

# George Abbot Bulletin

Headteacher's Message

10 November 2023

All,

Today, an update on sustainability at George Abbot:

- We have received the Eco-Schools Green Flag award for sustainability action undertaken.
- Through the work of Tara C, one of the sustainability enrichment participants and Sixth Form sustainability lead we have received funding from Councillor George Potter for a school greenhouse. We are incredibly grateful to Tara for her determination and work as well as to Will H who has been an excellent fellow Sixth Form sustainability lead over the last year.
- We have been granted £2000 from the BUPA Green fund for the plants to be put in our sensory garden outside the Moloney building and for the creation of soft borders around two outdoor classrooms.
- The sustainability group and gardening club are planting wildflower seeds along the Year 7 and 8 playground borders
- Years 7, 8 and 9 are currently participating in Cut Your Carbon, which is an Eco-School campaign in which students are asked to undertake 9 simple challenges during the month of November ranging from using up leftover food to walking instead of being driven. Eco-schools will calculate just how much carbon we have saved as a school by undertaking these actions. All students have received information about this in SacthelOne and we hope as many as possible will participate!
- We are a PILOT school in a project with Surrey County Council and the University of Surrey aimed at identifying interventions involving nature which could mitigate the present and future challenges for George Abbot, namely increased temperatures in the school buildings and flooding, resulting from climate change.
- We have put ourselves forward to be involved in a project with SCC involving the decarbonisation of our school through 'insetting'- the funding of decarbonisation measures in our school which result as carbon credits for the private organisations which fund these measures.
- We will be doing a second hand clothes sale again in the New Year so please put your bags of unwanted clothes aside or bring them in to Elmslie reception already.
- On the 21 November from 6:00pm we will be hosting the 'Careers to Save the Planet!' event with numerous stands and talks from organisations and companies which contribute in one way or another to a sustainable future. This is aimed at all GA students and their families so please come along. For more information, please see following pages in this bulletin.



## Sustainability matters at George Abbot School!

Finally, thank you to all of our cadets for your involvement in our Act of Remembrance at 11am today. As is our custom, the entire school fell silent to show our respect and honour to those who have given their lives in the service of our country.

Kate Carriett  
Headteacher



**CAREERS TO SAVE THE PLANET**  
**Tuesday 21st November**  
**6:00-8:30pm**  
**ELMSLIE HALL/ECR**  
**CAREERS FAIR AND TALKS**

**PASSIONATE ABOUT...** | **PASSIONATE ABOUT...**

Science,  
Technology  
Engineering,  
Maths,  
And  
Geography...

Music, Textiles,  
Arts, Sport,  
English  
Media and  
all other  
subjects...!!

**WHATEVER YOUR SKILL SET YOU  
CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE  
ALL STUDENTS/PARENTS/CARERS  
ARE WELCOME**

By Kiera E.

GEORGE ABBOT DRAMA PRESENTS  
THE YOUNG ACTORS COMPANY IN

# HOME BY CHRISTMAS!!

Directed by Mr Manson - Lane  
Elmslie Hall: 29th November 2023  
4:30pm & 6:30pm  
Tickets: £6 (Adults) £3 (Concessions)  
Available on WisePay from the 6th of November

A compilation of poetry, prose and songs from the Great War!



# CHRISTMAS AND CRAFT FAIR

**Saturday 2 December 2023**  
**12 noon until 3pm**  
**Raynham Hall**

**Wonderful stalls**

**Selling crafts and gifts!**

**Perfect for early Christmas shopping!**

Stall places are still available if you would like to attend as a seller.

We also need volunteers to help run the fair.

Please email [georgeabbotpta2022@gmail.com](mailto:georgeabbotpta2022@gmail.com) to apply.

Your involvement will be greatly appreciated!

## PTA

It is that time of year when we launch the **PTA Christmas Raffle**. We will be using **RAFFALL.COM**, following a successful raffle last year. We would like to ask parents or local businesses if they would like to donate a raffle prize in exchange for advertising on **RAFFALL.COM**, as well as in the parent bulletin and at the Christmas Fair! If you think you can help, please email Dusty at: [georgeabbotpta2022@gmail.com](mailto:georgeabbotpta2022@gmail.com)

In preparation for the Christmas Fair, we are inviting your children to bring in gift donations for tombola prizes that can be won on that day:

- Chocolates / boxes of sweets
- Non-alcoholic drinks (not energy drinks, please)

*NOTE: Alcoholic drinks may be donated, but these should be brought into school by parents and left at the Elmslie Reception, where parents will be asked to leave details of their child's name and form, so that they may receive House Points. Gift donations must be brought into school on Friday 1 December ONLY, into form rooms, please. Form tutors will award the special Satchel One 'PTA Donation' Badge worth 10 House Points to each student able to provide a gift donation.*

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# Wanted – Governors

a member of  
  
Learning Partners  
academy trust

## ***What are we looking for?***

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.

Applications from both parents and the wider community are welcome.

## ***We want you***

We are currently looking for new Governors 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

Applications from people with an understanding of accounting and finance would be particularly welcome. However, just as importantly is the motivation and enthusiasm to become a governor.

## ***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@learningpartners.org](mailto:clerkga@learningpartners.org)). CV's welcome as supplementary information.

Application Deadline: Friday 1 December 2023

## Whole School

### ⇒ **Bus passes**

Bus passes need to be collected from Reception by Friday 17 November, after this date they will be returned to Surrey County Council. A reminder that students may be refused boarding without a current bus pass.

### ⇒ **Pick-up and drop-off**

A reminder that parents/carers should not be driving on school site until after 4.00pm, including morning drop-off. Please park considerately so coaches can pass along Woodruff Avenue, students can cross safely and so are neighbours are not inconvenienced.

### ⇒ **SatchelOne**

In September, Satchel One implemented an email verification system for parent/guarding accounts to improve security and GDPR practices, minimise potential data breaches and ensure that only verified parents and guardians can gain access to student data.

You would have been asked to complete the email verification process by 31 October, if you did not do this your account would have been deleted and you would have received an automatic email sent from noreply@teamsatchel.com providing instructions on how to recover your account.

In order to recover your account, you will need to obtain a parent code and complete the signup process again. The parent code can be obtained from your child's Satchel One account, instructions are outlined in the article: [Logging in as a Parent / Carer](#)

### ⇒ **Want to Get More Involved in the PTA? Come Join the PTA Meeting taking place on Wednesday 15 November, 6pm**

All parents are warmly invited to attend the PTA meeting, taking place in school next Wednesday, 15 November, 6pm. The meeting will take place in the Elmslie Conference Room (ECR). The ECR can be accessed by entering Elmslie Reception and taking the staircase directly off of the foyer. We look forward to seeing you there.

### ⇒ **Careers to save the planet event**

You are warmly invited to this year's CAREERS EVENING, Tuesday 21 November 6-8.30pm in Elmslie Hall. The event will consist of exhibitor stands and talks which include local and national companies and further/higher education providers including sport, film, energy, transport, property, law, finance and defence to name a few! Although the umbrella is green/sustainable careers the students will be able to find out about an array of jobs in a number of industries. There will be a number of talks and presentations running throughout the evening where students can learn more about existing and emerging roles in the green sector. [Click here for tickets.](#)

### ⇒ **Interested in a career in teaching?**

Join the George Abbot SCITT team for our next online information event to find out more and have your questions answered. Please join us on Tuesday 14 November at 6pm on Zoom, places are bookable via Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/teacher-training-virtual-information-event-tickets-718416632487?aff=oddtcreator>

We hold these events once a month, further details can be found on our website: [www.georgeabbottraining.co.uk](http://www.georgeabbottraining.co.uk). If you can't join us online, please give us a call 01483 888048 or email us at: [contactscitt@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:contactscitt@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk)

## Whole School

### ⇒ Work Experience Placements wanted!

Our Year 12 students are currently in the process of arranging work experience placements for the week commencing 11 March 2024. If any parents/carers are able to offer work experience placements at their companies/organisations, please email [workexp@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:workexp@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk).

### ⇒ 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:

- Visual Arts Technician

## Year 10

### ⇒ Year 10 Assessments

Please find [attached information](#) regarding your child's assessment week and RE mock exam. Within the attached document, I have listed all of the topics that will appear within the relevant subject exams; please ensure your child is revising all of the topics within these lists. To support with this, I have also outlined the recommended revision techniques they should be using, all of which have been discussed with students during form time. I hope you find this document informative, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch with Mr Ratcliffe.

### ⇒ RE GCSE mock exam

Students in Year 10 will sit their RE GCSE mock on 17 November at 8.30am. It will last 1 hour 45 minutes. Students will be examined on the following four units:

- Christianity: Beliefs and Teachings
- Buddhism: Beliefs and Teachings
- Buddhism: Practices
- Crime & Punishment

Please do encourage students to start revising early – there are plenty of revision activities linked on Satchel One, as well as:

- A revision calendar is available here: [Revision calendar.docx](#)
- Revision resources including revision guides, workbooks and mind-maps are all available here: [2023 - Year 10 mock revision resources](#)

Miss Lenehan will be available in E17 every Wednesday during break 3, to answer any queries that students may have, and feedback on any practice exam questions. All students welcome. There is no requirement to purchase a revision guide, but if you wish to do so we would suggest: AQA GCSE Religious Studies A: Christianity and Buddhism Revision Guide Paperback – 1 Jan 2018 by Marianne Fleming (Author).

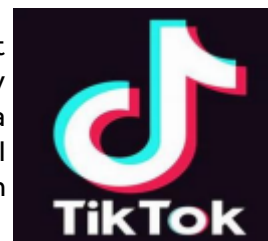
A reminder that this assessment will be conducted according to the formal exam board regulations. Students will **not be allowed** metal water flasks. We strongly encourage you to ensure students are supplied with either water bottles with the label removed, or a transparent/clear water beaker with no writing and non-spill. We are not able to provide water to students who forget to bring their own. This will be also be a requirement for their formal GCSE next summer and could carry a consequence if not adhered to. Additionally, a reminder that watches, of any type, are not prohibited in exam venues. These should be removed and left in bags along with mobile phones.

### ⇒ Reports

Year 10 reports will be published on 13 December.

# Focus on: Online Safety

At George Abbot, we like to support our parents and carers in online safety matters. At regular intervals, we aim to post any useful information on online safety tips; this may vary from articles to cyber security competitions. Our section will be supported by a sixth-form team known as Cyber1 leaders, who are currently completing a BTEC Level 3 cyber security research project. We aim to provide the most up-to-date information to help you, as a parent or carer, keep your children safe online.



TikTok - a social media platform for sharing and watching short video clips	
<b>Age restriction?</b>	You must be over 13 years of age to use TikTok.
<b>Risks?</b>	Some of the videos on TikTok may not be appropriate for your child to view and there is also the risk of strangers contacting your child.
<b>How can you ensure online safety?</b>	If your child is using TikTok, make sure the appropriate security/privacy settings are on. By default, accounts for people under 16 are set to private. This means your child must approve follower requests. You can read more about the other settings available (such as switching off comments and switching on restricted mode). <a href="https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/accountprivacy-settings">https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/accountprivacy-settings</a>
<b>How to pair for added security?</b>	Pairing allows you to link your own account to your child's account. Set controls such as restricted mode (limit the appearance of content that may not be appropriate) and screen time management. <a href="https://www.tiktok.com/safety/en/guardians-guide/">https://www.tiktok.com/safety/en/guardians-guide/</a>
<b>What are current challenges on social media content?</b>	Inappropriate content can occur on this platform, for example: biased information, nudity/sexual content and hate speech. We often see online challenges on social media, some of which can be dangerous.
<b>How to deal with the challenges on social media content?</b>	If your child is using TikTok, chat to them regularly about what they are viewing. Keep monitoring and encourage openness to enable your child to be happy and confident to report anything that may be unsuitable.
<b>What skills you and your child need to have?</b>	Support your child in checking they can confidently use the safety features available to them, how to report comments, direct messages and another user
<b>Useful links:</b>	<a href="https://support.tiktok.com/en/safety-hc/report-a-problem">https://support.tiktok.com/en/safety-hc/report-a-problem</a> <a href="https://parentzone.org.uk/article/tiktok">https://parentzone.org.uk/article/tiktok</a> <a href="https://reportharmfulcontent.com/">https://reportharmfulcontent.com/</a> <a href="https://www.childnet.com/blog/navigating-violent-online-content-from-global-events/">https://www.childnet.com/blog/navigating-violent-online-content-from-global-events/</a> <a href="https://www.childline.org.uk/">https://www.childline.org.uk/</a>

## PlayStation online safety news:

Internet Matters have teamed up with Sony Interactive Entertainment to create a quiz that you can play with your child to see who knows more about the safety options available on a PlayStation.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/press-start-for-playstationsafety>

We hope you will share the content with any other parent or carer to update them with online safety news. Remember, a conversation and guidance help towards preventing online risks and being aware of the hidden dangers and what to do.

This week (13th November) on The Wellbeing Hub

November's Theme: Addiction

This week's content:

Webinar on Pornography and Addiction

Wednesday 15th November, 6:30 pm  
with Dr Charlie Easman, Primary Care Physician

Bonus webinar:

The 5 Steps: Solutions to Bullying and Anger

Monday 13th November, 12:30 pm  
with Julie Wilkinson, Director and Trainer at Brave the Rage



George Abbot has a subscription to The Wellbeing Hub, an interactive hub for the school community. For parents, it offers weekly podcasts, live Q & As with subject specialists, support for parents managing adolescent issues, parenting courses and a self-care area, amongst other content. Access to the Wellbeing Hub is strictly limited to the families of George Abbot students. Scan below to sign up to the free subscription.



Scan Me  
to Register



## Sports Round-Up

A fairly quiet start to half term 2 for sport—but a victorious one!

- In Football, our under 16 Girls team won 5-1 in the 2nd round of the County Cup vs. St Richard Reynolds College. The Year 11 Boys team have made it through to the 3rd round of the National Cup by beating St Andrews 4-1.
- Out two Year 9 Netball teams beat St Teresa's of Effingham: Friendly A's winning 13-9 and B's winning 4-3.
- In Athletics, our Year 7 took part in the preliminary round of Sports Hall Athletics, Guildford District. Our Girls took 2nd place & the Boys took 1st place.



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