

ABBOTSWOOD SCHOOL

'Helping everyone achieve their best'



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Headteacher: Mr G Moore



Thursday 25th September

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope the children have enjoyed the first couple of weeks in their year group and they are excited about the year ahead. Year 5 and 6 have already impressed us with their enthusiastic and responsible attitude to learning. It has been wonderful to see their smiling faces in our classrooms!

In this newsletter, you will find general information that will allow your child to have a successful start to their year. A similar newsletter will be sent home each term, providing key dates and information. If you have any queries or concerns, please feel free to contact your child's class teacher initially. Appointments can be made via the school office.

The Year 5 team would like to welcome you and your child to Year 5 at Abbotswood Junior School:



Miss Dunning
(Year Leader)

Ms Gonzalez

Mrs Munsie

Miss Lowe

Miss Palmer

Mr McConnell

The Year 6 team would like to welcome you and your child to Year 6 at Abbotswood Junior School:



Mr Perry
(Year Leader)

Miss Francis

Miss Wilson

Mr Swift

Mr Shotter

Miss Fletcher

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Curriculum

This half term, Year 5 are immersing themselves in the book, 'The Firework Maker's Daughter' by Philip Pullman. Having explored the main character, they will become lost in her world and begin to understand the dilemma that she faces with her father in the story. The children will be inspired to create a sunset and silhouette landscape in Art and cook food that will immerse them in the setting of Indonesia.

This half term, Year 6 will read the book, 'Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief' by Rick Riordan, alongside a variety of Greek mythical stories, which will inspire them to create their own mythical hero when they write their own Greek myth. They will learn all about life in Ancient Greece through a History unit in which they will explore how the Ancient Greeks have influenced the modern world, including an opportunity to design and create a clay bust of their Greek 'hero' in their Art lessons.



Home Learning



All children in Year 5 and 6 are expected to play 5 games on Times Tables Rock Stars each week. They will also be expected to read 3 times a week at home which will be recorded in their brand new Reading Diaries. Home Learning will start the week commencing **Monday 22nd September**. More information about Home Learning has been communicated separately.

Uniform & PE Kit

Thank you for ensuring that your child has a **named** uniform and PE kit. It makes it much easier to return lost items quickly to their owners when items are mislaid. Please could you make sure that your child wears their PE kit to school on the required days. **They will be allowed to remain in their PE kit all day.**

If your child wears earrings and is unable to remove them for PE and games, please provide them with tape to cover the earrings as we are not allowed to remove earrings and they need to be covered for health and safety reasons. Please provide your child with a note if they are unable to take part in PE/Games lessons due to illness or injury.

The PE days for Year 5 and 6 are as follows:

Day	Year 5	Year 6
Monday		All classes (OSA)
Tuesday	All classes (OSA)	
Wednesday	5MD, 5ML, 5CP & 5MM	
Thursday	5GM	
Friday		All classes

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Please ensure your child is wearing an appropriate PE kit on their PE and OSA days. Below is a guide as to what they should and shouldn't be wearing in school:



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Wristbands

Congratulations to those children who were awarded with one of their STARS wristbands last year! It is brilliant to see so many children now sporting their bands.

This half term, the children are learning about 'Stickability' with the aim of working towards their purple wristband. In the next half term, the children will work towards earning their 'Teamwork' wristband. Wristbands are awarded each week during Friday's celebration assembly.



Water Bottles

We encourage children to drink water regularly throughout the day as it helps them to concentrate and stay alert. Please send your child to school with a **named** water bottle. It would be helpful if you could remind your child to bring the water bottle home each day and to fill it with fresh water from home each morning.

Playtime snacks

Children are allowed to bring in a healthy snack to eat at break time. A number of children with severe nut allergies attend Abbotswood – **we are therefore a nut-free school** and ask parents to ensure they do not include nuts in their child's snack or lunch at school.



Dates

Dates for Year 5 Spring Term		
Date	Event	Parent Helpers
September		
Tuesday 23rd	Home Learning starts	-
October		
Friday 3rd	Inset Day	-
Thursday 23rd	Year 5 Parent Outcome at 2:30	-
Tuesday 7th	Flu Immunisations	-
Tuesday 7th	Harvest assembly	-
November		
Monday 3rd	Inset Day	-
Friday 21st - Friday 28th	Trips to Winchester Science Centre and Planetarium (information to follow)	Yes
December		
Wednesday 10th	Church Visit	Yes

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Dates for Year 6 Autumn Term		
Date	Event	Parent Helpers
September		
Monday 22nd	Home Learning starts	-
Monday 22nd	Year 6 Baseline Test Week begins	-
October		
Friday 3rd	Inset Day	
Tuesday 7th	Year 6 RE Day	-
Tuesday 7th	Flu Immunisations	
Tuesday 7th	Harvest assembly	
November		
Monday 3rd	Inset Day	-
Weds 5th - Fri 7th	Osmington Bay + Activities Week (information to follow soon)	-
Friday 28th - 4th Dec	Bikeability (information to follow)	-
December		
Tuesday 9th	Church Visit	Yes

Other Information

As the school is cashless, please refrain from sending any money into school. All payments, including for school dinners and trips, can be made via Arbor. Please contact the office if you have any questions about Arbor and the Arbor app.

Please remember that the school website has a wealth of information on it - from the school calendar to suggestions to support your child's learning at home. If you use social media, we also have a very active Facebook page that provides regular information and reminders. We look forward to getting to know both you and your children further in the forthcoming weeks.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch should you have any further queries or concerns. We hope your child has a very happy and enjoyable year.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Michelle Dunning
Year 5 Leader

Mr Ben Perry
Year 6 Leader