

George Abbot Bulletin

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

Headteacher's Message

28 January 2022

All

Many thanks to all of you who have completed our parent/carer survey. We will leave the link open until 12.00pm on Monday 31 January, so if you have not had a moment to complete it yet, we hope that you still might find one over the weekend. <https://forms.office.com/r/UX9awEjLbz>

One of the best things about working and learning in a big school is the daily buzz and numerous interesting conversations we have within our community; whether they be with students, staff, governors or parents and carers. This week, we have been concluding our 1:1 meetings with every Year 11 student. These meetings are focussed on their next steps—the run up to GCSEs, their plans for post-16 study and their hopes for their futures. It has been an absolute privilege to talk to our Year 11 students; they have been thoughtful, reflective, ambitious and full of positivity for their futures. Hopefully, the conversations have also helped them to focus their efforts and feel secure in their aspirations.

This week has also concluded the process of UCAS applications for our Year 13 students. Mrs Rose, Mr Robinson and Mr Brinsden have been working with individual students to ensure sound advice and guidance, strong applications and ambitious but attainable applications have been submitted for University study. It is important that I give sincere thanks to the Sixth Form team for the superb work they do in supporting our Year 13s in this process. The team now moves on to supporting candidates who are applying for degree apprenticeships, gap years or moving into employment.

Next week, our Year 9 students begin their 1:1 conversations with staff about their GCSE choices. We have listened to the consistent parent/carer and student voice that tells us that choice matters to our young people. Continuing to study 4 subjects in addition to Science, Maths, English, PE and PSE is really important to our George Abbot community. A significant body of research indicates that giving young people a sense of choice and ownership in their education is one of the most important things that schools can do to engage and motivate their students. I am certainly looking forward to meeting my Year 9 interviewees next week; annually this process reveals we have George Abbot students who do the most extraordinary things. We have pilots, authors, sportsmen representing their county and country and actors gracing local stages. We also have young people of immense personal integrity, kindness and ambition. These qualities are some of the most important to ensure future success for every George Abbot young person.

Kate Carriett
 Headteacher

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
31 January	A	4
7 February	B	5
HALF TERM		

Notices

Whole School

⇒ **REMINDER: Early School Closure for Year 11 Parent Subject Consultations—
Monday 31 January 2022**

School will be closing at 1.30pm on Monday 31 January 2022 for the Year 11 Parent Subject consultation meetings.

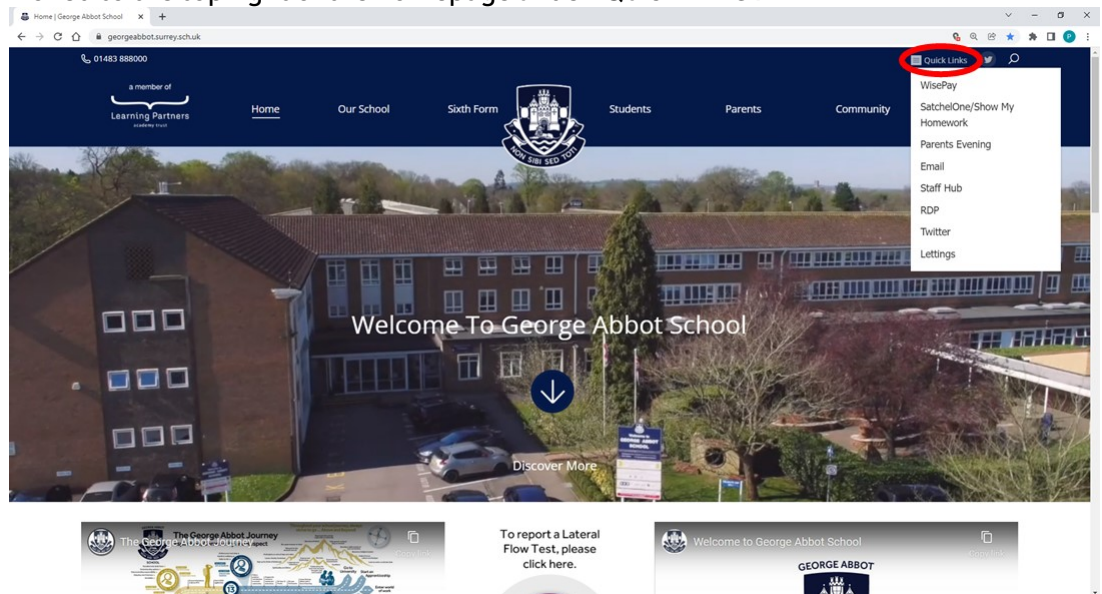
⇒ **COVID-19 Pop up Vaccination Clinic at George Abbot**

Please fill out the survey below if you would be interested in your child (age 16+) receiving their COVID-19 vaccination/booster at a pop up clinic hosted by the NHS at George Abbot School. No personal details will be recorded. This is in order to establish the viability of the site as a pop-up clinic at this time.

<https://forms.office.com/r/fGmdHsrhW1>

⇒ **Website Update**

Our website has recently been updated. As a result, the links that used to run along the bottom footer (WisePay, SatchelOne, Parents Evening, Email, Lettings etc. have now moved to the top right of the homepage under 'Quick Links'.



⇒ **IMAG—Climate Change: What's going on and why?**

This term Tormead School are hosting an event 'Climate Change: What's going on and why?' which is aimed at all students in any year group interested in climate change and the environmental effects on our planet. This is an online lecture and is free of charge. For more information, please [click here](#).

⇒ **Matrix—Elevate Young Leaders**

Matrix are offering a 7 week courses at their youth café from 3 February-24 March 2022 aimed at students in Year 10 and 11. Sessions include topics such as Who am I?, introduction to leadership and how everyone can be a leader. For more information, please see the [attached letter](#).

⇒ **Support for Parents/Carers from Surrey County Council**

Surrey County Council are currently offering a free online Parenting Course 'Supporting Your Teenager' in March. It is 3 sessions and covers understanding teenage behaviour and strategies to help support emotional and social development linking to anger, anxiety and impulsive behaviour.

[https://adultlearning.surreycc.gov.uk/Page/Prospectus_CourseOverview?
uio_id=23695](https://adultlearning.surreycc.gov.uk/Page/Prospectus_CourseOverview?uio_id=23695)

<p>Whole School</p>	<p>⇒ Household Support Fund The Household support fund is designed to help ease financial pressure on residents with low incomes. It is short-term financial support to help with food, fuel bills and other related essentials this winter. For more information please visit the link below: https://www.guildford.gov.uk/article/26087/Household-support-fund-How-do-I-apply or contact our Home School Link Workers: hslw@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk</p>
<p>Year 13</p>	<p>⇒ Year 13 Parent Subject Consultations—Wednesday 9 February 2022 Please see important information attached regarding Year 13 Parent Subject Meetings and instructions for booking appointments.</p> <p>⇒ Reports Year 13 Reports are due to be issued next week. Please ensure you can log into the SimsApp in advance. If you are having trouble logging in, please email: SimsApp@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk</p>
<p>Year 12</p>	<p>⇒ FAO of Year 12 students who are entitled to 25% extra time in exams Very few Year 12 students have provided the necessary evidence to be able to apply for their extra time this academic year. With the application date deadline in a few weeks, it is especially important that students due to sit BTECs this summer and need extra time, submit their evidence as soon as possible, but definitely before February half term. They need teacher comments and a piece of work clearly showing that they used 25% extra time in each subject. Please email Ms Barratt, Exams Access Arrangements Leader: bbarratt@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk if you have any questions.</p>
<p>Year 11</p>	<p>⇒ Year 11 Further Assessments and GCSE exams: w/c 28 February 2022 The current guidance is that there will be a full examination series in May and June. The next significant milestone in this process will occur on 7 February, when there will be announcements regarding the content and mode of assessment for all subjects. Once this information is released we will share this with you.</p> <p>To support students with their preparation for the forthcoming examinations, there will be a Learning Conference focusing on developing the study skills and strategies for students to effectively prepare for their examinations. This will take place during the school day on Monday 21 February. There will also be a virtual session for parents/carers on how best to support students at 6pm that evening. Mr Goulborn will contact you with further information about this event. During the week commencing 28 February, there will be a further set of formal assessments to ensure that students have experience of completing assessments under examination conditions. Students will receive individual timetables for these assessments prior to that week.</p>
<p>Year 10</p>	<p>⇒ Spring Maths Assessment For your information, the Year 10 Spring Maths assessment will take place during the week commencing 21 February. For more details of topics included, please see the revision list on SMHW from your child's Maths teacher. Standard maths equipment is required, including a pen, pencil, ruler and calculator.</p> <p>We recommend your child practices questions. They may wish to use any revision books they have and/or the following websites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Frost: https://www.dr frostmaths.com/ Username: school email Password: password • Maths Genie: http://www.mathsgenie.co.uk/ • Corbett Maths: https://corbettmaths.com/5-a-day/ <p>⇒ ADVANCED WARNING: RE Further Assessment Please be aware, Year 10 will sit their RE Further Assessment on Tuesday 8 March.</p>
<p>Year 9</p>	<p>⇒ Onatti MFL Production The MFL Department is excited to be hosting French, German and Spanish plays by Onatti Productions for Year 9 students. Please see letter attached. Return to home page</p>

Focus on: Year 10 MFL Careers Event

On Wednesday, around 40 of our Year 10 linguists joined with over 100 others from Guildford County, Kings and Fullbrook for an afternoon MFL careers and enrichment events to broaden students' experience of language learning and how their language skills will benefit them in future. The carousel of activities included a code breaking activity run by GCHQ, a careers panel hosted by the Civil Service, sessions on European film by lecturers from Reading University and a session about studying language at A Level/University by a student from Surrey University. Students also enjoyed trying their hand at Arabic and Italian in taster sessions, which was very impressive! We hope the students found the event useful.



Christmas Reading Challenge Winners

A big congratulations to our Christmas Reading Challenge winners - all from Year 9! Participants had to complete 12 different Christmas challenges including reading under the Christmas tree, writing a story about one of their Christmas traditions and research how Christmas is celebrated in other cultures. The winners are:

First place: Hana E
Second place: James H
Third place: Eliana T

Your voucher prizes will be on their way to you shortly. Well done to all who took part!

Be safe, be seen: cycling and visibility

During the pandemic, we have been wearing masks to protect others. But when we're out on the roads, we need to think about how we can keep ourselves and others in our community safe. With the darker and gloomy days upon us, please encourage your child to be **BE BRIGHT** and **BE SEEN** when travelling to and from school.



The Highway Code states:

- Your child **MUST** wear or carry something **light-coloured, bright or fluorescent** in poor daylight conditions. When it is dark, use **reflective materials** (e.g. armbands, sashes, waistcoats, jackets, footwear), which can be seen by drivers using headlights up to three times as far away as non-reflective materials.
- At night your child's bicycle **MUST** have **white front and red rear lights lit**. It **MUST** also be fitted with a **red rear reflector** (and **amber pedal reflectors**). White front reflectors and spoke reflectors will also help you to be seen. Flashing lights are permitted but it is recommended that cyclists who are riding in areas without street lighting use a steady front lamp.

Please also **INSIST** your child wears a helmet when riding their bicycle.

Careers

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

- National Apprenticeships Week—Virtual Insights, Speakers for Schools
- Apprenticeship Workshop (see below)
- Economist Degree Apprenticeship

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

- St Catherine's Careers with an Environmental Impact (see below)
- University of Surrey Taster Day—February—June 2022
- The American Dream – Interdisciplinary University Perspectives & Debate – Reading (Politics) & UEA (Film Studies)—7February 2022
- Speakers for Schools – Virtual Library Talks

Virtual Work Experience opportunities: <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/virtual-work-experience/>

- PWC—Virtual Classrooms
- Medic Mentor—Virtual Conferences

St Catherine's School, Bramley—Careers with an Environmental Impact

Tuesday 1 March, 4.30-6.00pm. Years 10-13.

St Catherine's invites students to their careers event with lots of fascinating speakers who will be offering an insight into their careers, including a climate lobbyist and reporter, a Government policy maker, a Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Imperial, a water conservationist and an entrepreneur. Please see the Careers page of the website for more information.



APPRENTICESHIP AND DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP WORKSHOP

With Sue Taylor from ALPS

FRIDAY 25 FEBRUARY, 9am – 10.30am in E22

This session will cover information and guidance on finding, selecting and sourcing relevant apprenticeships, the application process and assessment centres.

Please see Mrs Nash in USIC to register or email enash@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk.

If you are scheduled to have a lesson at this time, you will be allowed to attend this session but you will need to inform your teacher.



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