

Weekly Family Update - 18.09.26

Tip: to quickly navigating this online Update, try using the icon on the bottom right of your page that will turn this into a quick-access contents page.

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

*What makes Abbey College special is what happens beyond the classroom. Our **Offer and Opportunity Programme (OOPs)** gives every student the chance to discover new interests, develop talents, make friends and build skills for life.*

This year, we're expanding our offer to more than 50 clubs, teams and activities. From sport, music and performance to technology, creativity and academic enrichment, there is something for everyone.

We expect every student to take part in at least one extra-curricular activity.

Information on how to sign up through MCAS will be shared in the coming weeks. More clubs are still being added as staff finalise plans, including some exciting and unexpected opportunities.

We have an exciting year ahead and look forward to seeing students make the most of everything on offer. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Andy Christoforou, Headteacher

COMMUNICATION WITH SCHOOL

Most questions can be answered quickly by following these steps.

1 CONTACT YOUR CHILD'S TUTOR FIRST

For most questions, your child's tutor is the best first point of contact.

2 EMAIL WHERE POSSIBLE

Email is the preferred method of communication.

Please only call Reception for urgent matters, such as a change to travel arrangements.

3 WE WILL RESPOND PROMPTLY

Staff aim to respond within the published timescales.

If you do not receive a response within those timescales, you can use our:

PARENTS' FORUM GUARANTEE

WITHIN 24 WORKING HOURS

You can speak directly with the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher.

CALL
01487 812352

Quote: "Parent Forum Guarantee"

EMAIL
office@abbey.college

Subject: "Parent Forum Guarantee"

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

Please read on for essential updates.

Vacancies at Abbey College and across the Meridian Trust

Click here: <https://www.abbey.college/vacancies>

Celebration of Spirit - Recognition



Headteacher Commendations w/c 14/09/26

The following students have been awarded with Headteacher's Commendations this week for going above and beyond in an area of school life. They will receive 10 Spirit points and a special postcard home.

Oree	Year 8	Form	Great effort in lessons and making a positive change to his behaviour
Isaac	Year 8	Science	A great start to the year, lots of hard work, well done
Poppy	Year 8	Science	A great start to the year, lots of hard work, well done
Ava	Year 8	Science	A great start to the year, lots of hard work, well done
Karen	Year 9	Chemistry	A great start to the year, lots of hard work, well done
Ollie	Year 9	Chemistry	A great start to the year, lots of hard work, well done
Bran	Year 9	Chemistry	A great start to the year, lots of hard work, well done
Rusty	Year 9	Chemistry	A great start to the year, lots of hard work, well done
Florence	Year 9	Chemistry	A great start to the year, lots of hard work, well done
Railey	Year 11	Chemistry	A great start to the year, lots of hard work, well done
Jared	Year 11	Chemistry	A great start to the year, lots of hard work, well done
Tino	Year 11	Chemistry	A great start to the year, lots of hard work, well done
Freya	Year 11	Chemistry	A great start to the year, lots of hard work, well done
Ajmal	Year 11	Chemistry	A great start to the year, lots of hard work, well done
Lily	Year 13	English	Outstanding quality of summer work for English Literature. Your hard work will pay dividends in your exams. Well done!
Vivien	Year 13	English	Outstanding quality of summer work for English Literature. Your hard work will pay dividends in your exams. Well done!
Poppy	Year 13	English	Outstanding quality of summer work for English Literature. Your hard work will pay dividends in your exams. Well done!
Jack	Year 11		Jack has been giving up his time to coach the under 11s Rugby team at St Ives RFC. Fantastic work Jack. Well done!
Henry	Year 11	Spanish	Amazing start to Year 11 - Your hard work and participation have been great to see
Callum	Year 11	Spanish	Great start to Year 11 - Always participating and working hard. Keep it up!
Alana	Year 10	History	For her outstanding effort and hard work on her Elizabeth I revision homework.
Elsie	Year 7	Learning Support	Always given her best in lessons and shown a fantastic attitude towards her learning.
Erin	Year 8	Learning Support	Demonstrates great communication skills with <u>key-workers</u> , works hard, and is adapting well to the new learning environment.
Maia	Year 8	Learning Support	Growing in confidence and demonstrating clear communication skills when interacting with key workers.
Ayesha	Year 9	Welfare	For stepping in to buddy a new student at the last minute and doing an amazing job!
Pearl	Year 10	Moral and Spiritual	Made a very positive start to Year 10. Excellent participation and effort in lessons. Determined to be successful in this GCSE
Jenson	Year 9	All areas	A <u>great focused</u> start to the school year
James	Year 11	Hospitality and catering	Excellent participation in discussion on kitchen hazards.
Dexter	Year 10		Well done on having an amazing first week back at school! You have worked hard in all your <u>lessons</u> , and have shown a great attitude to your learning.
Olivia	Year 11	Hospitality and catering	Excellent participation in discussion on kitchen hazards.
Ella	Year 11		Completion of Snapchat's European Teen Council for Digital Wellbeing Course,
Elsie	Year 8	Form	For working so hard and for being so determined to achieve her set goals! So proud of you Elsie!

Staff member of the week

Ms Cornthwaite – Intuition: Well done for settling in so well to your role in the SSO team. Your friendly face and presence are much needed for our students!

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: <https://www.abbey.college/parents-forum>
- If you would like further information on the Parent's Forum, please email: ParentsForum@abbey.college

Genevieve Wardle - Chair of Parent's Forum

Up to date details

Please ensure that your contact details are kept up to date on MCAS (MyChildAtSchool). Having the correct information helps us contact you quickly if needed and ensures you receive important school communications.

You can update your details yourself at any time through the MCAS app or website. Alternatively, if you need assistance, please email **office@abbey.college** with your updated information.

Diary Dates

Tuesday 22 nd September	Y11 Planning for Success Event/Sixth Form Open Evening/Careers Fair 5-7.30pm
Tuesday 29 th September	Y6 Open Evening 4.30-7.30pm - School closes for students at 1pm
Friday 9 th October	Y10/11 Peterborough College assemblies
Wednesday 21 st October	Y9 Royal Navy Event
Friday 23 rd October	INSET Day – School Closed to Students
Monday 26 th -Friday 30 th October	Half Term
Monday 2 nd November	INSET Day – School Closed to Students
Tuesday 10 th November	Y8 Parents Evening
Tuesday 8 th December	Y11 Parents Evening
Friday 18 th December	Last day of Autumn Term

Everything You Need to Know About Assessments

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	- Reading tests in English lessons (from 21st Sept) - CAT4 (Reasoning) baseline testing (16th/17th Sept)	Half term 2	- Reading proficiency report - CAT4 report (reasoning abilities)
8	In class (from 5th October)		
9	No formal subject assessments this half term	KS4 entry report: 7 th Oct	- Spirit grade - Any early barriers to learning that have been identified by class teachers. - Minimum target grade (MTG) for each subject
10	In class (from 12th October)	18 th Nov	- Spirit - GCSE predicted grade (ECP) - GCSE minimum target grade (MTG)
11	No formal assessments this half term	16 th Sept	- GCSE predicted grade (ECP) - GCSE minimum target grades (MTG)
12	One month tests: 5th Oct – 16th Oct	7 th Oct	- Target grade - Any one-month test concerns will be raised individually
13	No formal assessments this half term	30 th Sept	- Spirit - Predicted 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.

ECP – The grade that the class teacher believes your child will achieve by the end of their GCSE/BTEC course in year 11

MTG – The target grade that your child should achieve if they make good progress (based on their SATs and year 7 baseline data)

Ensuring Pupils Feel Safe and Behave Well

Safety First

Online Safety

This week students discussed online safety, including personal information, privacy settings, online relationships and reporting concerns.

We reminded students that not everyone online is who they claim to be and encouraged them to speak to a trusted adult if any online interaction makes them uncomfortable.

Useful Resources

- Internet Matters: <https://www.internetmatters.org>
 - Childnet: <https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>
 - UK Safer Internet Centre: <https://saferinternet.org.uk>
 - CEOP: <https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents>
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If you need support or have any concerns about your child's wellbeing or safety, please contact welfare@abbey.college. We are here to help.

Promoting Positive Behaviour Every Day

Student attendance

Week 1 – Life Chances

Your attendance today shapes your future.

Every lesson you attend builds skills, confidence, and opportunities for later life—whether that's college, apprenticeships, or careers.

Turn up, stay focused, and keep your options open.

Ms Davis – Attendance Officer

Supporting Your Child's Wider Development

Offer & Opportunity Programme (OOPs) - Autumn Term

Staff are in the process of putting the Autumn term calendar together. Watch this space for announcements of our amazing offer!



ABBEY COLLEGE OFFER & OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMME (OOPs)



LEARNING OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

*Supporting learning, personal development and wellbeing
through opportunities beyond lessons.*



WHAT ARE OOPs?

The Offer & Opportunity Programme (OOPs) gives every student access to enriching experiences beyond the classroom.

These opportunities help students develop confidence, character and skills while discovering new interests, meeting new people and broadening their horizons.



WHY TAKE PART?

- ✓ Build Confidence
- ✓ Develop New Skills
- ✓ Discover Talents
- ✓ Improve Wellbeing
- ✓ Make New Friends
- ✓ Raise Aspirations



OPPORTUNITIES COULD INCLUDE



Creative Arts



Sport & Fitness



STEM & Innovation



Creative Projects



Personal Development



Leadership & Community



Cultural Experiences



Outdoor Learning

Opportunities vary throughout the year.



OUR PROMISE



DISCOVER

New interests and talents



DEVELOP

Confidence, character and skills



THRIVE

As part of the Abbey College community

Student curriculum

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

To find out about your child's curriculums, please look at the subjects under the 'Abbey College Life' tab of the [website](#).

Communicating with us and raising concerns

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

Parent Friendly Policy Guide:

<https://www.abbey.college/key-policies--reports>

Other news updates can be found here:

- Our news page: <https://www.abbey.college/school-communications>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/RamseyAbbeyCollege/posts/>
- Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/abbeycollege_ramsey/