



# Abingdon Primary School

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## Newsletter Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023

### Dates for your diary Summer 2:

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Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July - Children's assembly  
- Yr 6 Disco

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> July Year 6 leaver assembly – Year 6 parents invited 9.15am  
Year 6 leavers parade 3.25pm KS2 playground all welcome

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> July **Finish for Summer 3.15pm No after school club**



### Head teacher's greeting

Whoever said that teachers wind-down at the end of term have never worked in a school!! What another week of activities we have had here at Abingdon. It has been a last full week, and what a full week it has been!! Year 6 have been especially busy, with their 'Bikeability', performances and their 'Festival on the Field' this afternoon, with a silent disco. KS1 have had an Indian day today, complete with Henna tattoos on their hands. I have to say the staff looked amazing in their outfits!

We only have three more days in school before the summer break, but they are still very busy days. The Year 6 children have their leavers' disco on Monday evening, and their leavers' assembly on Wednesday morning (parents, bring tissues!), and have a visit from a local MP. We have our children's assembly on Monday morning where the children decide who has been their child of the term, so we still have not put the brakes on just yet!



Well done to Jessica in Falcons and Olivia in Owls who performed in a show at The Plaza on 16th July with their dance company.



Well done to Kayden in Merlins who had his football presentation last weekend and in his first season he won the manager and parents player of the season!



Molly in Y5 and Poppy in Y2 have cleaned in dance awards over the last few weeks! Well done girls!



Habiba in Y6 won a medal in the Karate Championships she took part in last week.

Choir

On Tuesday our choir had the pleasure of visiting Spey House to sing to the residents there. They sang beautifully and the reception they got was heart-warming. We have been invited back for Christmas (or even earlier if we can fit it into our busy Autumn activities)



Rocksteady

Alongside our Year 6 performance, the children who attend Rocksteady music lessons put on a performance to parents. I was humbled and proud of the talent we have in our school. I especially enjoyed the adapted version of the first performance of Seven Nation Army.



### KS1 'A Taste of India' Showcase

Our KS1 'A Taste of India' showcase took place today. The children learned traditional Indian dancing and dressed in either traditional Indian clothing, or bright colours. We were very fortunate to have a volunteer come in to design Henna patterns for the children. And a big shout out to Mrs Darley too for painting hundreds of hands!!



### Year 6 Leavers performance and 'Festival on the field'



As I said earlier, our Year 6 children have had a very busy week. The week started with 'Bikeability', although the weather had other plans! On Wednesday they performed their play for the school as a dress rehearsal, before the main performances that took place on Thursday morning and evening. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff again for all their hard work in putting this together; to the children for all their commitment and effort into the three performances and the parents for all their support! It was an amazing performance, with some budding actors showing their talents.

Today, the Year 6 children had an afternoon of fun at our 'Festival on the Field', where they played traditional giant games, such as Jenga and Connect Four. They had a silent disco (although with all their singing along, it wasn't so silent!) and a photo booth to capture these memories! Apparently it was 'The best day ever'!



### Staffing updates

As with most end of years we sadly say goodbye to some members of staff. We are sad to say goodbye to Mr Cleary, Miss Taylor and Miss Fallon, who were all on one-year contracts and who are all moving on to pastures new. Mrs Chong is leaving us to return to her previous school, and again is a loss for Abingdon; Miss Gray is leaving us to try something completely different from education for now, and we wish her best wishes and good luck. Mrs Davies in the kitchen will also be leaving us as she is moving to a different catering company. We will miss her lovely relationships with the children (and the teachers' 'Monthly Munch').

It is an end of an era, with the departure of Mrs Purslow who has been at Abingdon for 11 years, and has been the solid foundation to many of your children's education. Mrs Purslow is moving to a school closer to her home, to enable that time with her gorgeous daughter.

We thank each and every one of the departing teachers for all of their hard work and commitment to the children, and wish them the best of luck in their new endeavours!

Obviously, when we say goodbye to staff, we also say 'Hello!' to new staff. Joining us in September is Miss Rowley in Year 1/2, Mrs Shuttleworth in Year 6, Mrs Hanley in Year 5, Miss Yeomans in Year 3 and Mrs Chilvers in Reception. We also have Mr Rowe joining us to cover part of the PPA time for teachers.

### Attendance

The national expectation for school attendance is 97.5%. Abingdon Primary School's attendance currently is **93.04%** 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, viruses and hay fever 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!

### **Parking**

Please be considerate to our neighbours when parking and do not block driveways during drop off and pick up.

### **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:

We don't seem to be sharing the same weather as the rest of Europe at the moment, so recommending any outdoor activities is not really worthwhile. The end of an academic year is always busy and everyone is tired. All I can recommend this week is just to be kind to yourself. If you don't want to do anything... don't! Have a sleep in, sit on the sofa and watch a movie. Just relax!



### School Lottery

This week, one of our parents won £6 on the school lottery- Well done to them!!! They have kindly donated their winnings back into the school fund – Thank you so much!

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 class with the highest attendance this week is: Year Rec/1 Hedgehogs with 98.5% attendance - Well done!  
As well as the additional playtime they have won games in class.

Year 2 Rabbits and Year 6 Hawks also achieved over 97% and have earned an extra play.

### 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.





### **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 the whole of Year 6!!!!!!!



### **'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.

These are last weeks winners.



Rec Badgers: Asal  
Year 1 /Rec Hedgehogs: Joseph  
Year 1 Squirrels : Kerryn  
Year 2 Foxes: Skylar  
Year 2 Rabbits: Esmæ  
Year 3 Falcons: Whole class  
Year 4 Owls: Frankie

Year 4 Kites: Harry  
Year 5 Kestrels: Lacey  
Year 5 Merlins: Ayana  
Year 6 Hawks: Grace  
Year 6 Ospreys: Whole class

Our half termly children's assembly is on Monday – we will put the names of the children who won on class dojo on Monday!

### **Golden Broom**

Year 5 Kites 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

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## 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)  
SENDCO – [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)