

George Abbot Bulletin

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

Headteacher's Message

09 July 2021



All,

This Bulletin is the penultimate one of the summer. It has been an academic year of challenge, adversity, complexity and many moving parts. It has had distinct phases and kept us all on our toes. Indeed, it threatens to keep testing our nerves right to the very end. As you know, we have now had five positive student coronavirus test results and two positive staff coronavirus test results – we do so hope that they will all recover well and swiftly. This week, on some days, we have had more than 25 staff out owing to being identified via the Track and Trace App or via our internal track and trace process. Next week, there will remain 60 students in isolation.

Please can I ask you all to be extra cautious and ensure your child/ren complete/s regular Lateral Flow Tests. If they feel unwell, please do not send them into school; always take their temperature. We have 6.5 school days to go. After that, Headteachers are required to continue taking responsibility for **track and trace procedures for 6 days following the end of term. This period will end at midday on Monday 26 July.** Therefore, please can I ask you to ensure that I am informed of any positive test results after the end of term via my email address kcarriett@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk. We will need to know:

- Name of student
- Date symptoms started
- Type of symptoms
- Date of positive test
- Last day your child was in attendance at school
- Your contact telephone number

Guidance has been issued about our return to school in September. We will be required to test all students twice on their return to school and then continue with at home lateral flow testing. **To carry out the testing we will again be asking for volunteers to help us in the first two weeks of term.** If you or anyone you know is able to help then please contact S.Jones@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk.

If you have previously consented to COVID-19 testing for your child there is no further action required. However, if you would like to change your consent for September, please email consent@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk. Further information will follow regarding the testing process.

Access to the school site will be restricted this August owing to major site improvement projects and so, we have taken the decision to move our Year 11 and Year 13 results process to a virtual arena. Final grades for students will be released via the SIMs App – see more details herein. A reminder that, nationally, results will be issued for **Year 13 on 10 August and for Year 11 on 12 August.**

As I reflect on the week, I am grateful that our Year 6 Induction Days were completed with success, our GAbbot Fest took place and was hugely enjoyed by all, our Chamber Choir sang beautifully at the Shrieval Service in the Cathedral, Year 12 Next Steps Week has seen top quality speakers and careers, advice and guidance in action, our House Music performances have been recorded today for judging next week and our Geography Field Trip has so far been all good. Very tight risk assessments are in place to make sure that our Gold DofE can go ahead next week. Our next whole school event is Sports Day next Friday – an important day in the life of George Abbot School.

Kate Carriett
Headteacher

GabbotFest 2021

Wow! What a day! £4000+ raised!

The annual GabbotFest made its triumphant return this week. The whole school event, which raises money for charity, was another roaring success. In difficult circumstances, the event was adapted and year groups got to experience the festival like atmosphere on a rotation. This year, the Heads of House and Year 12 student leadership team, who were organised incredibly well by Head Students, Charlotte and Jack, encouraged students to 'apply' to run a stall at GabbotFest. We had an incredible 160 groups of students who wanted to run a range of different stalls, from selling sweets and treats to drinks and jewellery, along with other unique ideas.

The Sixth Formers organised the semi-final and final of their in-house football tournament, 'GA Liga' to coincide with GabbotFest. The huge rendition of the national anthem before the semi-final was spine tingling!

The Year 9 Business studies groups were also hugely involved. They were tasked with creating original stall ideas. They have been preparing for the event for the past month, creating a business plan and adding value to materials with the aim of making a profit. Two groups made over £250 each in revenue and it was clear the most innovative ideas were amongst the most popular on the day. An invaluable experience for those budding entrepreneurs. A special mention must go to Business Studies teachers Mrs Mensah, Mrs Wallace Jones and Mr Harding for the support they gave the students and to all of the staff and Year 12 students who remained behind to help clear up at the end of the day.

The day was a huge success, and the students were a credit to themselves and the school. We were delighted with the outcome, and it looks like we have raised around £4000 for a variety of worthy charitable causes.

A huge thank you to all parents/carers who have supported the students, all of the staff who helped facilitate the event and finally the fantastic students that we have here at George Abbot.

Listen to Head Student, Charlotte, and Mr Rodgers' interview on BBC Surrey Radio [here](#).



Focus on: Shrieval Service at Guildford Cathedral

On Tuesday 6 July, the George Abbot Chamber Choir sang at the Shrieval Service at Guildford Cathedral. This historic service is normally held every year to mark the installation of the High Sherriff of Surrey.

Together with a choir from St Catherine's, Bramley, our students led the singing of the hymns and performed two anthems, one written specially for the service by Year 12 student Hattie and Miss Parry.

The students involved were a credit to the school—many thanks to all involved.



Results Day Information

We have taken the decision this year to deliver Summer 2021 results virtually. Students and their Parents/Carers will receive their results via the SIMs Student/Parent App & Schoolcomms. The Regulators have stated that results cannot be released to students/parents/carers until 8:30am onwards. As we will be publishing results via the SIMsApp, it is important that you are aware these could take a number of hours to appear within the App. Please ensure you can access your SIMs Student/Parent App account before we break for the summer holidays. If you have any issues logging in to your account please email:

simsapp@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

Year 11 and 13 result statements will be posted out by first class post on results day itself. A further communication with more detailed information will be sent out by Mr Robinson in due course.

Year 10 students will receive their result statements upon their return to school in September in a nominated tutor time.

Full information relating to results day processes will be available on our website under <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/examinations/>

Reporting LFT Test Results

Please continue to report your child's test results to the two following links:

The Government:

www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result

George Abbot School:

<https://forms.office.com/r/aa5GPS6gQM>

Lesson omission		
Week Commencing	A or B	Lesson omission
12 July	A	5
19 July	B	1

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⇒ Sports Day Reminders—Friday 16 July

- Students competing in a Sports Day event are expected to wear their normal PE kit along with their house shirt. Students not competing in an event are expected to wear their normal uniform along with their house shirt.
- Unfortunately, there will be no extra-curricular PE clubs on Thursday 15 July as all staff will be involved in setting up Sports Day.
- Please could all parents/carers encourage George Abbot students to check the team sheets which are located in the Sports Hall corridor regularly prior to next Friday, to ensure they know which events they are down to compete in.
- Due to the nature of the day it is highly recommended that students bring water bottles and sun cream.

⇒ Tuesday 20 July - Homework Club and Early Closure of School

On Tuesday 20 July, the school will close at midday to signal the end of the academic year and beginning of the summer break. Please note the Raynham library **will not** be open for homework club on this day, and provision should be made for all students to make their way home at midday.

⇒ Help during the summer holidays

If your family will need a foodbank referral during the school holidays, please contact Joanna Tutty (jtutty@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk) by Monday 19 July.

Alternatively, if any families find themselves in need during this time they can contact Guildford Borough Council's Community Wellbeing Team: 01483 444150 or community.wellbeing@guildford.gov.uk.

⇒ Appeal for Woodworkers!

The school would like to provide outside library posts (see image) to enable the students to read outside and exchange favourite books (once COVID-19 restrictions allow). Are there any talented woodworkers among our community who could build us two or three library posts? Company sponsorship is also welcome. Please email:

NCassidy@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

⇒ Surrey Police survey for young people

Please encourage your child to fill in the survey (linked below) to support Surrey Police in engaging with young people and their views on social media platforms.

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/3HCV4A/>

⇒ 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. Current opportunities:

- Science Technician

⇒ Guildford Rocks - Summer Holiday Inspiration

Guildford Rocks is a website for families living in and around Guildford to find fun things to do. Discover local events, places to visit, playgrounds, day trip ideas, children's classes, kids parties, holiday clubs, and outdoor spaces. For more information, please visit www.guildfordrocks.co.uk.

⇒ Second hand saucepan sets

We have a selection of light to medium gauge saucepan sets—large, medium and small with lids. Although old, they are still useable and are great for students going off to university or for people who are suddenly in need of kitchen equipment. We also have some individual saucepans, some with lids and some without.

If you are interested for yourself or know of someone in need, please contact:

eho@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

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<p>Year 11</p>	<p>⇒ Medicine Application Timeline - Getting Ready Medical Projects are running a free online event for Year 11s and soon-to-be 12s who are just starting to think about applying to medical school. This is primarily aimed at Year 11s who will be starting A-levels (or equivalent) in September 2021. They will have Doctors and current medical students covering the application timeline, work experience, entrance exams and everything students need to hit the ground running in September. An event timetable can be found on the Google registration link below.</p> <p>Event name: Medicine Application Timeline - Getting Ready Location: Online Date: 21 August 2021 Ages: Current Year 11 (going into Year 12 in September)</p> <p>This is a FREE event and booked on a first come first serve basis.</p> <p>Google registration link: https://forms.gle/Dud254nM1dozd3uF7</p>
<p>Year 7</p>	<p>⇒ Free audio/e-books Year 7 currently have access to a free trial of Wheelers eplatform giving them access to hundreds of audio books and e-books. Please take a look with them and encourage borrowing! To access: download the app: ePlatform by Wheelers or visit the website: https://georgeabbot.eplatform.co/. Their student login will be their name with no spaces but a full stop in between first and last, eg Joe.Bloggs and their password is Gabbot.</p>