



Head's Weekly Newsletter

Week 26



Message from the Headteacher

Mrs Ania Hildrey, Headteacher, headteacher@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

Dear Students, Families, Colleagues and Friends

Welcome to today's issue of the *Head's Weekly Newsletter*. I am writing this foreword from my home-based isolation as, despite being able to avoid it for over two years, I have succumbed to Covid this week. My thoughts and best wishes go to my fellow colleagues and several students who are also ill, and so, like me, are missing out on all of the fun on site – I hope you all get better soon!

I won't pretend to have been able to be very productive this week, but, having had daily touch-base meetings with Mrs Tobin who took a lead on all operational matters in my absence, I know the week has been busy and full of wonderful learning opportunities. Huge thanks to her and the rest of the leadership team for their hard work and flexibility.

The week started with the exams for our most senior students and I want to publically praise them for their exemplary conduct and maturity during this important set of events. They gave it their all and we all hope the results reflect this!

This week also saw a publication of the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Sufficiency Consultation, launched by Liverpool City Council on 17 March, with the planned conclusion in May. Our Governing Body will meet in late April to consider proposals shared and provide an official response. I would be really keen to hear the views of the students of ALS and their families, as well as professional input from all of the staff working at Abbot's Lea School. Please find the consultation document [here](#).

As always, my representation as the Headteacher of our school will continue advocating for investment in facilities and opportunities for our students – present and future. After all, they deserve the best!

In the meantime, I wish you all a very good, restful and sunny weekend!

With kindest regards

Mrs A Hildrey
Headteacher

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Key Diary Dates

Key Diary Dates for Week 27

The Key Dates for Week 27	
w/b 21 March 2022	Neurodiversity Week
21 March 2022	World Poetry Day
21 March 2022	Student Council Meeting
22 March 2022	USA Class Trip to Croxteth Park
23 March 2022	World Maths Day
23 March 2022	KS4-5 Travel Training
24 March 2022	Primary students visiting Speke Hall
25 March 2022	Drumming Sessions
25 March 2022	New Zealand Class visit to Hugh Baird College

Key Diary Dates for the Rest of the Term

w/b 28 March 2022	World Autism Acceptance Week
w/b 28 March 2022	Family Consultation Week
30 March 2022	Family Information Session: Benefit and Grants Help and Support – 10am-12.15pm on Zoom
30 March 2022	Family Information Session: Year 9 Accredited Learning – 12.15-1.15pm on Zoom
31 March 2022	Deadline for Leavers Destinations (Year 11-14)
31 March 2022	HPV and COVID vaccinations for Year 8-10 students whose families have provided consent
6 April 2022	Easter Events – Primary Department Easter Bonnet Parade; Secondary Department Easter Egg Art Competition; Easter Egg Hunt
8 April 2022	School closes at 1pm for Easter Holidays



Students' school day
9:00am - 3:00pm

Current term

Term 4
28 February 2022 – students return
Ends: 8 April 2022 at 1pm (early finish)
Easter break: 11-22 April 2022

School Year Calendar

Term Dates for School Year 2021-22 (current academic year) – [Term dates 2021-22](#)

Term Dates for School Year 2022-23 (next academic year) – [Term dates 2022-23](#)

Join the discussion and share your family moments with our teams

Facebook: [Abbot's Lea School](#)

Twitter: [@abbotsleaschool](#)

E-mail: reception@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

Students of the Week

Students of the Week

Class	Student	Reason
Early Years and Key Stage 1		
Ireland	Harley	For working really hard during his Maths lessons.
Key Stage 2		
Portugal	Alfie	For showing amazing maturity in school and at home. Alfie has been sleeping in his own bed all night and using his problem-solving skills in class before asking for help.
France	Imogen	For always giving 100% effort in her work!
Spain	Archie	For excellent management of emotions and finding his own strategies to support himself.
Italy	Wyatt	For following instructions and completing his activities.
Peru	Oliver	For joining in with social games with his friends without any adult support - Well done Oliver.
Key Stage 3		
Mozambique	Marcus	For outstanding knowledge and effort in Geography this week.
Madagascar	Anthony	For always being an amazing role model in class and around school and always showing a good example! Well done Anthony!
USA	Jonny	For always being eager to succeed.
Brazil	Paul	For being here every day and engaging in all activities in class.
Kenya	Charlie	For excellent swimming skills.
Cape Verde	Sonny	For being an outstanding student all week and answering all questions.
Seychelles	Jamie	For being a good friend and adapting really well to changes.
Botswana	Lucas	For always taking part in lessons and making his own notes on different subjects to read over in his own time.
Key Stage 4		
Australia	Alfie	For showing great maturity and resilience under the pressure of Mock exams.
Samoa	Lily	For taking part in activities she previously felt uncomfortable participating in and improving on her confidence.
New Zealand	Justin	For being brilliant during social interaction time!
PNG	Mason	For going out of his comfort zone and trying new things; also, for always being ready for the start of lessons.
Key Stage 5		
Malawi	Kieran	For a successful first week integrating into his new class after transferring from another one in the school.
Christmas Island	Kyle	For amazing management with Mock exams.
Fiji	Spencer	For trying hard in all his exams.
Nurture Provision		
Wales	Kaiden	For pushing himself and completing amazing maths work all week.
Canada	Josh	For working hard all week.
Tasmania	Alex	For fantastic participation in lessons throughout the week.

Next Week's Menu

Next Week's Menu



Primary Lunch Menu



Week Commencing 21/03/22

Week 4	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Meal We provide a variety of seasonal hot and cold dishes for children to freely choose from	Homemade Pizza with Wholemeal Pizza Base served with Homemade Wedges and Salad	Chicken Roast Dinner with Roast Potatoes, Stuffing, Broccoli, Carrots and Gravy	Homemade Sausage and Mashed Potato with Onion Gravy	Lamb Kofta Kebab served with Pita Bread, Vegetable Rice and Homemade Coleslaw	Fish Fingers with Chips and Baked Beans
Alternative Jacket potatoes with tuna and other fillings available daily	Vegetable Fried Rice	Asian Noodles	Tomato and Basil Pasta	Homemade Salmon and Leek Fish Pie	Veggie Sausage Roll
Homemade Soup	Carrot and Coriander	Tomato and Basil	Red pepper Soup	Chef Choice	Chef Choice
Starchy Food Various bread choices available	Pizza Base	Roast Potato	Mash Potato	Rice	Chips
Vegetables Salad Bar with Hummus	Tomatoes	Seasonal Vegetables	Broccoli	Carrots	Baked Beans
Dessert Fresh fruit, selection of low-fat yoghurts and homemade puddings available every lunch time	Fresh Fruit Salad Fresh Fruit	Cherry Bakewell Slice served with Custard Fresh Fruit	Carrot Cake Yoghurts	Fruit Jelly Fresh Fruit	Cheese and Crackers Mixed Flavour Yoghurts

Ask for daily chef specials

All our meat is sourced from local suppliers, we use free range eggs and organic flour where possible. All our fruit and vegetables are locally sourced where possible. Halal options available.

Food For Thought is a not-for-profit school meals company owned by it's partner schools. Any surplus is reinvested in the company or returned to its member schools.

GOOD FOOD CULTURE

Please, inform the school about any known allergies or dietary requirements for your child. You can do that by sharing information with the class team or by calling the school office. Thank you

Class News

Early Years and Key Stage 1

<p>Ireland Class</p> <p>Teacher: Miss Hattersley</p>	<p>This week in Ireland Class, our story of the week is Jack and the Beanstalk. We have been using our creation station to make beanstalks and castles, cutting and gluing flower sequences, planting and growing our own beanstalks, and using the sensory tray to explore textures.</p> <p>Ireland Class have been working hard during Maths concentrating on pairs and creating number bonds of six, seven, and eight.</p> <p>In PE we have been focusing on throwing, catching, balancing, and aiming with the balls.</p> <p>We have also celebrated with lots of fun activities on St. Patrick's Day and Comic Relief Day.</p>
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For more information on your child's progress, contact the class team directly. Our Key Stage Leaders and Mrs Tobin can tell you more about our curriculum, with all subject maps available on our website ([access here](#)).

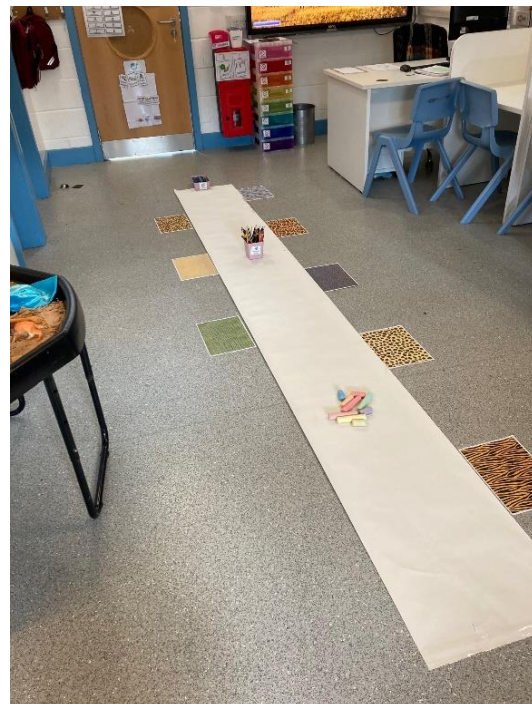
Class News

Key Stage 2

Portugal Class Teacher: Miss Gibney	<p>Portugal have had a lovely week. We have continued to look at money in Maths and have been using money to make amounts in different ways. We have also been enjoying the sunshine in our new playground. The students were fantastic at working out how to get down from the climbing frame. We have also looked at the story of Jesus this week. We were so impressed by how much the students already knew.</p> <p>Well done on another fantastic week Portugal.</p>
France Class Teacher: Miss Last	<p>France class have had another fantastic week! For English this week the pupils have worked hard creating a non-chronological report based on The Gruffalo. To create this they have completed their own research on The Grufflalo and worked in pairs to create sentences based on its habitat, diet and physical appearance. In Maths we have started our new topic based on position and direction. As part of this the students have been learning and following positional language instructions to create different shapes with chalk on the playground. In Geography we have continued learning about different continents. This week we looked at Asia and learnt about the food, currency and landmarks.</p>
Spain Class Teacher: Miss Ledward	<p>Spain Class have had a fantastic week! We have looked at stories from other cultures in English and described what Africa is like and identified what animals we may find in Africa. In Maths, we have been practicing and challenging our knowledge in time. We really enjoyed finding out where Asia is and what China is like in Geography, designing our own toy garages in Design Technology and we have developed our dodging skills in PE ready to play a game of dodge ball. We have engaged excellently with sensory circuits and sensory time, and are so proud of how well students have worked this week!</p> <p>Well done Spain class!</p>
Italy Class Teacher: Mrs Cooney	<p>Italy Class have enjoyed hearing the traditional tale "Goldilocks and the Three Bears" this week. In Maths they have learnt about length and ordered the three bears according to their size. They also completed a tally chart showing the most popular porridge topping. In Food Technology, the pupils followed instructions to make 'Mrs Cooney's Nan's Best Ever Porridge!' It went down a treat with most students wanting to at least have a taste and some even finishing their whole bowl of porridge! In Art, the pupils have been learning different ways of using media and materials to make bears which are now on display in our classroom. On Wednesday we had lots of fun playing on the trikes and the class are already looking forward to their next session next week. Thank you Italy Class for a wonderful week, it's been lots of fun!</p> <p>Have a lovely weekend!</p>
Peru Class Teacher: Miss Laird	<p>Peru have another great week and have been working really hard. In English, we have been looking at how to use a comma in a list. We used this knowledge to write sentences about what we would put in a potion, relating to our current book. In Maths, we are continuing to explore how to measure length and height. In Life Skills, we are continuing to look at</p>

Class News

our 'Growing Up' topic. We have been talking about how our bodies change and have now discussed how both the male and female bodies change during puberty. The students have been very mature during this topic and have had great discussions. In Science, we have been exploring nutrition and different food groups.



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Class News

Key Stage 3

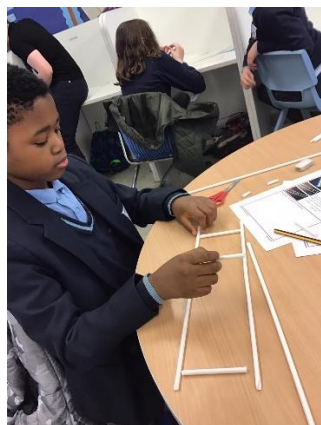
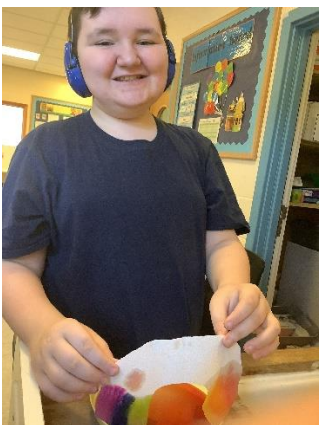
Mozambique Class Teacher: Mr Hodgson	We have had another fantastic week in class! Our English lessons have been focused on debates and we have had lots of mature discussions. In Maths we have continued to look at money, using budgets to purchase items from online supermarkets. In Geography, we started our new topic Settlements, looking at villages, towns and cities, and where their names originated.
Madagascar Class Teacher: Miss Jennings	This week in Madagascar we have continued our work on length in Maths. We have been converting units; mm-cm and cm-m. We started to read the poem 'Chocolate Cake' by Michael Rosen in English. We worked together as a class to complete a British Science Week crossword, putting our knowledge of things we have learnt throughout the years to the test. We have also learnt key information about different scientists, played The Masked Scientist and created information presentations on our chosen scientists. We have done lots of class reading of play scripts, using great expression and voices to suit characters within the stories. We are looking forward to a restful weekend after a week of hard work and look forward to continuing our great work next week.
USA Class Teacher: Mrs Suku	This week USA have had a very exciting week! We have been celebrating British Science Week, we enjoyed making our own rainbows and experimenting with gloop. We also continued our poetry topic by reading the Chocolate Poem, which the children thoroughly enjoyed.
Brazil Class Teacher: Mrs Rodway	Brazil Class have been learning about capacity in Maths this week, we have been using measuring jugs and water to make various amounts in millilitres and litres. In English we predicted what will happen next in our story 'The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark' and completed a book review. We talked about life cycles in Science and found out what symbols you might find on a map. Excellent work this week, well done Brazil!
Kenya Class Teacher: Miss McClintock	One Monday we learnt about the importance of team work and how it is an important skill when working in the future. This week in Kenya Class we have been busy swimming every morning. In the afternoons we have been learning about maps and why the keys are important. In Science we looked at why some animals lay eggs and some give birth to live young. We also celebrated St Patrick's Day on Thursday and looked at ways we can fund raise and help Comic Relief Day on Friday.
Cape Verde Class Teacher: Mr Hatton	This week in Cape Verde we have had lots of fun lessons and enjoyed learning new skills in Maths and English. We learnt about how people have different opinions but can all be respectful whilst disagreeing. We learnt how somebody can communicate their feelings with us by using their facial expressions and body language, as well as words, and we enjoyed discussing this as a class. We hope everybody has a lovely weekend!
Seychelles Class Teacher: Miss Joyce	This week in Seychelles class the students have really enjoyed going to swimming lessons at Halewood swimming baths. We have practiced front crawl, back stroke and butterfly and the students have behaved very sensibly. The students joined in with our French scavenger hunt in our wooded area and had great fun doing our science experiment making teabags fly.

Class News

Botswana Class

Teacher: Miss Caveney

This week in Botswana we have been learning about all different life cycles in our science lessons and had lots of nice discussions about how plants, animals and humans are formed. We have been learning about a very interesting book in English called 'Goodnight Mr. Tom' and enjoyed having debates about the pros and cons of taking in an evacuee. Finally, we have all took part and voiced our opinions in our Life Skills lesson about respect and respecting somebody else's opinion even if we disagree. Botswana Class hope everyone has a lovely weekend!



Class News

Key Stage 4

Australia Class Teacher: Mr Lyons	Australia Class have had a fantastic week! We are insanely proud of our Year 11 students who have shown great maturity and resilience in completing their mock exams. Great stuff guys! As a class we have worked hard to take part in the 'egg drop' experiment. Throughout the week we planned what resources we would use, predicted what would happen and then finally put our ideas to the test by creating a protective barrier for our eggs and throwing them from an upstairs window. We also learnt how to create a new dish in Food Technology – the 'fish and veg stack'. Students took part in skinning the salmon, cutting the vegetables and mixing ingredients in the food processor. Yummy!
Samoa Class Teacher: Miss Gibney	Samoa have worked extremely hard this week, as they have completed their Mock exams in the school hall! After their exams, Samoa students worked on a very fun experiment in Science, called the egg drop. The class worked in teams to design an environment to keep an egg safe, using cotton wool, newspapers and even creating their own parachutes. Then the class went to the highest school building and dropped their egg out of the window, to investigate whether the egg would break or not. They discussed what materials would help to protect the egg, and looked at what variables were independent or constant in the experiment. Samoa class also showed their creativity, as they created a video for assembly. They each read a line from the world-famous poem by Dr Seuss, "Oh the Places You'll Go!" in different areas of the school. In Life Skills the class explored how to find their way in an unfamiliar area. On Friday the class enjoyed an array of enrichment clubs, including Arts and Crafts Club, Design and Technology, Food Techology and Music Club. They also indulged in outdoor sensory time, exploring the forest school and playing in the play park.
New Zealand Class Teacher: Miss McKenna	New Zealand class have had a busy week this week. Our Year 11s have been working hard in their exams and Year 10s have also been working hard in class completing a number of investigations in Maths. In English, students have been creating their own crime fiction story. As it is British Science Week, the class have been working on a forces experiment this week where they did 'the egg drop'. Students designed structures that should protect their egg when dropping it to ensure that it does not crack. What a brilliant week full of hard work New Zealand - well done!
Papua New Guinea Class Teacher: Mrs Wong	It has been a busy week this week for all of the Year 11 students as it was our Mock exams week. Everyone has worked really hard in giving their best in the exams. Well done! For the Year 10 students, we have looked at writing a crime story. We discussed the key features of a mysterious story and started planning the setting, plot and the characters of our stories. In Maths, we focused on developing our problem-solving skills. We have worked through several problems including a number crossword, a counting square puzzle and the light switch puzzle. Students worked in small groups, shared ideas and helped each other in tackling the puzzles. We enjoyed fun activities in the afternoons celebrating British Science Week. We have completed a few science quizzes and designed a structure using different materials to cushion an egg for an egg drop experiment.

Class News



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Class News

Key Stage 5

Malawi Class Teacher: Mr Mason	This week Malawi students have mostly taken part in their Mock exams but have still found time for a Life Skills lesson in which they designed and presented their own film scenes based on a few still images. They also took part in a very tough circuit training PE lesson where they learnt about how different exercises affect different parts of the body. Just what they needed to get rid of all that exam stress! For World Recycling Day they learnt how plastic waste impacts the planet and what we can do about it.
Christmas Island Class Teacher: Mr Griffiths	This week in Xmas Island, it has been extremely busy as we have been practicing and taking part in our Mock exams. During our time in-between we have been taking part with group discussions and social communication tasks listening to other peoples interests
Fiji Class Teacher: Miss Ham	This week we have all worked really hard and been focusing on our Mock exams. In Life Skills, we looked at how St Patrick's Day is celebrated and made biscuits for Ireland and Wales class.



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Class News

Nurture Provision

Wales Class Teacher: Mrs Leyland	Wales Class have been working hard this week on their Maths and English skills. We designed our own farms and created town maps, which we then used for imaginative play. We have also been working on self-esteem building by reminding each other how amazing and kind all of the Wales students are!
Canada Class Teacher: Mr Roach	It has been a good week of learning for Canada Class. The class has really enjoyed doing Maths this week, where we have been looking at fractions. We have been both identifying fractions and also adding them together. We have also been exploring our solar system this week. We did this by doing papier-mâché on balloons and creating our own planets. Well done Canada Class!
Tasmania Class Teacher: Mr Terry	Well done to all the students for another excellent week in Tasmania Class. The students have enjoyed making a variety of soups in Food Technology and learning about different types of neurological conditions in Neurodiversity Awareness Week.



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Class News

Library Update

The students of Abbot's Lea School regularly share their views through The Big Question. One of the questions last term was about students' book recommendations for our school library.



We are excited to announce our school library is getting new titles based on your recommendations! This week, we had ten new books arrive, including the very popular Diary of a Wimpy Kid and Mr Men Big Busy Book. Our gamers will enjoy books about Roblox, Fortnite and Minecraft, while our Star Wars fans have a new fantastic new comic book to enjoy!

More books are on the way, but please feel free to share your suggestions with our student ambassadors.

Don't forget to take good care of the books. Our Library Monitors are working hard to keep the library clean and organised. Please return books on their designated shelf, or, if you are not sure which shelf it is, leave your books in the returns basket.

Staff News

Human Resources

Classroom Staff Contact Details

If you need to speak to someone in your child's class, please email them on [classname]@abbotsleaschool.co.uk e.g. christmasisland@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

Staff Vacancy

Due to the current post-holder being head-hunted for an amazing opportunity in the private sector, we are recruiting for a Data Manager.

The Data Manager will be responsible for the management and analysis of school data and will provide valuable information to support decision making within the school. The role will also lead on information security and GDPR, compliance of information and systems and take on the role of Exams Officer.

This is an excellent opportunity for someone with advanced analysis and Excel skills who has a curious mind and wants to support our school in becoming the best specialist school in the world.

Please visit our school website's Vacancies page for further information and to apply.



WE ARE HIRING

Join our outstanding school team

We are at an exciting stage of our development and are now recruiting for a Data Manager who will be responsible for the overall management and analysis of student, staff and family information held by the school.

DATA MANAGER

ABBOTS LEA SCHOOL
EST. 1953

Closing Date: Tuesday 22 March 2022 at 4pm More information can be found at www.abbotsleaschool.co.uk/vacancies

[ABBOTSLEASCHOOL.CO.UK](http://www.abbotsleaschool.co.uk) [@ABBOTSLEASCHOOL](https://twitter.com/ABBOTSLEASCHOOL)

Student Placements

This week we welcomed students from Liverpool Hope University who are on the second year of their BA QTS course.

The students observed in our primary classes as part of building their experience in an SEN setting. Thanks to all for your hard work, and we hope you enjoyed your week at Abbot's Lea School!

Useful Information and Resources

In this section, you will find information on services that are available to you across the city over the next few months. There are links that you can click on which will take you to lots of different places of support and services for our parents across the city. Remember to check online at [Liverpool Early Help Directory](#) for regular updates and new programmes from a wide range of council and partner services.

Merseyside Youth Association - MYA Raise Team

Merseyside Youth Association's mental health promotion team (RAISE Team) continue to deliver their range of bite-size courses, adapted from courses they have previously delivered.

These sessions cover a range of mental health issues that impact children, young people and their families.

Bite-size sessions coming up in March, delivered via Zoom unless otherwise stated:

- **Eating Disorders** – Bite-size via ZOOM
24/03/2022 10:00 am - 10:45 am [Book](#)
- **Self-harm**- Bite-size via ZOOM
24/03/2022 - 4:00 pm - 4:45 pm - [Book](#)

ADDvanced Solutions Community Network

The team at ADDvanced Solutions Community Network continue to support the families living with Neurodevelopmental conditions in Liverpool pre, during and post-diagnosis.

What's available?

A weekly programme of Virtual Community Network Groups and webinar Learning Workshops for parents and carers of children and young people living with neurodevelopmental conditions pre, during and post-diagnosis and also to the professionals who support them while we are unable to deliver our face-to-face delivery.

You can see their calendar of activities for Liverpool parents [HERE](#) and also find information on the services [HERE](#)