



# Abingdon Primary School

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## Newsletter Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2023

### Dates for your diary:

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May – Chance to Shine Cricket day (information to follow!)

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May – Thumbs up Friday and Abingdon Cafe

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May – Cake Sale to raise money for the Dance World Cup

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May – Finish for Whit





### **Head teacher's greeting!**

I think that my word of the week is 'Pride'. The pride I have felt this week as I watched our Year 6 children take on the SATS assessments is immeasurable. They have shown true resilience and have been an absolute credit to both the school and their parents/carers. I said it last week in the newsletter and I repeated it to the children over the week. These tests don't show anything of who our children are as human beings. This poem pretty much says it all...

**SATs don't measure sports, SATs don't measure art,  
SATs don't measure music, or the kindness in your heart.  
SATs don't see your beauty, SATs don't know your worth,  
SATs don't see the reasons you were put upon this earth.  
SATs don't see your magic, how you make others smile,  
SATs don't time how quickly you can run a mile.  
SATs don't hear your laughter, or see you've come this far,  
SATs are just a tiny glimpse of who you really are.  
So sitting at your table, with a pencil and your test,  
Remember SATs aren't who you are, remember you're the best**

I can't mention SATs without thanking all the staff who have helped over the week, administer the tests, prepare breakfast each morning and generally being there for the children this past week. Thank you everyone!

I know that it seems that the rest of life has stopped this week, but it hasn't and the rest of the school have also been very busy with their learning. We have had educational visits taking place in Years 3 & 4; and lots of other amazing learning going on across EYFS and KS1.

### **Year 3 and 4 visit to The Hat Works**

Year 3 and 4 have visited the hat Works this week in Stockport. They had a brilliant time and learnt lots about the hatting industry –which will support their learning in the topic 'Mad as a hatter' this term. For those who don't know or are new to the area, Hatting was the big industry that built up in Stockport from the 17<sup>th</sup> century onwards. The hat museum is the only hatting museum in the UK!



### **Attendance**

The national expectation for school attendance is 97.5%. Abingdon Primary School's attendance currently is **92.94%** this is falling short of the target set by the Government. This continues to be a concern of the school. I know that this time of year brings out the seasonal colds and viruses, but please try to send your child in to school. Trust that if they are truly poorly we will contact you to collect them. There has been many a time where we have woken feeling under the weather, but once we have moved around a bit and gotten some fresh air, we have felt much better. This is often the case with children. Once here and engaged with learning and friends they feel much better.

This term, we are looking at our attendance award system. We will be continuing to do our weekly extra play for any class that has a collective attendance of over 97.5% for the week, and the prize wheel for the class with the highest weekly attendance; but for the end of term award, we will be putting the names of all children with a cumulative attendance of over 97.5% into a raffle. The parents of the child whose name is pulled out of the raffle will receive vouchers for a meal for two at a local eating establishment.

### **Smartwatches – with games and photo facilities**

We are seeing an increase in children wearing smart watches that either have the facility to take photos, play games or both on them. Can we please remind parents that these types of watches are not permitted in school.

### **Collection of Children**

Children in Years 5 & 6 are allowed to walk home on their own if we have permission from parents. All other children need to be collected by a responsible adult. We cannot release children to any child who is younger than 16 years of age, if they are below Year 5. No child in Years Reception to Year 4 should be walking home alone, this is a safeguarding concern.

Also, when dropping your child off in the morning, you need to walk your child to the door that they go in through, so that you know that they have been securely handed over to a member of school staff. We do not take responsibility for children below Year 5 until they have been handed over by a parent. It is not secure to leave them at the gates and expect them to walk themselves to their classes. We do not know that they are on school premises and they may leave the premises, without us knowing that they were ever here! Please take those extra few steps to ensure your child has been handed over safely!

### **PE Kits**

We are very proud of the children at Abingdon and they look so smart in their uniforms! The expectation to wear the uniform extends to the PE kits, and we are starting to see, some non-regulation sports clothing sneak into PE lessons. Just a gentle reminder that we would ask that children wear the following for PE:

- Black joggers/shorts
- White T Shirt
- School jumper - no other hoodies or jumpers please
- Black trainers

If children do not come wearing the correct PE kit, they will be provided with a spare kit from our lost property.

### **Healthy Snacks**

Can we please remind parents that children should be bringing healthy snacks into school for breaktimes. Recently, we have seen an increase in unhealthy snacks being brought into school such as Doritos, chocolate biscuits, etc.

### **Volunteer Readers**

Are you or any grandparents free for an hour or two on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday? We would love some volunteers to hear some of our younger children read. We will be able to conduct DBS checks if you require it. If you are free and would like to help please contact our Key stage 1 lead teacher:

[valerie.gray@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:valerie.gray@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk)

## Universal Free School Meals

Just for the information of Reception and KS1 parents: The government provides a universal offer for free school meals to **all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2**. Our school dinners are prepared on site by Taylor Shaw employees – who are amazing! They are delicious. If you are not accessing this and wish to, please let your class teacher know.

## Well-being Challenge:

Sometimes we become disconnected to the world around us, and to our own feelings and sensations. A quick 5 minute exercise to help ground you is to lie on your back with your eyes closed. Starting from your feet relax each muscle. Concentrate on the feelings in your toes, feel, ankles – working up your body until you get to your head. Relax your jaw, make your limbs heavy. Listen to the sounds around you. Try to exhale thoughts that are occupying your consciousness.



## School Lottery

This week, one of our parents won £5.10 on the school lottery- Well done to them!!!

There is currently the chance to **win a Meta Quest 2 VR headset bundle!**

Step into a world of virtual reality with this top-of-the-range VR headset – play standalone games with no need for a PC or games console, watch blockbuster movies from a new perspective, keep fit with active experiences, collaborate with workers in new and innovative ways – the choice is yours! The bundle also includes a charging dock and a carry case, worth over £150!



For those families new to school, we have a school lottery that is run by the website below. Every ticket sold provides much needed funding for our school.

If you would like to take part please do sign up using the link below. Thank you.

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/>

### How the lottery works

<p><b>£1 per ticket</b></p> <p>That's right, unlike many other lotteries, our lottery tickets are only £1 per week.</p> 	<p><b>Help us do more</b></p> <p>For every ticket you play, 76% goes to our school and prizes.</p> 	<p><b>£25,000 grand prize</b></p> <p>Match all 6 numbers and you win the JACKPOT!</p> 
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### Attendance:



- ★ The class with the highest overall attendance each week will have the opportunity to 'spin the wheel'! The wheel has lots of different choices on – some of these have been updated this year by the children.
  - ★ Each class who achieves 97% or higher each week, or who show great improvement, will have an extra playtime the following week.
  - ★ **ALL children who have over 95% attendance for the year, or who show good improvement of attendance, will receive an end of term certificate and treat.**
- Attendance monitoring includes broken weeks and lateness. You **MUST** contact school if your child is late or absent.

The classes with the highest attendance this week are: Year 6 Hawks and Year 5 Kestrels with an unbeatable 100%! - Well done!

Amazingly, they both won a 'Music in class' as a special treat from the wheel!!

Year 1 Squirrels, Y4 Kites and Y4 Owls also had fantastic attendance and got over 97% so will enjoy an extra playtime next week!

### Hot chocolate

Each week we invite a child from each class (who is chosen for being a role model for behaviour) to come and have hot chocolate and marshmallows with the headteacher. It is definitely my favourite time of the week!





### **Gold Table**

Children are chosen by their midday supervisors for their lunchtime behaviour. Each Friday we have a 'Gold table' in the hall and the children chosen have their lunch there with Ms Flanders, they also receive a prize from the 'Gold Box'.

Our winners were Stefan (Badgers), Lara (Hedgehogs), Ariaah (Squirrels), Elsie (Foxes), Skye (Rabbits), Rory (Falcons), Angel (Owls), Toby (Kites), Olivia (Kestrels), Torres (Merlins), Habiba (Hawks), Lydia (Ospreys)



### **'Child of the week' award**

Each week children are chosen for showing our core values (Respect, Resilience and Responsibility). We award certificates in Celebration Time each Friday.



Rec Badgers: Kye

Year 1 /Rec Hedgehogs: Alfie

Year 1 Squirrels : Isaac

Year 2 Foxes: Olivia

Year 2 Rabbits: Hamzah

Year 3 Falcons: Jessica

Year 4 Owls: Faith

Year 4 Kites: Maddie

Year 5 Kestrels: Sarah

Year 5 Merlins: Abi

Year 6 Ospreys: EVERYONE!

Year 6 Hawks: EVERYONE!

### **Golden Broom**

**Year 3 Falcons** have won the Golden Broom this week for having the tidiest classroom. Well done for setting a fantastic example to others.

The Golden Broom is awarded by Mr Bosson (Site supervisor).



Have a wonderful weekend!

Mrs Spendlow  
Headteacher

## Holiday Dates 2022-2023

### Autumn term

Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	INSET
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	INSET
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	Back to School
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	INSET
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Finish for half term holiday
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	School returns
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December	Finish for Christmas

### Spring term

Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	School returns
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	Finish for half term holiday
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	INSET
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	School returns
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Finish for Easter

### Summer term

Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	School returns
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	May Day holiday
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Finish for Whit holiday
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	School returns
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> July	Finish for summer holidays
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> July	INSET

### Covid-19 advice

- Children with mild symptoms of a respiratory infection include covid-19 but are otherwise well should continue to attend school. They should stay home if they have a high temperature and are unwell, and can return to school when they no longer have a high temperature/feel well enough.
- It is not recommended that children should have a covid-19 test unless directed to by a health professional, but if a child under 18 does test positive, **they should stay off school for 3 days after the day they took the test. They can return to school after the 3 days if they are well enough.**

The isolation period for COVID-19 is 6 days with a negative LFD test (24 hours apart on day 5 and day 6). See the link below for more information

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>

### **School advice is still:**

If your child is displaying any of these COVID related symptoms

- a high temperature
  - a new, continuous cough
  - a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste
- or

if your child receives a positive lateral flow test, **they should remain at home until they are feeling well again.**

**Please inform school if anyone in your child's household tests positive for Covid-19.**

Staff email addresses:

Headteacher – [samantha.spendlow@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:samantha.spendlow@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk)  
Deputy Headteacher - [claire.flanders@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:claire.flanders@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk)  
SEND/CO – [amanda.lamb@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:amanda.lamb@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk)  
School Office - [admin@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:admin@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk)  
Pastoral- [sylvan.cumberbatch@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:sylvan.cumberbatch@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk)  
Behaviour lead – [martin.wilcock@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:martin.wilcock@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk)  
Reception Badgers (EYFS lead) [charlotte.hall@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:charlotte.hall@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk)  
Year 1/Rec Hedgehogs [chelsea.clearly@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:chelsea.clearly@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk)  
Year 1 Squirrels- [danielle.taylor@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:danielle.taylor@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk)  
Year 2 Foxes – [andrew.mail@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:andrew.mail@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk)  
Year 2 Rabbits (KS1 lead) [valerie.gray@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:valerie.gray@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk)  
Year 3 Falcons – [elizabeth.hammond@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:elizabeth.hammond@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk)  
Year 4 Kites (LKS2 lead) [edward.amesbury@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:edward.amesbury@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk)  
Year 4 Owls –  
[caroline.whitehead@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:caroline.whitehead@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk) [molly.chong@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:molly.chong@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk)  
Year 5 Kestrels – [michael.cleary@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:michael.cleary@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk)  
Year 5 Merlins – [charlotte.walton@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:charlotte.walton@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk)  
Year 6 Hawks – [john.taylor@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:john.taylor@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk)  
Year 6 Ospreys (UKS2 lead) – [vanessa.fallon@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk](mailto:vanessa.fallon@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk)