

George Abbot Bulletin

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

Headteacher's Message

1 April 2022

All

Two important things from me today. First, an enormous well done to the 150 students who participated in our Spring Celebration of music and dance. It was a triumphant end to the term. We were treated to beautiful dance routines and music spanning the ages—from 1700 to the present day. The vocal standards were exceptional with a particular highlight being the joyful rendition of a medley from the musical Matilda, showcasing our Year 7 choir alongside our senior students. The orchestra and concert band demonstrated the depth of musical talent amongst our students, posing a significant challenge to fit everybody onto Raynham stage. George Abbot Male Voice Choir were immense, as ever...not many state secondary schools can boast a choir of such quality. Individual students absolutely shone in a range of small ensemble performances and I know that there were many proud family members in attendance. Thank you so much to the Performing Arts staff for staging such a joyful event.

Secondly, the Summer Term will see a focus on the George Abbot Character Education programme. Ensuring our students are well equipped with both academic and personal skills requires deliberate care and thought. To that end, George Abbot is currently reviewing our Character Education programme, in particular, looking at the character traits that we believe are most important for our students. We want to embed core personal traits that will ensure our young people develop into healthy, happy, resilient and successful adults.

For this programme to be successful, it is important that everyone in our community has a voice in deciding which character traits we feel are the most important for our young people to develop. Therefore, we would be really grateful if you would please complete this short survey (link below) to identify which traits you feel are the most important and would like George Abbot School to focus on developing. It should take no more than five minutes.

<https://forms.office.com/r/PNx5FRfj1>

We really appreciate your thoughts in shaping our programme for our students. Students are also involved in giving us their feedback, through a survey designed by Mr Marker, and staff will continue this work together in the new term.

It just remains for me to thank you for your partnership and support in this most important of school years. Ensuring our children are back into the school routine, attending regularly, regaining consistency in their learning and springing forward in progress and confidence is vital after our COVID-19 experience. I truly thank our staff for their commitment in offering the rich learning experience, both inside and outside the classroom, that marks our school apart.

Happy Easter break to all and I send very best wishes for some relaxation and rest over the holiday period. We are looking forward to all that the Summer Term will bring.

Kate Carriett
Headteacher

Notices

Whole School

⇒ **GA Fashion Show**

We are delighted to announce that the Visual Arts Faculty and Dance have collaborated this year to create an amazing show called "Into the Wild".

There will be two performances of "Into the Wild" held in Raynham Hall on Wednesday 11 May 2022, at 6.00pm and 8.00pm. We are selling tickets for the performances, via WisePay. Please see attached letter for more details.

⇒ **Ski Trip 2023**

Before COVID the ski trip had grown into a huge part of the trips on offer at George Abbot, so we are delighted to be able to offer it again in 2023 after a two year absence due to the pandemic. The February half term trip will be heading to Sestriere (as planned in 2022). For more information, please see letter attached or watch the video [linked here](#).

⇒ **Learning Partners Parent/Carer Newsletter**

Please view the Learning Partners Academy Trust Newsletter [here](#).

⇒ **COVID-19 Update: Surrey County Council**

Please see letter [attached](#) from Surrey County Council.

⇒ **Easter Reading Project**

Students have the opportunity to vote for the best children's/Young Adult novel from the last year. Please [click here](#) to learn more and view the nominees.

⇒ **REMINDER: Early school closure for Year 9 Parent Subject Meetings—Thursday 21 April 2022**

Please be reminded that school will be closing at **1.30pm on Thursday 21 April** for us to conduct the Year 9 Parent/Teacher consultation meetings.

When the Progress Monitoring Subject Consultations are for a year group other than their own, students are expected to complete work set independently at home during the afternoon. This 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 20 April**. It is important to note that supervised student places are more limited than in previous times due to COVID-19 restrictions, so it is vital that we are forewarned of those who will be in attendance.

If you notify us your child will be remaining in school and your arrangements change, it is essential you let us know of the change before 12.00pm on the day. Where we have been notified that a student will be remaining in school, if they fail to arrive and register at USIC, you will be contacted by a truancy call alert from our attendance system. Therefore, it is important they register in USIC at 2.15pm if you have notified us that your son/daughter is remaining in school. **Please be reminded school buses will run at the usual time.**

⇒ **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 include:

- Assistant Headteacher

Year 12	<p>⇒ Biology Trip</p> <p>Just a reminder that the balance for the Biology Dale Fort fieldtrip to Wales is due on Friday 1 April 2022. Thank you to those who have already paid, if you need to check what payments you have already made just log into WisePay go to My Wise Account then scroll down to Payment History. Any WisePay queries please contact the Finance Team finance@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk</p>
Year 11	<p>⇒ Sixth Form Application Status Update</p> <p>Students who applied to join the Sixth Form in September will have received an update on the status of their application via their school email this week.</p> <p>Students should read their email carefully and action as appropriate. The deadline for responding, if necessary, is Friday 22 April 2022.</p> <p>If your child did not receive an email, or you have any questions, please email: thesixthform@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk.</p>
Year 10	<p>⇒ Understanding and Supporting your Year 10 Child with Anxiety</p> <p>We are pleased to announce we will be running a talk for parents/carers of Year 10 students from NHS Primary Mental Health Worker, Sandra Hooper, about anxiety and tips for supporting your child cope with anxiety.</p> <p>To be held on 4 May 2022 at 5.30pm, please book tickets via the following link: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/understanding-and-supporting-your-year-10-child-with-anxiety-tickets-308494795237</p> <p>If you have any questions about the event, please email the Home School Link Worker Team: hslw@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk</p> <p>Please remember to visit the wellbeing page of our website for useful resources: https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/wellbeing/</p>
Year 9	<p>⇒ Year 9 Parent Subject Consultations—Thursday 21 April 2022</p> <p>Please see important information attached regarding Year 9 Parent Subject Meetings and instructions for booking appointments.</p>

Sustainable GA

Second hand/Vintage Clothes sale—help needed!

The Sixth Form plan to hold a second hand/vintage clothes sale on Friday 13 May/ Saturday 14 May as part of the GA 'fashion week' which focuses on the relationship between fashion and sustainability. Buying and selling 'preloved' clothes can significantly reduce our fast fashion 'footprint' whilst still satisfying our love of wearing something new! Thank you for supporting the Sixth Form with this fantastic initiative. Proceeds of the sale will contribute to the purchase of new water fountains in the school playground.

Please bag any clean items of clothing or accessories in an acceptable condition and donate them to school. Please encourage your child to drop donations within the school day, or drop them yourself AFTER school hours, just inside the doors at Elmslie reception.

Clothing bank on site

And... for any items of clothing you don't think are appropriate for the second hand/vintage sale, we have now installed a clothing bank on site in front of Raynham Hall. Please encourage your child to drop items into the clothing bank within the school day.



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Focus on: Street dance Sensation!

One of our Year 7 students, Aidan, competed at the BDO Streetdance Southern Region championships in Crawley at the weekend. He took part in both the team event and also the Solo freestyle 12 and under event. His team came 4th in their category and Aidan came 3rd in the solo's out of 100 children. A fantastic achievement Aidan, well done!



Athletics Event Trials for District Sports

In the week commencing 18 April, we will be running athletics event trials for District Sports. The timetable of activities is below. Please note, track and field events are on different days.

	Tuesday			Wednesday			Thursday		
	Club	Area	Teacher	Club	Area	Teacher	Club	Area	Teacher
Break 1							Year 8 Rounders Batting Practice	SH	JLL
After School	Y7 Track Events	Field	AJR LM JLL			SGB	Y7 Field Events	Field	AJR LM PLJ
	Year 10 Track Events	Field	BRI JN	Year 8 Field Events	Field	LJM JLL	Y9 Track Events	Field	SGB CEF
	Y9 Field Events	Field	CEF SGB	Y10 Field Events	Field	JN BRI	Y8 Track Events	Field	LJM JLL
	6 th Form Fitness Suite		JZH	Year 10/11/6th Girls Fitness Suite	FS	LAM	Year 10/11/6th Boys Fitness Suite	FS	CXC

The Summer Term PE extracurricular timetable will commence from week commencing 25 April, as below.

	Tuesday			Wednesday			Thursday		
	Club	Area	Teacher	Club	Area	Teacher	Club	Area	Teacher
Break 1							Year 8 Rounders Batting Practice	SH	JLL
After School	Year 9/10 Athletics	Field	JN, JLL, AJR, LM	Year 11 GCSE PE Revision	SHL	JNF SGB	Year 7/8 Athletics	Field	CEF, AJR, JNF, LM
	Year 7/8 Cricket	SH	JNF, BRI	Year 11 Sport Studies Revision			Girls Cricket	SH	External Coach
	Year 7/9 Rounders	Field	PLJ, CEF	Year 9/10 Cricket	SH	BRI			
	Year 8 Tennis	Courts	SGB	Year 8/10 Rounders	Field	JN, JLL	Year 9/10 Tennis	Courts	SGB
	6 th Form Fitness Suite		JZH	Year 7 Tennis	Courts	LJM	Year 10/11/6th Boys Fitness Suite	FS	CXC

PTA

At last we come to the end of a lovely Spring (SNOWY) term! We had an amazing Spring Concert last night, selling snacks and drinks alongside our usual Event Raffle whilst listening to our student's beautiful performances. Well done to our winners of the lovely **Guildford Jazz** tickets, and an Afternoon Tea kindly sponsored by **Lunches Direct!** We also would like to thank **Britvic** for sponsoring our soft drinks, its lovely being able to rely on such a charity focused company!



facebook.com/georgeabbotparents
PTA@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk
georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/pta/

We now look forward to the Summer term – we have so many events planned: **SAVE THE DATE** for our annual Clandon Park Run on **2 July 2022** – it will be massive!

We are also planning to have refreshments at several school events, as well as a Quiz Night at the end of April. Tickets will go on sale as soon as Summer term starts, with more details being released.

Finally, we want to call on parents/carers to please join the PTA, we urgently need the following positions filled. We are a fun, relaxed group, and want to make sure everyone has a part and say, focusing on small but achievable events to enhance our children's schooling. All the below roles will only require on average an hour or so a month, so should fit in really well with busy schedules!

PTA Secretary – organise PTA meetings and meeting minutes.

PTA Social Events organiser – organise dates for events, ideas for events.

PTA IT Communications – organise the software we promote and work with.

None of these are very long term, so why not give it a go for a year or so, and help add to the community and fundraising efforts for the benefit of our kids!

Enjoy the Easter holidays,
PTA

Follow us on Facebook: <http://facebook.com/georgeabbotparents/>

Follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/georgeabbotpta

Email the PTA: PTA@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

Sign up for the Sainsbury's scheme and more information on the PTA at: www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/pta/

Sign up for EasyFundraising: www.easyfundraising.org.uk/georgeabbotschool

Sign up for AmazonSmile: type smile.amazon.co.uk in browser

GA Book Wishlist

We are regularly asked by parents/carers how you can support the school so we can continue to provide our rich and broad curriculum. If you would like, and are able, to support the school, we would be grateful if you could buy any of the books on our Amazon wishlist. This will arrive at the school a few days later, and will be added to the library, for students to enjoy.

Please click the following link to view our wishlist: <https://amzn.eu/bLjMJiD>

For full instructions on how to buy from an Amazon wishlist, please click [here](#).



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Careers

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

- Pinsent Masons Legal School Summer Work Experience Programme

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

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

- BCLP Legal Work Experience Programme—deadline 18 April
- Work Experience at Chertsey Museum—25 – 29 July 2022
- CIMA's Business & Management Virtual Work Experience—11 April
- Virtual Technology Work Experience—13 April

Get into... The Services

- Wednesday 27 April from 6:30 – 8:30pm
- Raynham Hall
- Students and parents/ carers welcome

Tickets for the event are free and available from Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/get-into-the-services-careers-event-tickets-304685892707>

If you have any further questions, please email Ella Nash enash@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk or Helen Rose hrose@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

We look forward to seeing you at the event!

Get in to....



The Services

Join us for our latest careers evening with talks from representatives of the:

British Army

Police

Royal Air Force

Royal Navy and the Royal Marines

South East Coast Ambulance Service tbc

Surrey Fire and Rescue

... followed by a chance to chat to the people who do the job.

Raynham Hall
Wednesday 27 April, 2022
6:30pm – 8:30pm

Tickets available from:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/get-into-the-services-careers-event-tickets-304685892707>



George Abbot School, Woodruff Avenue, Guildford, GU1 1XX
01483 888000 - www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk