

George Abbot Bulletin

...the weekly round-up and preview for GAS parents and carers



Headteacher's Message

19 March 2021

All

This week has seen the successful completion of all coronavirus testing for the school community. What a mammoth task! I hope you agree with me that the staff involved in the logistics and operation are George Abbot superstars of the highest order. Special thanks to Mrs Jones, Mr and Mrs Notley, Mr Rowland, Miss Jacobs, all of our Heads of Year and Sixth Form team. They have all been pivotal parts of the operation and managed large quantities of students calmly, safely and reassuringly. None of this could have happened, however, without our volunteers – you have been exceptional and we cannot thank you enough for giving of your time so generously.

By the end of today, all students will have come home from school with two packs of home testing kits. These will be for use in the last two weeks of term. Over the next two weeks, their Form Tutor will distribute a further two sets of lateral flow home testing kits for use over the Easter holidays. A reminder of the systems for registering your child's results are below.

At Home Testing

Please make sure your child tests themselves **twice a week, 3-5 days apart, in the morning before school if possible or the evening before**. Full guidance on how to take the test is included with the test kit.

Your child should also **continue testing twice a week, at home, throughout the Easter school holidays**.

It is really important that results of the test are reported online straight away, even if your child's result is negative or void. Please report the test results to:

1. **The Government:** www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result Results can also be reported via telephone by calling 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day, 7am to 11pm.
2. **George Abbot School:** <https://forms.office.com/r/aa5GPS6gQM>

Having only just got back to school, we are already only two weeks away from the Easter holiday. This will have been a key four weeks in the transition back to education as we know it. Year 13 have nearly completed their mock exams. Lessons across year groups have focused on recall and staff have been thoughtful and careful in their lesson planning as they have learnt more about where our students need to recap and revisit to consolidate strong understanding of the key curriculum content. We have been mindful that some of our students have been anxious and unsettled. We have reassured, given them opportunities to remember what they know and helped them to find the beginnings of a quiet confidence that their learning is on track.

I would like to highlight 4 events coming up in the next 9 school days:

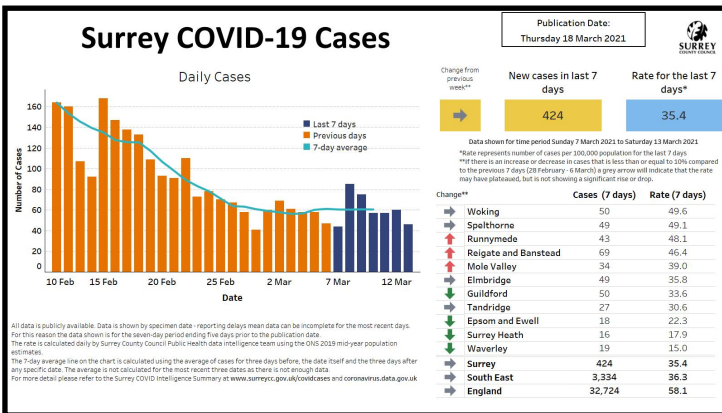
- Year 9 Parents' Consultation appointments take place on Thursday 25 March – school will therefore close early at 1.30pm for all students.
- Year 11 assessments in Maths and English Literature – week beginning 29 March.
- Year 13 Parents' Zoom Briefing on the final grade process – Tuesday 30 March 17.00
<https://zoom.us/j/94810169897>
- Year 11 Parents' Zoom Briefing on the final grade process – Tuesday 30 March 17.45
<https://zoom.us/j/96574202918>

At the Zoom Briefings, we will share the details of the grade determination process, letting parents and students know how each subject will be generating their final grades for students. There will be an opportunity to ask questions via the chat function and we will answer these before the sessions close. More details of the Year 11 and Year 13 Easter study programme will be published early next week.

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For students who are not in examination years, we are busy planning a summer term programme of enrichment. A George Abbot education is about a great deal more than lesson content. Our wish for our students is that, this summer, they discover new things, new friendships, new lifelong interests and revel in doing more of the things that they have discovered bring them joy.

Kate Carriett
Headteacher



| Lesson omission | | |
|------------------|--------|-----------------|
| Week Commencing | A or B | Lesson omission |
| 22 March | B | 2 |
| 29 March | A | 3 |
| HALF TERM | | |

RESCHEDULED SCHOOL IMMUNISATION DATES, ACADEMIC YEAR 2020/2021– YEAR 8 and YEAR 9 (plus catch up of older students)

We have now received the rescheduled dates from the School Immunisation Team as follows:-

| YEAR GROUP | IMMUNISATION | NEW DATES |
|--|---|--|
| YEAR 9 (+ catch up for older missed year groups) | Final School Boosters ACWY Meningococcal | Monday 24 May and Tuesday 25 May 2021 |
| YEAR 8 | Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Dose 2 | Monday 14 June and Tuesday 15 June 2021 |
| YEAR 9 (+ catch up for older missed year groups) | Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Dose 2 (swapped with YR 8) | Tuesday 13 July and Wednesday 14 July 2021 |

If you have any queries, please contact the team directly on 01483 728201, extension 377 or email cs.h.sur-schoolimmswest@nhs.net. Further details will be sent out nearer the time.

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| <h1>Notices</h1> | <p>IMPORTANT DATES w/c 22 March 2021= Week B, no lesson 2 Thursday 25 March = Year 9 Parent Subject Consultations</p> |
| | <p>⇒ Stopping Study of one Subject Choice Please complete the following form (using the link or QR code below) to enable us to finalise your son/daughter's curriculum for Year 10.</p> <p>https://forms.office.com/r/ai77jzYLc0</p> <p>The form will tell us which of the subjects that your child had the option of choosing to study in Year 9 they would like to stop studying in Year 10. To view the video presentation that students will have been shown in school this week, please click the following link: https://youtu.be/hKwY6tDxzWs. Attached is a PDF copy of the PowerPoint slides. We ask that you and your son/daughter complete this form by 9am on Wednesday 31 March please.</p> <p>If you have any questions, please contact curriculum@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk</p> |



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| Year 9 | <p>⇒ REMINDER: Year 9 Parents' Subject Consultations on Thursday 25 March Please see important information attached regarding Year 9 Parent Subject Consultations and how to book appointments.</p> |
| Sixth Form | <p>⇒ REMINDER: Gate Cards A reminder that, for safeguarding reasons, the Sixth Form gate code will become obsolete from the end of March. Sixth Form students are being offered their own individual gate card to use instead.</p> <p>If you have not done so already, and wish your child to have a card, please pay £5.00 on their WisePay account. This will be refunded when the card is returned, when your child leaves George Abbot.</p> <p>Cards will be distributed week commencing 29 March.</p> |
| Whole School | <p>⇒ Uniform Reminders A reminder that the only jumpers to be worn with full school uniform are the V-neck George Abbot jumpers. Other navy/black/hooded jumpers are not allowed under blazers or on top of blazers. George Abbot V-neck jumpers are available from the school shop or can be bought second hand from the PTA for £3.</p> <p>The uniform shop now stocks a new sports top that can be worn for PE. Whilst PE hoodies can still be worn for PE, we will no longer be stocking this item.</p> <p>If families have difficulty sourcing uniform for financial, or other reasons, please contact your child's Head of Year who will be able to help.</p> <p>School Uniform shop: spsschoolshops@yahoo.com—please view the website for more information: https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/uniform/ PTA: PTA@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk</p> <p>⇒ Reporting absence When reporting your child's absence, please only email: absence@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk, NOT the Office email.</p> <p>⇒ Shere Road Closure—No Service of the Compass 25 Bus Gomshall Lane in Shere, between the A25 and Middle Street, will be closed 24 hours per day starting on Monday 22 March and ending on Saturday 27 March.</p> <p>Without the use of Gomshall Lane, buses will not be able to access Shere village at any time, as there is no acceptable or safe point where buses can be turned, and so buses will not run.</p> <p>During the closure, the nearest bus stops for bus service 25 to/from George Abbot will be in Gomshall, at the junction with Queen Street, or at Silent Pool on the A25.</p> <p>Please ensure you make alternative provision for your child to get to school.</p> <p>⇒ Free School Meal—Easter Vouchers For students entitled to Free School Meals, we will once again be issuing supermarket vouchers for the Easter period using the Wonde system. Following guidance from Surrey County Council, we will be issuing £30 per week per student.</p> <p>⇒ Vacancies at George Abbot Please see the following page of the school website for further details on our current vacancies: https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/recruitment/. Please do forward to any friends or colleagues you think might be interested.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part time teacher of Music • Teacher of English |

Whole School

⇒ **REMINDER: Early school closure for Year 9 Parents' Subject Consultations on Thursday 25 March**

School will be closing at 1.30pm on **Thursday 25 March** for us to conduct the Year 9 Parent Subject Consultation meetings.

Students are expected to complete work will be set via Satchel One and/or the SLE.

Provision has been made for students who are unable to go home at this time. If you wish for your son/daughter to remain supervised in school, please let us know by emailing curriculum@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk by close of school on **Wednesday 24 March**. School buses will run at the usual time.

Careers

We are continuing to update the careers page on our website with lots of opportunities for students.

Careers opportunities:

Please visit: <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/careers-opportunities/>

Apprenticeship opportunities:

Please visit: <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/apprenticeship-opportunities/>

Virtual Work Experience opportunities:

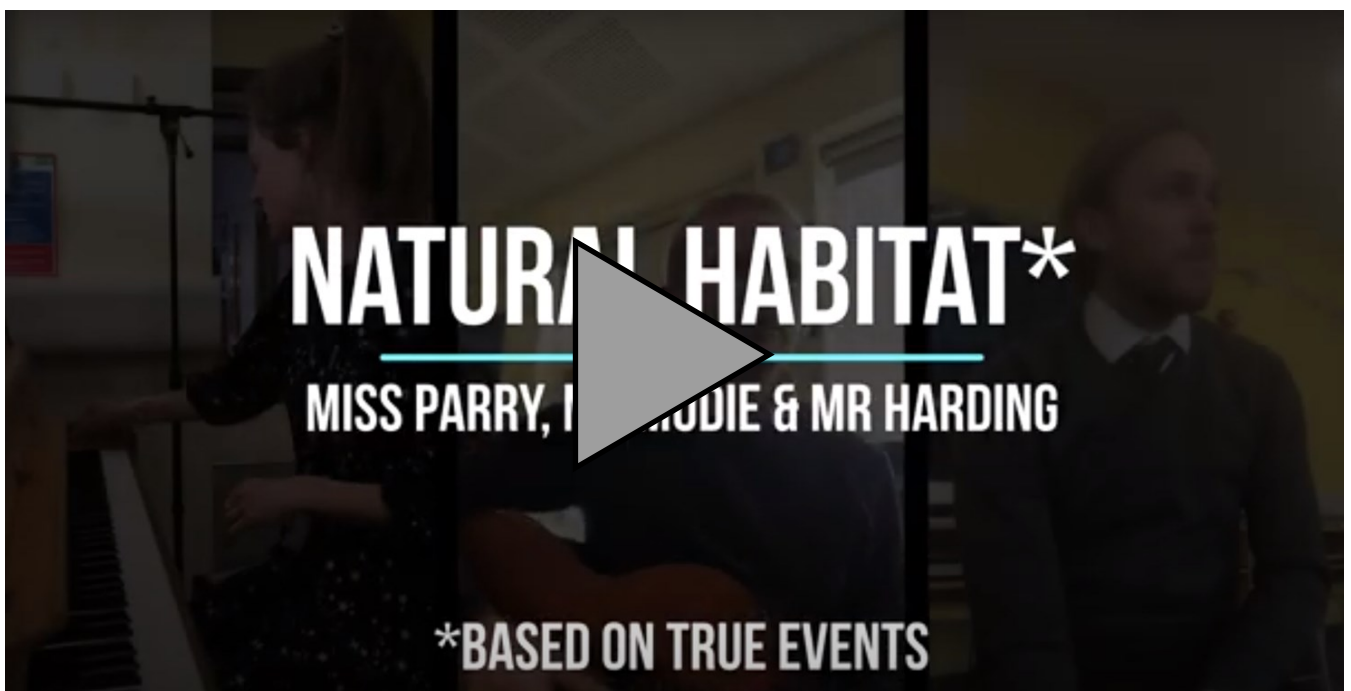
Please visit: <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/virtual-work-experience/>

New opportunities this week include:

- Speakers for Schools – Virtual Talks—NEW TALKS
- Pulse Academy Farnham – Easter Open Training Session
- Youth Mental Health Ambassador Dr Alex George/Ernst & Young
- Capgemini Webinars
- InvestIN: Live Q&A on Summer Internships 2021

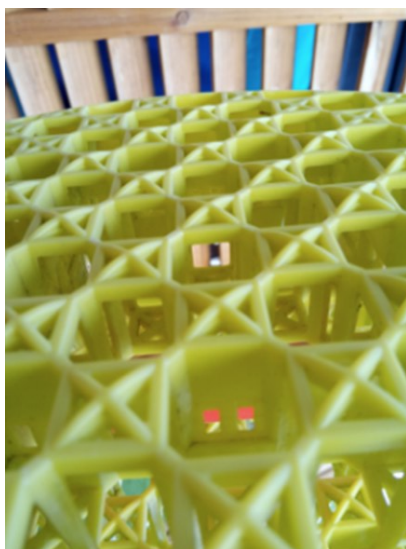
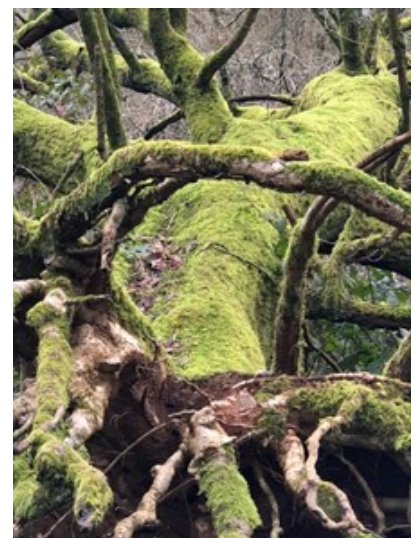
Teacher's Fret

Teacher's Fret are back...reflecting on a year of teaching like no other. 'Natural Habitat' performed by Miss Parry, Mr Mudie and Mr Harding.



Focus on: Year 8 Photography Workshop

Before half term, the photography department challenged Year 8 students to try and find something beautiful in what otherwise would be classed as every day 'boring' objects. It was lovely to see the Year 8 students engaging with other skills in lockdown and using the opportunity to be mindfully creative. Excellent effort from all those who took part. A special 'well done' to Thomas Holloway, Lauren Butler and Jessica Nicholson, whose photographs are shown below.



PTA

Kelly's March Marathon

Not long left to finish the virtual **Kelly's March Marathon**. You don't have to do it in one go – but only nine days left to complete the challenge! Our top runner ran for **over 10 hours last week** – how far did you go?

We are encouraging inter-house competition and currently **Falcon and Martlet are tied on the most sign ups!**

Thank you so much to everyone who has entered. We hope you are enjoying your challenge. We would be so grateful if you could encourage friends, colleagues and family to sponsor you. It is so easy for them to do. Just send them the link to your sponsorship page & remind them that 100% of all the money they give will go straight to the George Abbot Hardship Fund, helping members of the school community who need extra support resulting from the pandemic. It will go towards providing food, clothes, school resources and counselling—all sorely needed at present.

REMEMBER! There is a prize for the top fundraiser – a £50 voucher from Fitstuff! So far that top fundraiser has made £50— this is currently 21k according to chase the ladder. To enter, [use the link](#) and if you are looking for [sponsors give out this link](#).

To track your distance, once you are on Kelly's March Marathon Strava, you need to click on Chase the Ladder - that way we can monitor your distances.

Thank you again for your support, keep sending in your photos, they are fabulous! We love them!

Second-hand Uniform Collection

We are still collecting uniform, please drop off any unwanted uniform to Elmslie Reception any day this week. The PTA will be distributing to those who need it.

We are also taking orders for purchasing the second-hand uniform via PTA@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk. We are looking to organise a team to sort out the donations we have received. If you can volunteer, please email us using the email above .

Best wishes and stay safe,

from the PTA.



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