

George Abbot Bulletin



Headteacher's Message

20 October 2022

All,

As I write, Year 7 are building up to their two nights of Mini-Musicals. The energy, excitement, camaraderie, smiles, talent, dramatic splendour and musical magic is a joy to behold.

It has taken quite a team effort to bring our Year 7s to performance standard in a very short space of time. All of that effort has resulted in students working together, experiencing the joy of a live band, making new friends, remembering lyrics, stages moves and dance steps. They have learnt that together we can achieve remarkable things. Thank you to all of the parents and carers who will support this special event.

This half term has been characteristically full of action, trips, visitors to school, lots and lots of learning in classrooms. On my daily learning walks, I observe a calm, focussed, positive school climate: a place where people work together and relish improving, solving problems, and creating. Assemblies have seen positive year groups with strong bonds amongst their peers and great support for each other as they have celebrated each other's successes.

This half term is well deserved. I hope that it brings rest, time with friends and lots of fresh air. Year 11 and Year 13 will also, I hope, take the opportunity to calmly tackle some revision of a topic they know needs their focus. As well as making sure a lie-in or two features in their to-do list.

Lastly, a reminder of some important contacts if your family need support this holiday. School is closed and messages will not be routinely checked. Therefore, please do keep this list of support in case it is helpful, now or in the future:

- Mindworks Surrey <https://www.mindworks-surrey.org/> 0800 915 4644 (a 24 hour mental health crisis helpline) Provides support to young people of all ages, including what to do when they are worried about a friend or family member, as well as support and advice for parents.
- CYP Haven: www.cyphaven.net/home/guildford a mental health crisis drop-in centre based in Guildford.
- Childline: www.childline.org.uk 0800 1111
- Samaritans: <https://www.samaritans.org/> 116 123
- UK Safer Internet Centre <https://saferinternet.org.uk/> which provides guidance and support for parents.
- If you are in need of food, your GP is able to issue food bank vouchers.

In case of an emergency, or if you/your child/a family member feels unsafe or at risk of harm then contact:

- Emergency Services: 999
- Non-emergency police: 101
- Surrey Children's Services: 0300 470 9100 and their out-of-hours number 01483 517898.

With our best wishes and thanks for entrusting us with your superb young people.

Kate Carriett
Headteacher

Notices

Friday 21 October = INSET Day
Week commencing 24 October = Half Term
Week commencing 31 October = Week B
Week commencing 7 November = Week A

Whole School

⇒ Free School Meals

We have been advised by Surrey County Council that we are able to issue a £15 voucher to students eligible for Free School Meals to cover the half term holiday. This voucher has been issued and sent via Wonde. If you would prefer a printed copy to be posted to you, please email lwilde@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk specifying the supermarket you would prefer the voucher to be for. If you have had your voucher printed in the past, please can we ask that you re-confirm you would like to receive your voucher in this way by emailing the contact above.

⇒ Uniform Shop

The School Uniform Shop continues to open throughout term time. We are also happy to take orders by email for your son or daughter to collect. Please email spsschoolshops@yahoo.co.uk. Please use 'GA ORDER' as your header and please include: child's name and class, item(s) required including size, and a contact number. We will then contact you to take payment and advise when it will be ready for collection.

Upcoming opening times:

Tuesday 1 November - 2.45pm to 4.45pm

Thursday 3 November - 2.45pm to 4.45pm

Appointments are not needed during these times unless your child is starting new - please just drop in. On any of the above dates, we are happy to stay after 4.45pm to see you by appointment - please email us to arrange this.

⇒ Unwanted musical instruments and outdoors equipment for DofE expeditions wanted!

We'll be collecting donations from Elmslie Reception from Monday 31 October through to Friday 19 November. Don't forget that we are always keen to receive clean, good quality second hand uniform. Students will find out how to get hold of second-hand equipment shortly - tell them to listen out for details!

Thank you also for the donations of calculators, textbooks, revision guides and ring binders. We are still happy to receive any of these if you have some at home.

⇒ Wanted— tree stumps!

Are you a landscape gardener or tree surgeon? We are developing an Outdoor Learning Area in the school grounds and will need plenty of tree stumps to create the classroom seating area and wood for a table in our learning copse. If you can help to provide these, please contact the school sustainability lead Jane Wallace-Jones:
JWallaceJones@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

⇒ Guildford Family Centre October Newsletter

Please see latest edition here: <https://guildfordnsc.surrey.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/October-edition.pdf>

Sixth Form

⇒ 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.

Sixth Form

Appointments are by staff invitation only. We will only contact parents with appointments if subject teachers have concern about how:

- Year 12 students have started their new exam courses
- Year 13 students are working in their final year of their courses.

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>.

⇒ **Arts and Languages Paris Trip 2023**

Thank you to those students who have shown interest in the Paris Trip. Further information about this trip is attached.

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.

Appointments are by staff invitation only. We will only contact parents with appointments if subject teachers have concern about how:

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

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 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

⇒ CVs

Year 10 students have now all completed their PSE lessons on CV writing in preparation for Interview Day. All CVs need to be finished by the beginning of next half term so can we therefore ask that you support and encourage your son/daughter to complete this task. All details are on their SMHW and the CV will need to be submitted to their PSE teacher. If your child would like some extra guidance or support with this, please do ask them to see the careers team based in USIC.

Year 9

⇒ Year 10-11: September 2023-July 2025

As you are aware, Year 9 will commence their GCSE and BTEC courses from September 2023. Our aim is that the curriculum provides students with the best opportunity to succeed academically, whilst supporting breadth and personalisation. A series of events, in the coming months, will explain the school's process and approach.

A parent information presentation will be pre-recorded and a link to the presentation will be included in the parent bulletin sent out in December.

This presentation will explain the organisation of the curriculum. Students will have watched a similar presentation in their form time during the previous week. In the communication sent to parents, you will also find a link to the Year 10-11 Curriculum Booklet 2023-25 and links to pre-recorded presentations from staff in the subjects your child may be interested in studying. It is intended for Year 9 parents **and** students to watch the recorded presentations together, to prompt conversations about the Year 10-11 curriculum and any choices that the student is expected to make. Your child will also be given a personalised letter with details of the curriculum decisions they will need to make.

In February, one to one interviews will take place to support each student's decision making process.

Your child will then be asked to make their final Curriculum choices via the SIMS App and the deadline for completing these choices will be **Monday 20 March 2023**. More information on how to submit these choices will follow in early March and students and parents will need to have signed up to the SIMS app before this time if they have not done so already.

We hope you and your child will feel fully informed and supported throughout the planning of the next stage of their Curriculum journey; this programme of events has been planned with these aims firmly in mind.

Year 9	Programme of Events for Year 9s		
	Date	Time/Where	Event
	W/C 28 November 2022	Year 9 Students recorded presentation delivered during form time	Recorded Presentation including an overview of the Year 10-11 Curriculum and process of any decision making
	Friday 9 December 2022	Information Released in Parent Bulletin	Recorded Presentation including an overview of the Year 10-11 Curriculum and the process of decision making Link to the 2023-25 Curriculum Booklet Link to the Subject Presentations Students will be handed their choices pathway letter
	W/C 30 January 2023	Year 9 Students Assembly	Curriculum interviews and applications explained to students
	February 2023	Year 9 Students	1:1 interviews to discuss curriculum choices
	Friday 3 March 2023	Year 9 Students	Online Curriculum form available via the Student SIMsApp
Monday 20 March 2023, 9.00am	Deadline	Deadline for Student choices to be submitted via the Student SIMsApp	
Year 8	<p>⇒ Headphones</p> <p>On behalf of the Computer Science and ICT department, students are reminded that they are required to individually have a set of headphones for use in ICT lessons, which must be brought to every lesson as part of the lesson equipment. We are currently running units which require headphones, though more students are coming to lessons without them.</p>		
Year 7	<p>A cheap pair with a standard 3.5mm jack connector will suffice, nothing fancy or expensive is necessary. We are not able to provide headphones, and with developments in our curriculum, students will be disadvantaged if they do not regularly bring them into lessons.</p>		

Exhibition for the Visual Arts



You are cordially invited to a Preview Exhibition of A-Level and GCSE Fine Art, Graphics, Textiles and Photography work at George Abbot School in Elmslie Hall on Tuesday 15 November, 6.00pm – 8.30pm.

Exhibition also open on: Wednesday 16 November, 6.00pm – 8.00pm

PE Extra-Curricular Timetable—Half Term 2

	Monday			Tuesday			Wednesday			Thursday			Friday		
	Club	Area	Teacher	Club	Area	Teacher	Club	Area	Teacher	Club	Area	Teacher	Club	Area	Teacher
2 nd Break	Year 7 Badminton	SH	SB	Year 8 Badminton	SH	CRM	Year 9 Badminton	SH	JLL	Year 10 Badminton	SH	AJR	Year 7 Netball	Courts	CRM
				6 th Form Girls Basketball	SH	JLL				Year 7 - 8 Hockey	Astro	BRI			
A f t e r S c h o o l	Year 7 Boys Basketball	Gym	External Coach	Year 9 – 11 Hockey (Boys and Girls)	Astro	BRI / PLJ	Year 7/8/9 Girls Football	Astro	JN / PLJ / CRM	Year 8 Girls Basketball	Gym	CEF			
	Surrey Cricket (Invite only)	SH	External Coach	Year 8/9 Boys Basketball	SH	AJR / JNF / SJ	Year 7 - 9 Boys Football	Field	External Coach (2) / JNF / SGB / AJR	Year 10/11 Boys Basketball	SH	External Coach / SGB			
				Year 8 Girls Netball	Courts	CRM	Gymnastics (All years)	Gym	JZH	Year 9/10/11/6th Girls Netball	Courts	External Coach / JN / CEF / JLL			
				Trampoline (All Years)	SH	CEF									
				Year 9 Girls Basketball	Gym	JLL	Year 7 Girls Basketball	Gym	External Coach	Year 7 - 9 Rugby	Field	External Coach (2) / BRI / SJ			
			Y10/11/6th Girls Fitness Suite	FS	JZH	Year 10/11/6th Girls Basketball	SH	JN / JLL / CRM	Y10/11/6th Boys Fitness Suite	FS	CXC				

PTA

This year we are having a digital Christmas raffle. We have had a great response so far from local businesses who are donating prizes and using the opportunity to advertise their company.

Therefore, we would like to reach out to parents and carers who may have a small business that would benefit from advertising on our digital platform and donate a prize. Or indeed any parent/carer that wants to donate a prize as an individual. If this applies to you, please email pta@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk.

Don't forget, if you interested in a stall for the proposed Christmas Fair then please email and let us know.

We look forward to meeting the Year 7 parents/carers this week as we run our fabulous bar at the Mini-Musical Showcase.

Careers

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

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

- Parent Perspective Podcast—Considering the Options
- Apprenticeship with Aldi
- PwC Apprenticeship opportunities

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

- Get into Medicine Conference
- Get into Veterinary Conference

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
Any student in Year 9-13 is welcome to attend in Break 3 or afterschool.

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!

For students looking for work experience or possible future apprenticeships this is an excellent opportunity to do some networking.

If you are attending between 3.15pm and 4pm there is no need to book just please turn up and sign in at Elmslie reception but please note there will be no parking on site.

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.



Focus on: The Woman in Black Theatre Trip

On Tuesday 11 October our GCSE and A-level students attended a performance of The Woman in Black at the Fortune Theatre in London.

Students said;

'It was definitely one which I will never forget, the most unnerving and spine chilling play I have seen and I loved the ambiguity and atmosphere created. I loved the jump scares and the frightening screams and overall it was an amazing evening.' Megan

'It was a great production and experience, it was scary but funny at the same time because when the jump scares happened, the audience did huge screams. I liked that it only had three actors in the cast, and to see them play different roles was really interesting' Ollie

'I really enjoyed the performance and thought it was an amazing experience. One thing that did stand out for me was the sound and lighting. They created the atmosphere, and it made you feel like you were really part of the show.' Emma

'I would say the main things that stood out for me was the effective use of minimal props and set, since it almost added to eerie and sinister mood of the play. I really liked how they split up the stage as it gave the Woman in Black a place to be associated with. The Woman in Black would always appear in different places and have the repeated stairs sound just made me feel very tense.' Dari

A big thank you to Mrs Melville, Mr Omar, Miss Collinson and Mr Manson for accompanying the students on this trip.



MONDAYS

3.15 - 4.45PM

31st October
21st November
12th December

MERROW METHODIST CHURCH, GU1 2SH

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