

# George Abbot Bulletin

Headteacher's Message

24 November 2023

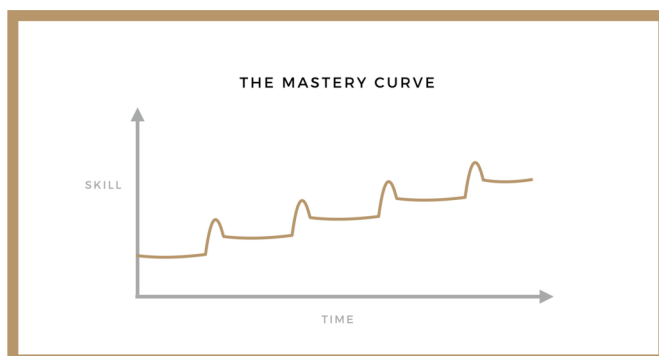
All,

Thank you so much to those of you who completed our parent voice snapshot in October. The results tell us that:

- My child is happy at GA = 88%
- My child feels safe at GA = 88%
- Bullying is tackled proactively at GA = 86%
- My child can take part in clubs = 94%
- My child does well at GA = 86%

I hope that a small participation percentage of 140 families means that most of you think things are going well for your child at school. If that is not the case, I urge you to let us know so that we can help by addressing concerns or put in place additional support or guidance that your child might need. To that end, I am offering a parent feedback session in January. I will be available on Wednesday 10 January from 4.00pm-8.00pm to hear any concerns. If you would like to make an appointment with me, please contact my PA, Miss Jacobs on [pjacobs@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:pjacobs@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk) to make an appointment time.

As I reflect on my time at George Abbot, I am reminded of the mastery curve. Our provisional Progress 8 score is the best that it has ever been at +0.62, placing us in the top 16% of schools in the country. Our curriculum is more and more precise and impactful for your child's learning and progress. Our extra curricular offer and range of trips is flourishing again, post COVID-19. But we know that we want to do better and be better in all that we offer your children. Your partnership and feedback in that are really important.



Christmas approaches fast. It is a financially challenging time of year for many of our families here at George Abbot. We would like to support them as best we can. We are therefore introducing a 'Christmas Community Fund'. If you feel you are able to contribute to the fund, however small the amount, we will ensure the monies raised go to those of our families who would benefit this Christmas. Please use the link to [WisePay](#) if you wish to contribute. If you have any questions, please contact the Home School Link team at: [hslw@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:hslw@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk). Thank you for your care and kindness, it is hugely appreciated.

In preparation for the PTA Christmas Fair on Saturday 2 December, we are calling on families of students in Years 7-11 to donate a gift that can be won on the tombola stall. Students donating prizes will be awarded the special SatchelOne 'PTA Donation' Badge worth 10 House Points. As a reward for making a fantastic start at George Abbot, Year 7 students donating prizes will also be allowed to come to school in Mufti. **Please note this is a special privilege for our Year 7 cohort only.**

Lastly, our GA6 Student Leadership Team have organised a 'wear your pyjamas' day in support of North Guildford Food Bank. If our Sixth Form student parents/carers are able to support their cause by donating any of the following, they will be gratefully received in the Sixth Form Year Team office: gift toiletries, boxes/sharing biscuits, savoury snacks (cheese twists, sharing crisps etc), laundry detergent, tinned meat, pasta/curry sauces, fruit juice, shampoo and conditioner (2 in 1).

Thank you so much for all your support in all that we do together.

Kate Carriett  
Headteacher

# CHRISTMAS FEAST

Monday 11<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>  
& Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December

Roast Turkey, Stuffing & Pigs in Blankets  
OR  
Vegan Soya Bean & Cranberry Wellington

Both Served with Seasonal Vegetables,  
Roast Potatoes & Gravy

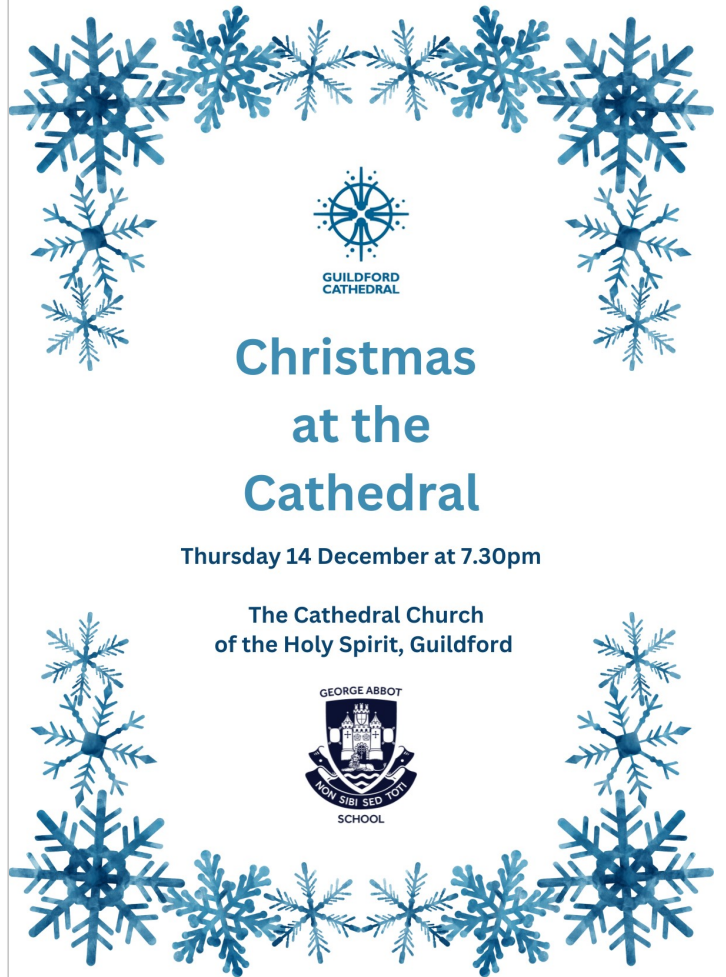
£2.65 for Students

&

£3.18 for staff

Christmas Pudding with Vanilla Sauce  
OR  
Stained Glass Window Shortbread

AVAILABLE ALL CANTEENS



## Christmas at the Cathedral

Thursday 14 December at 7.30pm

The Cathedral Church  
of the Holy Spirit, Guildford



## PTA

### CHRISTMAS RAFFLE!

PTA Christmas Raffle is live on Raffall.com NOW! Link: [Raffall.com/georgeabbotschoolpta](https://Raffall.com/georgeabbotschoolpta). We have some amazing prizes donated by the local community. Tickets are £1 and all the money raised will go to the PTA:

**LAKELAND COMPACT DIGITAL AIR FRYER. STRETCHED & FIRED £50 & £25 VOUCHER. SEAFARE £30 VOUCHER FULLY CHARGED GUILDFORD. AIRHOP. THE NAIL SHOP. GUILDFORD JAZZ. COOK £20. STAGECOACH. THE BAKERY. WELLBEING BEAUTY. THE GREEK LAD. SILENT POOL GIN. BEN'S COLLECTORS RECORDS. LOVELIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY. JONES & TOMLIN.....and more!**

### Supporting the PTA

- Shop via Easyfundraising – use this [link](#) to help support George Abbot School and benefit students learning experience.
- Shop on AmazonSmile, choosing George Abbot PTA as your chosen charity, and Amazon donates to George Abbot Parent Teacher Association at no extra cost to you.
- Do your Christmas food shop and more through the Sainsbury's Scheme! It could not be easier. Do your shopping as usual and pay with your gift card, which is topped up every month by direct debit. Sainsbury's will give a donation, equivalent to 5% of your spend, straight to the school. You will not pay any extra for your shopping and the school benefits every time you spend. [Sainsbury's Application Form](#)

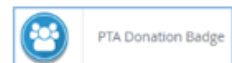


## Call Out for Gift Donations...

...for the GEORGE ABBOT SCHOOL  
CHRISTMAS AND CRAFT FAIR - Sat, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 2023

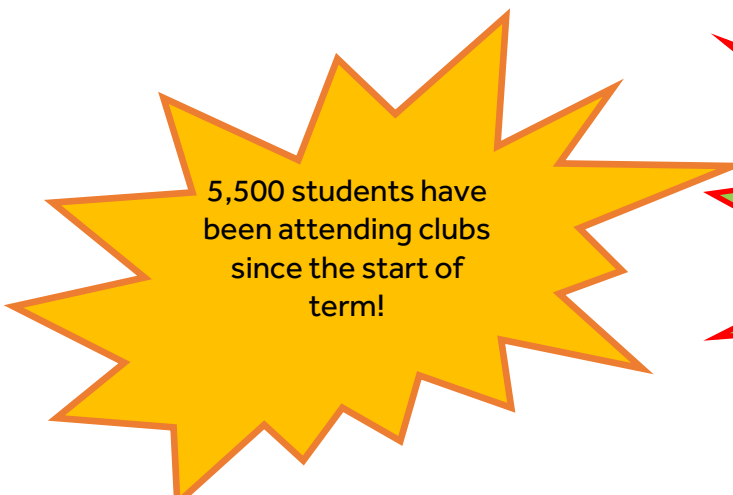
### In exchange for a donation:

- ALL STUDENTS donating prizes will earn the limited-edition Satchel One 'PTA Donation' badge worth 10 House Points
- FOR YEAR 7 STUDENTS donating prizes, they will ALSO be allowed to come to school in Mufti (non-school uniform) on that day. This is as an extra reward for earning the greatest number of House Points so far this year, and for making a great start to life at George Abbot School.




### We are asking the following of as many George Abbot students as possible:

1. Find one of these gifts that can be used as a tombola prize:
  - Boxes or bags of chocolates / boxes or bags of sweets
  - non-alcoholic bottled drinks (not energy drinks)
  - 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.
2. On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December, bring your gift to your Form Room. Your Form Tutor will note your name and award you the limited-edition Satchel One 'PTA Donation' badge worth 10 House Points!
3. All gift donations from your Form will be taken by Form Reps and helpers to Raynham Dining Hall and given to the PTA staff member waiting there.
4. If the gift is alcoholic, ask your parent to bring in the gift and leave it at Elmslie Reception, noting your name for your Satchel One badge.



5,500 students have been attending clubs since the start of term!



There are 74 different clubs available for students. Take a look at the timetables on our [website](#).

## Notices

Week commencing 27 November = Week B  
Week commencing 4 December = Week A

### Whole School

#### ⇒ **Community Alert**

We are alerting parents/carers to the report of a group of girls being followed to school, on Charlock Way, by an unknown man. We have reported the incident to the police.

- A reminder that students should report any concerns that they have on their way to and from school to you, their parents/carers AND to school
- As the days get shorter, students should plan to walk to and from school with a friend, where possible
- Students should not engage in conversation with any adults that they do not know

#### ⇒ **Active Travel Scheme**

As you may already be aware, Surrey County Council are currently engaging with residents on the proposed Burpham Active Travel Scheme. This centrally funded government scheme aims to make London Road, Burpham more accessible for children, pedestrians and cyclists travelling in and around Guildford by creating sustainable travel links to existing cycle routes along Clay Lane and Ladymead.

As parents/carers of children and young people attending a school in the local area, they would like to hear your thoughts on the proposed scheme. To give your feedback, please complete the [online survey](#). Here, you can also find more information on the proposed scheme, including an animation and interactive map. The survey will close on Friday 15 December 2023, so act now to have your say!

#### ⇒ **Secondhand Uniform sales**

George Abbot will be holding regular second-hand uniform sales every other Monday, starting from Monday 4 December 3.30pm - 4pm. All parents/carers are welcome to come and have a look through our store of pre-loved uniform items. A small donation for any item purchased would be greatly appreciated, our suggested donations are:

Blazers £10

Skirts £5

Skorts & Shorts £3

All other items £1

Please arrive at reception no earlier than 3.30pm and we kindly ask that you park offsite and walk in via the pedestrian gate. If you are unable to attend the sale but are interested in purchasing any second-hand uniform, please send an email request with the details of the items you need (including sizes) to [office@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:office@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk) and we will be happy to set items aside for your child to collect from reception.

#### ⇒ **A Christmas Carol performances**

Tickets are now on sale for Scenes from 'A Christmas Carol' which is being performed by the Senior Acting Company. The performances are taking place Tuesday 5 December at 5pm, and 7pm. Tickets are £6 for adults and £3 for concessions and they are available on WisePay now.

## 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:

- Receptionist

## Focus on: Wellbeing Ambassadors

We are pleased to let you know that on Wednesday 15 November, 24 of our wonderful Year 7's attended a 'Wellbeing Ambassadors' training session with Natalie Perry, from the local Mental Health charity for Young People, Eikon and Mrs Daniels, Home School Link Worker for Year 7. The group learned more about their new role as Wellbeing Ambassadors and about the '5 Ways to Wellbeing.' They also came up with lots of great ideas and initiatives on how we can support positive wellbeing which we will start to work on together to implement across Year 7.



Our Wellbeing Ambassadors will take this role forward with them as they move up the school and were awarded a certificate and 'flash' by Miss Fearn, in recognition of their role.

## Careers to Save the Planet!

A big thank you to everyone who attended our Careers to Save the Planet event this week including exhibitors, presenters, students, parents and carers. The evening was a great success and created great discussion around how careers can address the climate crisis. Thank you to our Careers Team for organising this successful event.



Yesterday, we had the privilege of participating in the 'Careers to Save the Planet' event at [George Abbot School](#) in Guildford. Our team engaged with students and parents, highlighting the pivotal role of engineering in shaping a [#sustainablefuture](#).

A big thank you to George Abbot for hosting such a meaningful event, and to everyone who joined us in the conversation. Let's continue fostering a passion for engineering that propels us toward a brighter, greener future!

[#EngineeringForSustainability](#) [#Careers](#) [#sustainability](#)



13

1 comment



Christine Hill (She/Her) • 3rd+  
Schools Partnership Executive at Activate Learning  
1d • Edited

It was great to be part of the George Abbot School 'Careers to Save the Planet' event held yesterday! Activate Learning offers numerous pathways that could lead into a green career. We spoke to lots of enthusiastic pupils and parents who were keen to learn how, thanks for inviting us.

[#greencareersweek](#) [#wildlifeconservation](#) [#animal](#) [#ecology](#)



14

1 comment

# Sports Round-Up

The Year 11 girls' basketball team took on Farnham Heath End School at home. It was a close game, with both sides playing extremely well. But a last minute fast break from Emmy saw us win the game 34-30! Break time basketball has seen record numbers of students from Year 7-13 coming in to practice their shooting.

The Year 9 Netball team travelled to Glebelands for the annual district tournament. They managed to beat Guildford County, Glebelands, Woolmer Hill and Christ's College. They lost by one to Howard with an 'on the buzzer goal' but they still managed to win the tournament for the second year in a row. Great work, girls!

We hosted a girls' rugby training fixture vs. Hinchley Wood for Years 7,8,9 & 10. It was great to see over 20 of our girls playing competitive full-contact rugby games against another school and we look forward to plenty more girls rugby fixtures!

Our Sixth Form rugby team beat Salesians 24 - 10 and our Year 7 team took a trip to Reading Blue Coat School for their tournament last week. The boys had a great time over the 7 games they played, and managed to register their first win as a squad. Well done, boys!

George Abbot competed in the Year 7 Sports Hall Athletics Guildford District for both boys and girls. All competitors showed great athletic prowess and was evident in the standings as the girls came second and boys came first, meaning that both qualify for the Surrey Finals later this academic year!

In Football, our Year 7 girls team have made it through to the 3rd round of the National Cup after defeating Ibstock school and now Weydon await us. We have also played league fixtures against Guildford County and Notre Dame and managed to come out with a victory in both games, 2-1 & 3-0 respectively. Our U16 girls football team have made it through to the 2nd round of the County Cup after defeating St. Richard Reynolds in the 1st round. We are now due to play against Claremont Fan Court School next week!

Over 40 of our students competed in the Charterhouse Cross-Country last Thursday and we finished with so many amazing results including many of our students being selected to represent Guildford in the Surrey Championships!

Finally, the school swimming squads travelled to Birmingham for the ESSA team National finals last Saturday with Mr Isherwood and Mrs May. All 13 of the swimmers were brilliant and competed against some of the top schools in the country including Millfield, Mount Kelly, Repton. The results are as follows:

Junior boys freestyle (Year 7/8) - 11th in the country

Junior girls Medley (Year 7/8) - 20th in the country

Inter girls Freestyle and Medley (Year 9/10) - 6th in the country in both events and Winners of the Presidents Trophy for top state school.



# Careers

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

- Make the future yours newsletter.

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

- Apprenticeship Accelerator, Accenture Technology, JLR Retail.

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

- Medic Mentor, Females of the Future, PwC, Insight Evenings: TFL, Lloyds, RAF.



## Wanted – Governors

a member of  
  
Learning Partners  
academy trust

### *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?*

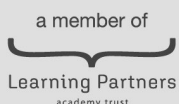
The Governing Body of our school plays a key role in:

- 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

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



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