

George Abbot Bulletin

Headteacher's Message

7 October 2022

All,

Already, it is only two weeks until half term. September saw us off to a flying start. We have hosted over 800 visitors during our Open Mornings – a real pleasure to invite Year 6 students and their parents to look around the school in action. The last few years saw tours cancelled thanks to COVID-19 and all of its implications; we appreciate how important seeing a school in action is for prospective parents/carers and our students of the future – indeed, that is why we do not offer showcase evenings. A best sense of a school is always gained by seeing it in action, by observing the rapport between students and staff, the ethos and engagement evident in the learning environment and the care and pride taken of and in the buildings and grounds. Our green space continues to be so important to our wellbeing as a community. Our students and our staff share a real sense of pride in the way we work and learn together in the George Abbot of 2022. Indeed, Mr Moloney, our retired Headteacher, is coming for a walk around in the coming days – it will be a joy to welcome him back and I know he misses us very much.

Our Parents Information Evenings and Year 11, 12 and 13 Tutor appointments are now complete – thank you to all of you who joined us for an update at the beginning of the new school year. We hope you found them to be a useful reminder of key procedures and systems, an opportunity to put a face to a name within our pastoral team and also, a chance to meet each other as part of our community.

We are delighted that, today, our first squad of Cricket Scholars have received their offer letters to join the Surrey County Cricket Club Scholar programme. This is a new venture, offering a George Abbot Sixth Form education around the highest calibre cricket coaching to our talented Surrey club cricketers. The standard of applicants from across the county was very strong and places were hard won. We will keep you updated on their progress as they begin their programme in Year 12 in September 2023.

This newsletter sees a round-up of September's sporting activity – from Year 7 up to Year 13, we have teams in action and winning in all sports. We have invested in additional coaching to supplement our ability to offer as many sports clubs for as many children as we can. Our team of PE teachers continues to go from strength to strength – with a team of 9, we have healthy depth and talent in our staff team. They are boosted by coaches in Basketball, Netball, Football and Rugby. We have seen students busy with school trips such as the much enjoyed Graphics trip to London Zoo and the music workshop at the Yeheudi Menuhin School. Year 11 took part in a really useful and timely careers morning, finding out about options to inspire and motivate for their education after the inevitably looming prospect of GCSEs. Some long range thinking is pretty important to help students navigate the graft required. As I write, 28 students are in Exmoor on the Silver DofE expedition. Still to come this half term, Year 8 are off to GLive for a poetry workshop, Year 11 will see a performance of Jekyll and Hyde, Bletchley Park will be visited, a theatre visit to see Woman in Black, a Textiles trip to the V&A. Here at school, our Year 7 Mini-Musicals are taking place on 19 and 20 October, the BBC are joining us for an interactive 'Share Your Story' assembly and we have our House Cross Country, a chance to amass points for the all important House trophy.

School is in fine shape – your children make it so.

Kate Carriett
Headteacher

<h1>Notices</h1>	<p>Week commencing 10 October = Week B Week commencing 17 October = Week A Friday 21 October = INSET Day</p>
<h2>Whole School</h2>	<p>⇒ Parent/Carer Information Evenings Dates September/October 2022 If you were unable to attend our Parent Information Evening, presentations shared can be found on the following page of the website, alongside tutor contact details: https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/year-group-info/</p> <p>⇒ SIMs App We are aware of issues regarding the SIMs App and data syncing and are currently in contact with the SIMs App provider to resolve this. Please bare with us whilst we look into the issue. We will make contact with parents/carers once the problem has been resolved. Thank you for your patience.</p> <p>⇒ Ski Trip—2 spaces available We have had 2 places become available on the ski trip to Sestriere, Italy at February half term 2023 (10 February to 18 February). This will be offered on a first come first served basis and will be opened on WisePayon Tuesday 11 October at 9am. The cost of the trip will be £1170, which includes 6 full days of ski school, ski passes, hire of ski equipment, all meals, travel, evening activities and a ski trip hoody. An initial £500 non-refundable deposit will need to be paid immediately to secure the place, with the balance due by 25 November. Any questions please email Mr Isherwood: bisherwood@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk</p> <p>⇒ Cross Country House Event—Thursday 20 October On Thursday 20 October we are hosting a cross country house event for all year groups after school. It would be great to see as many students participating as possible. The course will be approx. 3km around the field. Students will earn house points for competing in the event and can also earn places at the District Cross Country Qualifiers in November. It would be great if you could encourage your child to attend our first House Sports Competition of the year!</p> <p>⇒ Vacancies 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</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receptionist <p>⇒ Clear out your cupboards, help our school community and save the planet! Unwanted musical instruments and outdoors equipment for D of E expeditions. We'll be collecting donations from Elmslie Reception. Don't forget that the PTA are always keen to receive clean, good quality second hand uniform.</p> <p>⇒ Free National Trust tickets To claim your free National Trust tickets, please click here.</p>
<h2>Sixth Form</h2>	<p>⇒ Year 12 & 13 Progress Support Meetings – Thursday 10 November 5.00pm – 7.00pm, online video appointments via the Parents Evening System We will be holding the above event on Thursday 10 November. The aim of the meeting is to provide an opportunity for staff and parents to work together to support students whose progress is of concern in their exam subjects as we approach a key point in both GCSE and A-Level courses. Please note that students are expected to attend the video appointment with their parent/carer.</p> <p>Appointments are by staff invitation only. We will only contact parents with appointments if subject teachers have concern about how:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 12 students have started their new exam courses • Year 13 students are working in their final year of their courses.

Sixth Form

We will notify you via email no later than Thursday 3 November. You may also log in to the Parents Evening system after this date to view your appointments. If you have not been contacted by this date, please assume that your child's teachers have not requested an appointment.

If you do not receive notification requesting your attendance but you have concerns about your son/daughter's progress at this stage, please remember that you are able to contact the subject teacher or Head of Department via email. Details of how to contact individual members of staff can be found on the school website at <http://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/contact-us>.

Year 11

⇒ Year 11 Internal Assessments

Maths: Please be aware the Maths Year 11 Internal Assessment will take place on 25 November at 8.30am (1hr 30 mins). This will be a non calculator paper. The remaining two papers will be taken during the allocated Year 11 internal assessment period in December.

Revision ideas are being posted on SatchelOne and resources are on the SLE. The assessment will cover the whole syllabus so there will be no specific topic lists for these papers.

English: Please be aware that the first English Literature Year 11 internal assessment will take place on 28 November at 8.30am. This will be English Literature Paper 1: Shakespeare and the 19th Century Novel. All other English papers will take place during the allocated Year 11 internal assessment period in December.

⇒ Year 11 Progress Support Meetings – Thursday 10 November 5.00pm – 7.00pm, online video appointments via the Parents Evening System

We will be holding the above event on Thursday 10 November. The aim of the meeting is to provide an opportunity for staff and parents to work together to support students whose progress is of concern in their exam subjects as we approach a key point in both GCSE and A-Level courses. Please note that students are expected to attend the video appointment with their parent/carer.

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- Year 11 students are working in their final year of their courses.

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⇒ George Abbot Sixth Form Information Evening – Thursday 3 November 2022

For those students looking to join our Sixth Form in September 2023 we are holding an information evening on **Wednesday 3 November, from 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm**. Students will be able to book on to presentations from subject staff and have the opportunity to speak to students, who are currently studying in the Sixth Form, and will be able to answer subject specific questions. There are five different session times, giving you the opportunity to visit up to four different subject presentations and one presentation giving an overview of the Sixth Form experience. You will also be able to visit the Sixth Form Centre and speak to members of the Sixth Form team regarding subject combinations and any other related questions. You are invited to make bookings using the **Parents Evening System** which will **open on Monday 10 October at 8:00 am** and **close on Monday 17 October at 8.00 am**.

Year 11

Parents will be able to book by logging on to <https://georgeabbotschool.schoolcloud.co.uk/> using the following instructions:

1. Login: please fill in all of the details on the page, using your child's 'preferred' fore-name which matches our records. As a parent/carer if you are unable to log in using your first name, please try using your initial instead.
2. Select Sixth Form Information Evening and follow the on-screen instructions.
3. Adding/editing/viewing appointments: you may book 4 different subject sessions leaving one session free to attend Mrs Thorn's presentation in Elmslie Hall. Please make sure your different subject sessions are at different times.
4. Assistance: should you require any assistance accessing the system or making appointments, please contact the Curriculum Team via email on curriculum@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

Whilst we will endeavour to keep the original bookings, some sessions may have to be collapsed or expanded as necessary. Students will be issued with an alternative version of their bookings, if this is the case, during registration on Wednesday 3 November.

To find out more about the different subjects that are offered in the Sixth Form and further detail about the Sixth Form, please visit the following page of the school website: <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/sixth-form-admissions/>. On this page you will find links to the 'Sixth Form Prospectus' and the 'Subject Guide.' The subject guide details course content, schemes of assessment, career options and entry requirements.

Year 10

⇒ RE Internal Assessment—Friday 11 November at 8.30am

Year 10 students will be sitting their RE internal assessment on Friday 11 November at 8.30am. The exam will be 1 hour 45 minutes long and students will be examined on the following units:

- Christianity: beliefs and teachings
- Buddhism: beliefs and teachings
- Buddhism: practices
- Religion, Crime and Punishment

Please find [attached](#) a revision calendar to help students plan their revision. The idea is that students revise a few topics a day and this will ensure all topics for the exam have been revised. All the revision documents can be found on the SLE (linked on the calendar). If you have any questions or concerns please email Mrs King: vking@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

Year 7

⇒ Data Collection Sheet

As part of our annual review, you will be receiving, by post, a Data Collection Sheet for your child. Can you please ensure that you check all the details that we hold for your child and if needed, make any changes and return to the school reception.

It is vital that we hold up to date contact information for Parents/Carers in case we need to make contact and also any medical information we need to know for your child.

⇒ Mini-Musical Performances—19 and 20 October

Tickets for the Mini-Musical performances are now available on WisePay.

Please note that whilst booking a ticket through WisePay guarantees you a ticket to the event, the seats are not reserved, and seating will be assigned on a first come first served basis. Please arrive early if you wish to be allocated a seat near the front of the auditorium. Note that as seats are limited, visitors turning up to the performance without a seat reservation will not be able to be accommodated.

Sports Round Up

The new school year has delivered a busy but amazing start in the PE department. Students have represented George Abbot impeccably during fixtures and turned up in fantastic numbers for clubs. On Saturday 21 September a number of George Abbot students raced in the Surrey Schools Swimming Association Championships and won four events! The Junior Boys won the Medley Relay and Freestyle Relay and the Inter Girls won Medley Relay and Freestyle Relay too. We were the only school to win the double despite tough opposition that featured many private schools. Students are waiting to hear about their qualification to the National Finals.

Rugby has also got underway with Festivals hosted by Guildford Rugby Club for years 7,8,9,10 & 11. It has been great to see our school compete against so many local schools and we look forward to the coming months where we start our district and national cup journeys.

In Football the Girls U14's and U16's are through to next round of the National Cup. In the boys competition, the Year 7's won their first ever game against Christs College, the Year 8's are through after defeating Richard Challoner School and the Year 10's are also through to the next round where they will play against The Forrest School. Sadly, the Year 9's and Year 11's are out of the competition but can now focus on County and District competitions. Our Sixth Form 1st XI footballers won their first County Cup match.

Netball Club has been amazing to witness. There are five teams in both Y7 and Y8 (80 girls), three teams in Y9 (24 girls), two teams for both Y10 and Y11 (64 girls) and 12 Sixth form players! All years groups have fixtures around the corner so keep an eye on our twitter and SOCS to see how they get on.

Tennis is still going! George Abbot U15 boys are Surrey Champions after beating RGS in the semi-final and then Kingston Grammar School in the final. We will now compete in the Southeast competition against Kent, Middlesex and Sussex.

Basketball for Year 7's and Volleyball club for all years have seen very impressive numbers (over 50 girls and boys) and fixtures will soon be released.



PTA

Welcome back to all parents and carers! Hopefully by now you are getting back into the routine, and your children are happily adjusting to the new year. We would like to kick off this year by encouraging parents/carers, especially the new Year 7 parents/carers, to contact us and get involved in the PTA. We have amazing things we are fundraising towards, and in the next communication we will announce the official dates for PTA get-togethers (the first being the AGM on **2 November from 6.00pm-7.30pm**), and the list of events and fundraisers we will be having to help the school.

We have managed to raise an amazing amount last year with our drive to Get Back To Basics, supporting school events, with second hand clothing sales, drinks and snacks, and the Clandon Park Run. This year we are all plowing back into the school with practical things being bought for all the departments.

We will be planning to do a Christmas and/or Spring Fair this academic year and would love to hear from interested parents/carers/staff whether anyone would like to get involved. So please let us know ASAP if you are interested in volunteering, having a stall, sponsoring, or any other ways you feel you can get involved and help us make these successful events. Look out for the announcement of dates!

The PTA (pta@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk)

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COME
ALONG

Careers Fair

THURSDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2022



We are holding a Careers Fair on Thursday 10 November for Years 9, 11, 12 and 13. There will be approximately 40 exhibitors representing organisations from a wide variety of sectors, including: hospitality, pharmaceuticals, travel, law, sport, gaming, conservation, finance, human rights, engineering, theatre, and many more. We really hope that there will be something of interest for every student. Timings for the event is as follows:
Year 9: Lesson 3 Year 11: Lesson 4 Years 12 and 13: Lesson 3 or Lesson 4

We would like to invite parents and carers to attend between 3.15pm-4.00pm in order to help support students engage in career opportunities.

Students will be provided with a task sheet in advance of the Careers Fair to help them prepare. The aim of this is to research organisations that they are interested in, as well as to prepare questions to be asked of the exhibitors on the day to encourage useful dialogue. We will be challenging each student to visit at least one industry/company that they had never previously considered to be of interest to them!

If you have any questions about this event, please email Mrs Nash and Miss McLean in the Careers Department: ceg@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk.

Follow us on twitter (@gabbot_news) for news and updates as we count down to what is expected to be a fantastic event on 10 November! We look forward to welcoming you.



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Careers

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

- Careers Days—live information sessions regarding different University applications
- High Fliers—Introduction to Degree Apprenticeships
- Thinking Ahead Engineering Taster Programme
- PcW Women in STEM—19 October

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

- Parent Perspective Podcast—Money
- Charles Russell Speechlys—Solicitors Apprenticeship Opportunities
- IBM Apprenticeships Opportunities—12 November
- Apprenticeships Information Pack

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

- Allied Healthcare Work Experience—6 November
- Surrey CC Youth Employment UK

AN ADAMS-SWEETING LECTURE

Seeing is believing: A century of visualizing molecules

By Venki Ramakrishnan

Date: Friday 14 Oct 2022
Venue: University of Surrey, Guildford, GU2 7XH.
Timings: 18:00-19:30

How to book: surrey.ac.uk/asevents

Headshot Courtesy of Kate Joyce and Santa Fe Institute

ADAMS-SWEETING FRONTIER SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

SURREY ARTS

MUSIC LESSONS AT GEORGE ABBOT SCHOOL

Electric Guitar Bass Guitar
Acoustic Guitar Double Bass
Piano Drums Singing Brass
Violin Woodwind Cello

Online registration:
bit.ly/SA-SpeedAdmin

NON SIBI SED TOTI

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

Andrew Lawrence's Basketball Camp



On Friday 28 October, George Abbot School will be holding a Basketball Camp run by Andrew Lawrence, Olympian and Great Britain Basketball Player. The session will run from 11.00am-1.30pm. If your child would like to attend please tell them to pick up an entry form from Tuesday 11 October onwards from the PE Department.

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Focus on: Year 10 GCSE Drama students attend Creative Careers Day at the Yvonne Arnaud

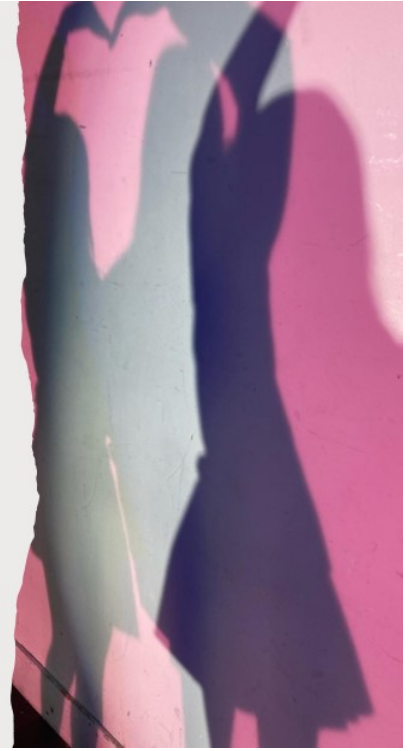
The day involved leaders sharing their expertise from across the theatre, allowing students to deepen their understanding of how the theatre works as well as providing helpful insights on training and career pathways in theatre management, production, performing arts, backstage and technical theatre.

Students commented;

'The experience expanded my knowledge of jobs in the industry'.

'We explored the different aspects of behind the scenes of a performance that we never considered before; like costume designer, marketing manager and the 'flyperson'!'.

Thank you to the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, Guildford for this fantastic experience!



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