the girls QF fixture
Paisley	Year 10	PE	Excellent work rate and attitude in girls football fixture win
Yelyzaveta	Year 13	Wellbeing	For the lovely interaction with a year 8 student. Such a positive role model!
Lucy	Year 9	DofE	Great work continuing with her skills section
Tillie	Year 8	PE	Great effort and a great session in the Sports Leaders lesson
Maddie	Year 8	PE	Great effort and great session in the Sports Leader lesson
Becca	Year 7	MO	Excellent homework task
Roman	Year 7	MO	Excellent homework task
Layla	Year 7	MO	Excellent homework task
Henry	Year 7	MO	Excellent homework task
James	Year 7	MO	Excellent homework task
Millie	Year 7	MO	Excellent homework task

### ***Staff member of the week***

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**Mrs Farley** – Humility: An excellent and organised lab technician who works flat-out to meet deadlines and expectations, providing all the necessary equipment for science experiments.

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### ***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](mailto:office@abbey.college).*

## **Strong Partnerships**

### ***Parent's Forum***




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Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday 11th February 2025 at 5:00pm.**

**New:** This meeting will be **hybrid** so you can attend **online** or attend **in person** at **Abbey College**.

- Please email [ParentsForum@abbey.college](mailto:ParentsForum@abbey.college) any questions.
- 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](mailto:ParentsForum@abbey.college)

Genevieve Wardle - Chair of Parent's Forum

### Diary Dates

Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Y8 Careers Week/Work Experience/Options Taster Sessions
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Y11 Macbeth Performance (in school time)
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Y12 Virtual Parents Evening
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Half Term
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2026	Y11 Trial 2 Exams Start
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Y10 Virtual Parents Evening
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Y8 Options Evening
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Y7/8 Science Trips
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Y12 Great Fen geography Trip
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	End of Term

## Everything You Need to Know About Assessments

### Spring 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"> <li>• No formal subject assessments this half term</li> </ul>		
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No formal subject assessments this half term</li> <li>• Reading assessments in English lessons during Jan</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading proficiency report (published in Feb)</li> </ul>
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In class subject tests (6<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> Jan)</li> </ul>	30 <sup>th</sup> Jan <b>Parents Evening: 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spirit Grades</li> <li>• Current working at grades</li> <li>• End of course target grades</li> </ul>
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In class subject tests (19<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> Jan)</li> <li>• Reading assessments in English lessons during Jan</li> </ul>	13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spirit Grades</li> <li>• Current working at grades</li> <li>• End of course predicted grades</li> <li>• End of course target grades</li> <li>• Reading proficiency report (published in Feb)</li> </ul>
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No formal subject assessments this half term</li> </ul>		
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In class subject tests (12<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> Jan)</li> </ul>	6 <sup>th</sup> Feb <b>Parents Evening: 10<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spirit Grades</li> <li>• Current working at grades</li> <li>• End of course predicted grades</li> <li>• End of course target grades</li> </ul>
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No formal subject assessments this half term</li> </ul>		

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.

## Ensuring Pupils Feel Safe and Behave Well

### *Safety First*

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#### Screen Time

*This week, students reflected on their screen time habits. Excessive phone or social media use can contribute to stress, disrupted sleep, and anxiety. As a parent, modelling healthy device habits, such as charging phones outside bedrooms or setting agreed screen-free times, can positively influence your child's behaviour. If your child is struggling to manage online pressures, we encourage you to speak to us for support.*

*Useful links:*

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- <https://www.youngminds.org.uk>
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*If you do have any questions or concerns you want to raise please do get in touch.*

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#### **Promoting Positive Behaviour Every Day**

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**Next Week's Equipment Check** - all pupils will need to ensure they have a **Calculator**. This is an essential piece of equipment for Maths and Science and all students should have one with them.

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#### **Student attendance - Week 20**

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- **Congratulations:** Year 8 who have had the fewest number of students absent this academic year.
  - **Reminder:** Encourage your child to come to school even if they feel a little under the weather, and inform us if they are seriously unwell.
  - **How you can help:** Thank you for supporting strong attendance, every lesson really does count. If you can, please avoid your child missing a full day for medical appointments. Even attending before or after a short appointment makes a big difference.
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Ms Davis – Attendance Officer

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# SPRING INTO SCHOOL Attendance Challenge!

- 🌟 Daily Entries:
- ✅ **Every day counts!** Earn 2 entries for AM/PM attendance
- 🌟 Weekly Bonus:
- 🎁 **Bonus entry** for perfect weekly attendance
- 🌟 Dates:
- 📅 **Tracking starts from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026**
- 🏆 **3 winners per year group** 😊

## Supporting Your Child's Wider Development

### *Offer & Opportunity Programme (OOPs) - Spring Term*

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*NEW: Spring term timetable is available here:*

*<https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/students/oop>*

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## Student curriculum

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

#### **Chemistry Focus**

In Chemistry lessons, pupils learn what things are made of, how they change, and why they behave the way they do. Students learn about everyday things like air, water, food, metals, and plastics.

#### **What Parents Can Do**

1. **Ask your child about what they learned this week** - This helps them remember key ideas and boosts confidence.
2. **Look at the Knowledge Organisers** - These give simple explanations of key topics.
3. **Encourage curiosity at home** - Easy activities:
  - Talk about changes when cooking
  - Notice colours, smells, or textures
  - Ask, "Why do you think that happened?"

#### **4. Support homework routines**

Short, regular practice helps them build strong science habits.

For more information and resources, click here:

<https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/chemistry>

To find out about your child's curriculums, click here:

<https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/students/curriculum>

## Communicating with us and raising concerns

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

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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/](https://www.instagram.com/abbeycollege_ramsey/)