

# George Abbot Bulletin



## Headteacher's Message

20 January 2023

All,

This week has been cold and January has definitely reminded us that it is here. As we move into the second half of the month, we begin to see past dark mornings to plans ahead. Last week, I reminded you all of key dates for this half term - these are included in the year group sections later in this newsletter as reminders. This week, some slightly further ahead dates for your diaries and things that I hope are of interest:

- On Monday 30 January, we welcome Ofsted to our school to undertake a research visit with our Geography Department. As well as inspecting schools, Ofsted compiles subject related reports about the quality of education across the curriculum in schools across the country. We are really pleased that we have been selected to contribute to the Geography report - students may, therefore, see visitors in their Geography lessons that day. Mr Mudie is ready to impress.
- Team Performing Arts continue to provide students with lots of opportunities: do make a note of the dates that follow - it would be lovely to see many of you at some of these important community and cultural occasions

**Thursday 9 February, 6pm:** Year 13 recitals (PA1)

**Wednesday 8 March, 7.30pm:** Schools Got Talent! (G Live) - tickets via WisePay from February

**Saturday 11 March, 7.30pm:** Carmina Burana (St Catherine's, Bramley) - tickets via St Catherine's web site

**Week commencing 13 March:** Year 13 Drama performances

**Week commencing 20 March:** Year 11 Drama performances

**Monday 27 March, 7pm:** Dance Live (GLive) - tickets via WisePay

**Thursday 30 March, 7pm:** George Abbot Spring Concert (Raynham Hall) - tickets via WisePay nearer the time.

- Oliver auditions have been completed and over 150 students auditioned this week - the level of talent and enthusiasm was absolutely brilliant to see. We are delighted that we have a full cast, and congratulations to all those who got a place. Rehearsals start next week, with all cast members needed on Tuesdays after school every week. **A reminder that the show dates are 4-7 July.**
- On 27 February, Year 10 have their mock RE assessment - do see the note that is included herein from Team RE.
- Half term sees three overseas trips - hooray! They are back! 89 skiers are off to Sestriere, 31 sixth formers are off to Paris and 33 Geographers are off to Iceland. Travel safely to all involved and we look forward to hearing tales of dastardly daring on their return
- The full GCSE, A Level and BTEC examination calendar for this summer is published on the school website. If you are a Year 11 or Year 13 parent, please print it off, attach it to the fridge and insist on seeing your son/daughter's own-devised first draft revision calendar by February half term.
- To ensure there is something to look forward to at the end of the exam season, a reminder that the Prom dates are:

Year 11 - Wednesday 28 June at Pine Ridge Gold Club - 7-10pm

Year 13 - Monday 3 July at The Mandolay Hotel

Next a plea for your support. We are looking for a Community Governor to join our George Abbot Governing Body. We are very lucky to have superb governors at George Abbot - I genuinely welcome their integrity, wisdom and robust challenge. Our children deserve the best education that our resources can offer and their support is key to your children receiving just that. Community Governors are not parents, but are others who are members of our community who want to make a difference for the better for the young people of Guildford. If you think you might know someone who would be ideal, please do read more at the end of this bulletin.

[Return to home page](#)

Lastly, the first of several updates about student feedback. Your children have been asked to help us think about how we can improve our school buildings over the medium and longer term. As part of that process, they have been asked if they would like to complete a questionnaire on Satchel One - the link is still active, so do mention it if you think your child might have missed it. One of the questions asks them what is the best thing about George Abbot School? What makes it special? Here is the word cloud of the 406 responses received so far:



What heartening feedback that is - thank you for entrusting us with such positive young people.

Kate Carriett  
Headteacher

Notices	<p style="text-align: right;">Week commencing 23 January = Week B Week commencing 30 January = Week A</p>
<b>Whole School</b>	<p>⇒ <b>REMINDER: Early School Closure for Year 11 Parent Subject Consultations— Wednesday 25 January 2023</b></p> <p>School will be closing at 1.35pm on Wednesday 25 January 2023 for the Year 11 Parent Subject consultation meetings. <b>Please be reminded school buses will run at the usual time.</b></p> <p>⇒ <b>Toxic Online Culture</b></p> <p>There has been a prevalence of extreme far-right views shared on social media platforms recently, exacerbated by Twitter un-banning prominent figures who share misogynistic, racist, anti-Semitic or anti LGBT rhetoric. Young people’s first engagement with such content can often seem quite superficial, but social media algorithms can then lead them to increasingly problematic and extreme content.</p> <p>As part of our PSE program, we help students develop the skills and knowledge to become digitally critical thinkers, know what constitutes healthy and respectful relationships, and embrace our George Abbot character traits. Over the coming term we will be further addressing toxic online communities and online safety through PSE and year group assemblies.</p> <p>Speaking to young people about these topics can be difficult; it is important to acknowledge that many influencers share helpful and correct information, however many share misinformation and disinformation to draw people into their views, and for their own financial income. Asking students to explain their views, and question their personal conclusions, can positively support challenging far-right and extremist ideologies.</p> <p>We hope that all students know how to report and block content online they are worried about, but should you or your child need any support, or should you have any further questions, please email Mrs Murphy, <a href="mailto:smurphy@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk">smurphy@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk</a>.</p> <p>⇒ <b>Summer Exam Entries</b></p> <p>The deadline for students wishing to retake/enter for the Summer 2023 examination series is 31 January 2023. All information can be found on our website <a href="https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/examinations/">https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/examinations/</a></p>

<p><b>Whole School</b></p>	<p>⇒ <b>Vacancies</b> Please see the following page of the school website for further details on our current vacancies: <a href="https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/recruitment/">https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/recruitment/</a>. Please do forward to any friends or colleagues you think might be interested. Current opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home School Link Worker</li> <li>• Teacher of English</li> <li>• Pastoral Year Leader</li> <li>• Teacher of MFL</li> </ul> <p>Vacancies at Innovate, our catering provider: <a href="https://www.caterer.com/job/catering-supervisor/innovate-ifg-job99591931">https://www.caterer.com/job/catering-supervisor/innovate-ifg-job99591931</a></p> <p>⇒ <b>School Uniform Shop</b> Upcoming opening times:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monday 23 January 3pm to 4.45pm</li> <li>• Thursday 26 January 3pm to 4.45pm</li> </ul>
<p><b>Year 13</b></p>	<p>⇒ <b>Reminders</b> <b>Timetables</b> for the Summer 2023 exam series can be found on the following page of the website: <a href="https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/examinations/">https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/examinations/</a>. The <b>JCQ Contingency Day</b> is Wednesday 28 June. We strongly advise that students are available for this date. <b>Mock results</b> will be published on Tuesday 31 January. <b>Year 13 Parent Subject Meetings</b> are on Thursday 2 February.</p>
<p><b>Year 11</b></p>	<p>⇒ <b>Year 11 Parent Subject Consultations—Wednesday 25 January 2023</b> Please see important information <a href="#">attached</a> regarding Year 11 Parent Subject Meetings and instructions for booking appointments.</p> <p>⇒ <b>Exam Reminders</b> <b>Timetables</b> for the Summer 2023 exam series can be found on the following page of the website: <a href="https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/examinations/">https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/examinations/</a>. The <b>JCQ Contingency Day</b> is Wednesday 28 June. We strongly advise that students are available for this date.</p>
<p><b>Year 10</b></p>	<p>⇒ <b>Preparation for the Year 10 RE Assessment – w/c 27 February</b> The RE assessment paper will be 50 minutes – this is an excellent opportunity to revise two topics which will also come up in student’s GCSE exam in May. The following units will be examined:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationships and Families (Theme A)</li> <li>• Religion, Human Rights and Social Justice (Theme F)</li> </ul> <p>Students can use the <a href="#">attached revision calendar</a> to make sure they have revised all topics for the assessment. They will find revision resources on the SLE and can use these and their class notes to revise. <a href="#">Relationships and families</a>      <a href="#">Social justice</a> Exam questions can be found here: <a href="#">Themes (read document in folder)</a></p> <p>In addition, the following videos on YouTube are an excellent revision resource: Relationships and Families: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ph07qxd6zQ&amp;list=PL4dFxRzoWJRkEVHdi_NkOxrgHQ4THPtZb&amp;index=29">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ph07qxd6zQ&amp;list=PL4dFxRzoWJRkEVHdi_NkOxrgHQ4THPtZb&amp;index=29</a> Human Rights and Social Justice: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rDXBe9FiOH4&amp;list=PL4dFxRzoWJRkEVHdi_NkOxrgHQ4THPtZb&amp;index=31">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rDXBe9FiOH4&amp;list=PL4dFxRzoWJRkEVHdi_NkOxrgHQ4THPtZb&amp;index=31</a></p> <p>There is no requirement to purchase a revision guide, but if you wish to do so we would suggest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AQA GCSE Religious Studies A: Christianity and Buddhism Revision Guide Paperback – 1 Jan 2018 by Marianne Fleming, Nagapriya and Peter Smith</li> </ul> <p>If you have any questions or concerns, please email Mrs King: <a href="mailto:vking@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk">vking@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk</a></p>

<b>Year 9</b>	<p>⇒ <b>Examination Week</b> Students in Year 9 are due to sit assessments between Tuesday 31 January and Friday 3 February. In order to help them prepare, <a href="#">attached is the schedule</a> for the assessment week with brief, but key information.</p> <p>In addition, next week, each student will receive a named personalised timetable, with details of what assessments they are sitting, which room to go to, and which seat number they have been reserved.</p> <p>Any questions that your child has about the organisation of the assessment week should be directed to their Heads of Year, Mrs Finnis and Mrs Jenkins.</p>
<b>Year 8</b>	<p>⇒ <b>Examination Week—w/c 6 February</b> <b>Science</b>—A reminder that, students sit assessments at the end of each subject block. Please note that most of these assessments will therefore not be taking place during the Y8 assessment weeks. Advance notice of these assessments will be given to students via Show My Homework (SatchelOne). Dates for the Year 8 Science end of year exam are 22-26 May 2023.</p> <p>⇒ <b>Hamilton Trip</b> The Performing Arts team are running a trip to see the award-winning West End musical, Hamilton on Thursday 9 March. <a href="#">Click here for more details</a>. Tickets can be purchased on WisePay from Monday 23 January at 9am.</p> <p>⇒ <b>Be Your Best</b> Be Your Best is a free service for Surrey families with children aged 0-12 who are above the healthy weight range. They can help you make a positive difference to your child's health and wellbeing. For more information, please visit: <a href="https://www.bybsurrey.org/">https://www.bybsurrey.org/</a> or email <a href="mailto:hslw@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk">hslw@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk</a></p>
<b>Year 7</b>	<p>⇒ <b>Assessment Week</b> Year 7 Assessment Week will take place w/c 20 February.</p>

## Careers

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

- Activate Learning Open Events
- Careers in the NHS
- Legal & General Insight Evening into Finance and Investment

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

- Government Economic Service
- RSM Insight Evening
- Property Management
- PwC
- BP

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

- British Airways
- NHS Allied Healthcare
- Get into Medicine Conference with Medic Mentor

**You're invited to**

**Youth Cafe**  
Wednesdays  
5-6.30pm  
St. John's Centre  
Term Time

Y6-Y11  
£1 entry  
Tuck Shop  
Games

Adult supervised road crossing from 16:50 - 17:10

St. John the Evangelist  
McCrone

BURPHAMCHURCH  
SHARING THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS

[Return to home page](#)

# Community Governor Vacancy

Our Local Governing Body is made up of Governors from all walks of life with a range of different backgrounds, skills and experiences. They are all volunteers who work together for the benefit of the School and are the link between the School and the community it serves.

## We want you

We are currently looking for a new Community Governor and would be delighted to hear from anyone who has:

- an interest in the performance of the school
- a desire to contribute to and represent the community
- an open and enquiring mind
- the ability to look at issues objectively
- the confidence to ask questions and join in debate
- a willingness to listen and make informed judgements
- the ability to work well with others
- time to spare

***For this Community Governor position, however, you cannot have a child at the school. We will advertise for Parent Governors when a position becomes available.***

Applications from people with the following skills would be welcome:

- Commercialisation of services & revenue generation
- Contract management and procurement
- Understanding of accounting and finance

## What can we offer?

- A chance to develop skills in strategic management
- The opportunity to work with our team of governors and staff in improving our School
- A sense of achievement in making a difference to our School
- The pleasure of helping students reach their potential

## What is the Governing Body's Role?

The Governing Body of our school plays a key role in:

- setting targets for raising standards of educational achievement.
- monitoring progress towards meeting these targets
- supporting and challenging the performance of the headteacher
- deciding policy and future development plans

As well as attending some daytime and evening meetings, governors are asked to look at specific areas of the school's work in more detail. They are expected to attend training and commit time to the role, more details of which can be found [here](#) on the website.

If you are interested please apply with a brief description about yourself and why you would like to join the governing body to Lauren Huse, Clerk to Governors ([ClerkGA@gepacademies.com](mailto:ClerkGA@gepacademies.com)). CV's welcome as supplementary information.

**Application Deadline: Friday 17 February 2023, 12 noon.**

George Abbot School, Woodruff Avenue, Guildford, GU1 1XX  
01483 888000 - [www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk)