

George Abbot Bulletin

Headteacher's Message

20 July 2023

All,

These pictures sum up the very best of the George Abbot spirit. The staff have worked to offer our students an inspirational, active, stimulating and academically strong school year. They have cared, shown commitment and held boundaries every day. Your children have risen to our expectations superbly. They have got involved, been kind and generous to others, asked questions, worked hard, challenged themselves and smiled. We are so proud of them all. We send our very best wishes to all of our families and hope that you have a warm, relaxed and happy summer break! We look forward to seeing your children back in September.

Kate Carriett
 Headteacher



Whole School

⇒ Free School Meals

We have been advised by Surrey County Council that we are able to issue a £90 voucher to students eligible for Free School Meals to cover the summer holiday. This voucher will be issued next week and sent via Wonde. If you would prefer a printed copy to be posted to you, or have any queries regarding your vouchers please email LWilde@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk. If your request is for a printed copy of your voucher, please specify the supermarket you would prefer the voucher to be for.

For those families who have yet to access their vouchers for previous school holidays or strike days, please note that these are still valid, and can be accessed via the emails sent out by Wonde. Please contact LWilde@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk if you would like any historic vouchers resent, confirming the email address these should be sent to - we are especially keen in the current economic climate to ensure all vouchers reach their intended recipients, so please do get in touch.

⇒ Trust Summer Newsletter

Please view here: <https://bit.ly/3K71tI7>

⇒ Homemade Stick and Poke Tattoos

We have received a report that there is a recent trend for children to create their own skin tattoos, using the stick and poke method. This is a dangerous and, potentially, lethal procedure. Please talk to your child about the safety aspects of DIY tattooing. The following link can be used to aid conversations: <https://healthnews.com/beauty/skin-care/stick-and-poke-tattoos/#::-:text=Homemade%20stick%2Dand%2Dpoke%20tattoos%20are%20dangerous.,are%20not%20worth%20the%20risk.>

⇒ Progress Monitoring Dates 2023/24

Please [click here to view](#) the Progress Monitoring Meeting dates for the 2023-24 academic year.

⇒ Mental Health/Wellbeing crisis and support information

Please [click here to view](#) an information leaflet listing all helplines/websites for students, parents and carers to access.

⇒ School Uniform Shop

The School Uniform Shop will be open at various times over the summer holidays by appointment only. If you need additional uniform before the start of term, please contact us by email to book an appointment using the following procedure: Email us at spsschoolshops@yahoo.com

- Use 'GA TOP UP APPOINTMENT' as your message title
- Include your child's name(s) and a contact number
- If you need uniform for more than one child, please let us know.
- Please suggest several dates and your preference for morning, middle of day, afternoon or when available, early evening.

Please choose weekday dates between 26 July and 16 August OR between 30 August and 5 September. Please choose your preference for morning, middle of day or afternoon appointment. Early evening appointments will also be available on 30 and 31 August and 4 September.

⇒ Lettings

Interested in hiring our facilities? Please view the following page of the website for more information: <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/lettings/>

Whole School

⇒ Language Volunteers

The Modern Foreign Languages Department is looking for volunteers who are fluent French or German speakers to support our students with their language learning, in particular their speaking skills. In previous years we have had huge success working collaboratively with our local community to enhance language learning at George Abbot. If you are interested in volunteering, please email Mrs Martinez-Wallas for more information at nmartinezwallas@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk. We look forward to hearing from you.

⇒ Recruiting Exam Invigilators

We are currently recruiting exam invigilators for the coming year and would like to invite you as a member of our school community, to consider taking on this most important of roles. Invigilators receive full training from our Exams Team and are paid on an hourly rate. For an application form please visit our website:

<https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/examinations/>

We are asking that completed applications forms are emailed to exams@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk by Friday 8 September. After this date, shortlisted applicants will be called in for a short interview. Successful applicants will then receive our mandatory training. If you feel the role is not one you are able to commit to at this time, please do mention our recruitment drive to local family and friends who might be in a position to join our team of George Abbot Invigilators.

⇒ Support Fund—Thank you!

We would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to all the parents and carers who have donated to the School Support Fund this year, no matter how big or small the donation. The Fund provides much needed support for students to go on trips and have resources they need during these challenging times, as well as funding the new minibus and professional external sports coaching.

Year 10

⇒ GCSE English Literature Texts

In Year 11, as part of the GCSE English Literature Course, students will be studying the Shakespeare play 'Macbeth'. The teaching of this text begins immediately in September 2023. This text is an integral part of the GCSE examination and students must have their own copy so that they can annotate and use again for revision in the summer of 2024. In addition to the play 'Macbeth' there is a CGP Text Guide available as an optional extra as shown above, this is highly recommended by English teachers.

Both texts are available for purchase via the school's WisePay system now. Please purchase before we break for the summer term so that they can be issued at the beginning of next term. Students in receipt of Pupil Premium will receive their texts free of charge. Any questions, please email cbatcheler@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk.



Year 9

⇒ A Christmas Carol Text and Study Guide

Next academic year Year 10 students will be studying 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens which is part of their GCSE English Literature course. It is strongly recommended that students own a copy of the text so that they can highlight and make annotations whilst it is being studied in class. This will be very beneficial when they come to revise the text again in Year 11. In addition, there is a CGP Text Guide also available for purchase and is highly recommended by English teachers. Both the text and guide are available for purchase via Wisepay and we advise that these are purchased by the 1st September at the latest so that they can be issued to students at the start of the next academic year. On Wisepay please search for:

Y10 A Christmas Carol 23/24 - £3.22

Y10 A Christmas Carol CGP GCSE Study Guide - £3.38

Students in receipt of Pupil Premium will receive their text and guide free of charge. If a student already has their own copy, then this too will be acceptable. Any queries please email cbatcheler@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk.



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PTA

As the school year comes to a close we are happy to reflect on another successful 12 months of fundraising. We have supported the school and enriched our children's school experience.

From the last year alone we are funding the fabulous 6th form area with **New Seating**. Also with the success of our girls football teams, resulting in them progressing further in competitions we need to host games, so we are supplying the **new goalposts** for their **new pitch** at George Abbot school.

Our **second hand uniform shop** has thrived in its new home and we have regular sales at the end of each term.

It's so successful that we would like to allocate a few PTA members to be in charge of the collection and re-sale of donations. If you feel you can help with this and give a few hours of your time each month please email:

PTA@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk.

We have rescheduled our **Quiz Night** to allow for more ticket sales. It will now be on **14 October 2023**. We hope to see you there for a fun evening with some great raffle prizes from local businesses. Tickets will be on sale from September 2023.

Following the success of the Christmas Fair last year we are happy to be announcing a **save the date** for 2023. **Christmas Fair: 2 December 2023 Sponsored by Seymours Estate agents Burpham!** If you would like to reserve a table please email: gabbotptaevents@gmail.com

Our next PTA meeting will be on **13 September at 6pm** on teams (invite will be issued in the new term) when we hope some of our New Year 7 parents/carers will join us!

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

Community Notices

The Hideaway Cafe

The 'Youth Hideaway' cafe run by the Matrix Trust (located at the Allen House Pavilion in Guildford town centre) is open to 11–18-year-olds every Wednesday from 3.30pm to 5.30pm. There are also 4 extra sessions over the summer holidays on Mondays: 31 July, 7, 14 and 21 August from 11am to 2pm. These are drop-in sessions so all young people can just come along at these times during the summer holidays, where they will receive a friendly welcome in this fun and relaxed setting.

Schools in Mind—Anna Freud: Results Day, Transition to University and Transition to Secondary webinars:

[Supporting young people with anxiety before results day](#) - 8 August, 2pm

[Transition to secondary school: supporting your Year 7 child](#) - 9 August, 2pm

[Managing your wellbeing when transitioning to university](#) - 22 August, 2pm

Guildford Book Festival

<https://www.guildfordbookfestival.co.uk/family-events>



North Guildford Food Bank

If you require a referral to the Food Bank, please contact Guildford Borough Council (info.communityservices@guildford.gov.uk 01483 458055) or Citizens' Advice (advice@ca-ga.org.uk 01483 230841).

Community Fridges are also available at the Hive in Park Barn (Mon-Fri 9:30-3:30) and Zero in town (Tues/Thurs/Sun 10:30-4) <http://northguildfordfoodbank.co.uk/local-community-fridges/>

'Cost of living top-up bags' are available to anyone once a week without a referral Mon/Weds/Fri at the Hive. Salvation Army Support (Woodbridge Rd, Guildford). On Wednesday 9 August - they will open for their Community Food Hub Day. In addition to this they will be providing families with a choice to help support mealtimes while the children are off school. Please see the following dates:

Monday 21 August 9.30-11.30am

Tuesday 22 August 9.30-11.30am

Monday 28 August – BANK HOLIDAY CLOSED

Tuesday 29 August 9.30-11.30am

Wednesday 30 August 9.30- 11.30am

Each household can attend the summer holiday support each week as listed above. On the 1st visit, you will be required to complete a client form that will be held confidentially. The three options available are for families to choose from are as follows: Meal Cook Bag x1; Instant Food bag x1 Breakfast bag x1"

Focus on

A big well done to Zach who was part of a hand-picked team from U14 & U15 Surrey Cricket Academy who got to bowl against the Australian Women's Cricket Team last week. After hearing he was a fast left armer, no-one wanted to face him, so we now know their weakness! However, they were very grateful and incredibly polite and let him bowl some spin against them which he very much enjoyed. Good job Zach!



Art at the Station

The artwork below, by our very talented GCSE and A-Level Art, Textiles and Photography students, is currently on display in the Guildford Station Waiting Room. Thank you to the Arts Society Guildford for organising.



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