

Weekly Family Update – 16.01.26

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



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

Outdoor Clothing Reminder

Last week was very cold followed by some very wet weather. We noticed that some younger children came to school without warm clothes for outside. Please remember that we do not have enough space or staff for everyone to stay inside at break and lunch. This means all children need to be ready to spend time outside in all kinds of weather. We do make plans for very heavy rain or snow, but most of the time, students will be outdoors. Please make sure your child brings a coat and other clothes for cold or wet weather.

Snow Closures in Winter

When snow is forecast, please do not assume school is closed. If heavy snow is expected and could make travel unsafe, I will try to decide early in the morning in collaboration with the Local Authority, if the school needs to close. My aim is to keep school open if it is safe. If we do need to close, I will put the information on the school website as soon as possible.

Wishing you a great weekend.

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](#) for all vacancies



Celebration of Spirit - Recognition

Headteacher Commendations w/c 12/01/26

Nefeli	Year 10	English	For a fantastic piece of revision material. Your creation of a comic strip with key quotations to learn for 'Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde' will be so valuable for both Year 10 and Year 11.
Rhys	Year 9	English	For fantastic revision for your recent English assessment. You made sure that you were as fully prepared as humanly possible and even bought a copy of the novel. Well done for this level of dedication.
Erin	Year 7	All	Always goes above and beyond in her lessons! Well done!
Kane	Year 7	All	Well done, Kane, for going above and beyond during the last few weeks of the Autumn term. Your positive approach and effort in lessons have not gone unnoticed. Keep going!
Scarlett	Year 8		Great start. Working hard during lessons and trying her best in the Maths assessment.
Ryleigh	Year 10	New Horizon	For working hard in her lessons all week
Lola	Year 10	All	Well done, Lola for trying your best in every lesson! You are also very well-behaved, polite and cheerful!
Sam	Year 8	Science	Sam has consistently demonstrated outstanding commitment to learning across multiple lessons. His homework is always completed punctually and to an exceptionally high standard, reflecting diligence and academic excellence. Furthermore, Sam regularly contributes to the smooth running of the classroom by assisting with tasks such as distributing books. He consistently exhibits responsible and respectful behaviour both within the classroom and during transitions, setting a positive example for his peers.
Sam	Year 8	Geography	Independent research into the structure of the earth, comparing it to an apple and <u>oreo</u> .
Logan	Year 9	Geography	Completing two revision clocks to a very high standard for living world assessment
Delilah	Year 7	English	An absolutely outstanding Shakespeare project homework - a replica of The Globe!
Orla	Year 7	English	A wonderful Shakespeare project homework! It must have taken a lot of time and effort.
James	Year 8	Geography	Fantastic knowledge and engagement on the tectonic hazards unit!
Rana	Year 7	Reading Comprehension	For enthusiasm, consistency, and effort in intervention.
Orla	Year 7	Reading Comprehension	For enthusiasm, consistency, and effort in intervention.
Jasmine	Year 7	Reading Comprehension	For enthusiasm, consistency, and effort in intervention.
Alex	Year 7	Reading Comprehension	For enthusiasm, consistency, and effort in intervention.
Harry	Year 7	Reading Comprehension	For enthusiasm, consistency, and effort in intervention.
Amelia	Year 7	Reading Comprehension	For enthusiasm, consistency, and effort in intervention.

Staff member of the week

Miss Mott – Humility: Thank you for always making sure that PE cover is of great quality, and a new plan is in place to ensure that students get the most out of their PE lessons.

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.

Strong Partnerships

Parent's Forum

Please email 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

Genevieve Wardle - Chair of Parent's Forum

Diary Dates

Monday 26 th January 2026	Y8&9 Men/DTP Immunisations
Tuesday 3 rd February 2026	Y9 Virtual Parents Evening
Monday 9 th February 2026	Y8 Careers Week/Options Taster Sessions
Tuesday 10 th February 2026	Y11 Macbeth Performance (in school time)
Tuesday 10 th February 2026	Y12 Virtual Parents Evening
Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th February	Half Term
Tuesday 10 th March 2026	Y10 Virtual Parents Evening
Tuesday 24 th March 2026	Y8 Options Evening
Friday 27 th 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"> No formal subject assessments this half term 		
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No formal subject assessments this half term Reading assessments in English lessons during Jan 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading proficiency report (published in Feb)
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In class subject tests (6th-16th Jan) 	30 th Jan Parents Evening: 3rd Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spirit Grades Current working at grades End of course target grades
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In class subject tests (19th-30th Jan) Reading assessments in English lessons during Jan 	13 th Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spirit Grades Current working at grades End of course predicted grades End of course target grades Reading proficiency report (published in Feb)
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No formal subject assessments this half term 		
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In class subject tests (12th-23rd Jan) 	6 th Feb Parents Evening: 10th Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spirit Grades Current working at grades End of course predicted grades End of course target grades
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No formal subject assessments this half term 		

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

Keeping Your Child Safe Online

This week we reminded students how to stay safe online. We ask parents to talk with their children about using the internet safely. You can chat about things like:

- *How much time they spend on screens*

- *Why it's risky to talk to people they don't know in real life*
 - *What to do if something feels wrong online*
-

Looking at devices together can help your child feel supported, not watched. Try talking about what good online friendships look like and how to spot warning signs, like someone being pushy, making threats, or sending messages they don't want.

This week, we reminded students about staying safe online. You can help at home by having friendly chats about:

- Screen time: How much is too much?*
- Talking to strangers: Why it's risky online*
- What to do if something feels wrong*

💡 Tip: Looking at devices together, without blame, helps your child feel supported, not watched.

You might also talk about:

- 🌟 What a healthy online friendship looks like*
- ▶ How to spot warning signs, like someone being pushy, making threats, or sending unwanted messages*

Helpful websites:

[🔗 https://www.internetmatters.org](https://www.internetmatters.org)

[🔗 https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

Welfare - welfare@abbey.college

Promoting Positive Behaviour Every Day

Detentions at Abbey College

Detentions are an important part of our behaviour system at Abbey College. They are issued when a student has been removed from a lesson or has received an 'Immediate Sanction' for a breach of our behaviour policy.

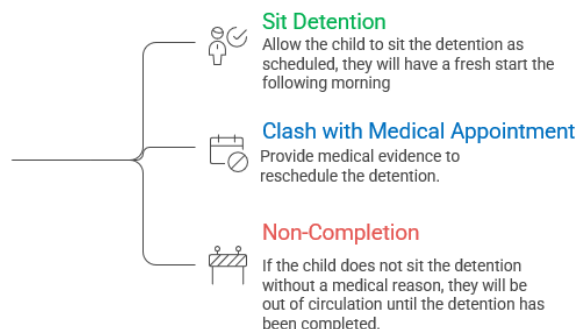
Wherever possible, detentions are scheduled for the same day the sanction is given. This helps students reflect on their actions and return to school the next day with a fresh start.

Please note that detentions cannot be cancelled upon request. They will only be rescheduled if we receive evidence of a medical appointment.

We view detentions as an opportunity for students to learn from mistakes and make positive changes. Our aim is to support every child in improving their behaviour and achieving success.

The diagram below shows the process for any incomplete detentions.

What happens if I don't want my child to sit a detention?



Next Week's Equipment Check - all pupils will need to ensure they have a **Ruler**.

Student attendance - Week 16

- **Amazing:** 'Spring into School' Attendance Challenge has been launched, (see below).
 - **Think ahead:** Regular attendance opens doors to further education and exciting career opportunities.
 - **How you can help:** Keep up your attendance to unlock these future opportunities!
-

Ms Davis – Attendance Officer

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 12th January 2026**
- 🏆 **3 winners per year group** 😊

Supporting Your Child's Wider Development

Offer & Opportunity Programme (OOPs) - Spring Term



Join ASCA this term!
Music Provision by the Abbey College.

Tuition offered in the following:

- Piano
- Guitar (all types)
- Clarinet
- Recorder
- Drums
- Violin
- Singing
- Music Theory

Our qualified and experienced tutors will provide lessons in the Abbey College and the surrounding Primary Schools.

For more information, please visit our website:
<https://www.ascamusic.org.uk/>



New Spring term timetable on the school website:

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

Student curriculum

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

Literacy

Enhancing Literacy Skills

The infographic consists of four blue, curved arrows pointing to the right, each containing a title and an icon. To the left of each arrow is a short text description. The arrows are stacked vertically. The top arrow is labeled 'Reading Habits' with a book icon and the text 'Regular reading improves test scores'. The second arrow is labeled 'Library Resources' with a library icon and the text 'Provides a wide range of books and events'. The third arrow is labeled 'Tutor Time Literacy' with a book icon and the text 'Uses news to enhance reading skills'. The bottom arrow is labeled 'Reading Age Tests' with a document icon and the text 'Assesses reading levels and provides support'.

What is Literacy?
Literacy means being able to read, write, and communicate clearly. These skills are vital for success in school and everyday life. Our aim is to help students enjoy reading and build strong literacy skills that will support them now and in the future.

Why Reading Matters
We want to create curious thinkers and enthusiastic readers. Research from the National Literacy Trust shows that children who read every day score higher in reading tests than those who don't.

- To read more about our Literacy Curriculum, click here:
<https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/students/curriculum/curriculum-subjects>
- To find out about your child's curriculums, click here:
<https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/students/curriculum>

Communicating with us and raising 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/