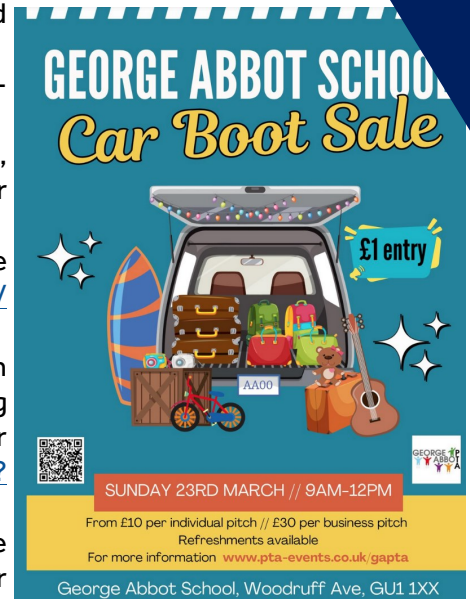


## Message from Mrs Carriett:

Things to highlight today include:

- Please do read our Ofsted report sent to you on Wednesday and feel free to share it and celebrate your child's great school.
- Dress-up day on Tuesday for World Book Day – please do encourage your child to join in.
- Please join us for the World Book Day Fair after school on Tuesday, it starts at 5.00pm. If you can't make it then, please do send your child in with some unwanted books for others to enjoy.
- Reminder of the PTA quiz on Friday 14 March – Mr O'Sullivan will be in full quizmaster mode! <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/gapta/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=91677>
- Spring house clear out? The PTA are running a car boot sale on Sunday 23 March from 9.00am-12.00pm. Why not book a parking space here at school and profit from all that stuff you no longer need? <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/gapta/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=89274>
- Spring wardrobe clear out? The sustainability team are running the much loved, pre-loved clothes sale on Thursday 3 April after school – maybe a wardrobe purge is needed?
- Lastly, **Mrs Jennings, one of our PE staff, is on the run!** She is completing her first London Marathon on Sunday 27 April to raise money for the George Abbot School Support Fund. Thank you, Mrs Jennings! If you are able to support her, please click the link below: [https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/jackie-jennings2025?utm\\_term=VZKXRDJQq](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/jackie-jennings2025?utm_term=VZKXRDJQq)

P.S. Monday 10 March is accelerated – all 4 lessons and a 1.35pm close.



## World Book Day Celebration—Tuesday 11 March

Tickets for the World Book Day fair are still available on the MCAS portal, £5 for adults and £3 for students. If you are a parent/carer who wishes to attend, please also dress up in literary theme for the fair!

## RAG Week—17-21 March 2025

We are excited to announce that our annual **RAG (Raising and Giving) Week** will take place from **17-21 March**. Organised by our GA6 Student Leadership Team, this fantastic week is dedicated to "Uniting our school community through fun, connection, and charitable generosity, making a positive impact together for meaningful causes." This year, all funds raised will support: Sierra Leone Development and Relief, Show Racism the Red Card and Shooting Star Children's Hospice. Throughout the week, students can participate in a variety of exciting activities during break times, including: Staff vs Students Sports Matches, Sponge the Teacher, House Events and Confectionery Stalls.

We will also be holding theme-based days:

- Monday 17 March – St Patrick's Day (wear green socks to school)
- Wednesday 19 March – Show Racism the Red Card (wear red socks to school)
- Friday 21 March – International Culture Mufti Day (celebrate the dress of your national culture, including football shirts)

To take part, students will need to purchase tokens via My Child At School. These are capped at £10 per day, but you can top up throughout the week. All money raised will go directly to our chosen charities. We encourage your child to get involved and truly appreciate any support you can provide in purchasing tokens. Thank you for helping us make RAG Week a success!

Eliana and Tim (Head Students)

Notices

Whole School

⇒ **Dinner Money**

The canteen provider is currently updating their till system to enable payments via MCAS, this should be completed by Easter. Therefore, we ask you to continue to use WisePay until Friday 4 April, we will close WisePay at 10am on this date. The dinner money payment system will be worked on during the Easter holidays, ready for parents/carers to start making payments via MCAS at the start of the Summer Term. We thank you for your understanding during this transition.

⇒ **MCAS inbox**

When messaging school from the MCAS app, please can you ensure you address the message to the staff member you are contacting. The system currently does not allow us to see who messages should be sent to, and so this will help us to easily identify and action messages.

⇒ **Year 9 Parent Subject Meetings—Monday 10 March 2025**

Please be reminded that school will be closing at 1.35pm on Monday 10 March for us to conduct the Year 9 Parent Subject meetings. When the Parent Subject Meetings are for a year group other than their own, students are expected to complete work set independently at home during the afternoon. This work will be set via Bromcom and/or the SLE.

Provision has been made for students who are unable to go home at this time. If you wish for your son/daughter to remain supervised in school, please let us know by emailing [curriculum@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:curriculum@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk) by close of school on Friday 7 March. It is vital that we are forewarned of those who will be in attendance. If you notify us that your child will be remaining in school and your arrangements change, it is essential that you let us know of the change before 12.00pm on the day. Where we have been notified that a student will be remaining in school, if they fail to arrive and register with Mrs Cordery in Student Support in Moloney building, you will be contacted by a truancy call alert from our attendance system. Therefore it is important that they register with Mrs Cordery in Student Support in Moloney Building at 2.00pm if you have notified us that your son/daughter is remaining in school.

Please be reminded that school buses will run at the usual times.

⇒ **Year 10 RE and Year 11 - 13 Progress Support Meetings – Thursday 27 March 5.00pm – 7.00pm, online video appointments via SchoolCloud**

We will be holding the above event on Thursday 27 March. 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 10 students are working in the final year of their Religious Education course
- Year 12 students are progressing in the first year of their exam courses
- Year 11 or Year 13 students are working in their final year of their course

We will notify you via email no later than Thursday 20 March. You may also log in to SchoolCloud system **after** this date to view your appointments.

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>.

## Whole School

### ⇒ Educake Homework Platform

We are delighted to let you know that students who are studying ICT in Years 7, 8 and 9, for the remainder of this year, will be completing their ICT homework with Educake. Educake is an exciting online platform that offers every student an opportunity to enhance their understanding of ICT. All students have been set up with an account, that they have been given in their ICT lessons either prior to or since half term, which includes a Username and a password that they have reset themselves. We know that you want to support your child's ICT progress so we've put together the below to explain how Educake works.

**How does Educake work?** Students will be set a weekly task or quiz, that will relate to the current topic that they are studying in ICT. This will include a set of questions that will be suitable for all abilities. Students are able to retake a quiz, once it has been completed, and the number of attempts that they take per question is visible to their teacher. Here is an [example quiz](#), to show how a typical set of questions would look.

**How can I help my child with their homework?** We appreciate that you will of course want to support your child with their home learning but please try not to help them with a question until they've had a go first! It is really important that they complete their homework independently, and that questions are marked as correct.

We hope you agree that Educake will play an exciting and important role in helping your child's understanding, success and confidence in ICT to grow. If you have any questions, please contact your child's ICT teacher.

## Sixth Form

### ⇒ Student Finance Assembly

This week, we delivered a Student Finance presentation to Year 13 students interested in going to University. The session covered key information on tuition fees, maintenance loans, repayment plans, and financial support available for university.

To keep you informed, we have [attached the presentation](#) for your reference. We encourage you to review it with your child and discuss any questions they may have as they prepare for their next steps.





# Community Notices

Guildford Cricket Club are running a number of cricket masterclasses for club and non-club members to attend. For more information, please see the [flyers attached here](#).

**CHAMBERS**  
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BATTING  
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Enter our  
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OR £1,000 CASH PRIZE



**GUILDFORD  
COMMUNITY LOTTERY**



**CHAMBERS**  
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**ROBYN BENTLEY  
BATTING  
MASTERCLASS**

**SURREY WOMEN'S  
CRICKETER**

**CHAMBERS**  
Recycling Solutions



**JOSH SIVIER  
WICKET KEEPING  
MASTERCLASS**

## Spring cleaning? It's coming around again - the George Abbot Preloved Clothes sale!

If you are having a spring clean clear out, please think of us and bring any preloved clothes, accessories and shoes to Elmslie reception. Date for your diary: our Preloved Clothes and Second hand Uniform Sale to be held on **Thursday 3 April**. The money we earn from these sales is spent on sustainability related actions or sustainability enrichment opportunities in the school.



## PTA Building a stronger home-school community


Today is the last chance to buy tickets for our [quiz night!](#)

Coming up next, we have our fabulous [car boot sale](#) - just £10 per pitch if you buy in advance, £12 on the day.

All details at [pta-events.co.uk/gapta](http://pta-events.co.uk/gapta).



**GEORGE ABBOT SCHOOL  
Car Boot Sale**



**£1 entry**

**SUNDAY 23RD MARCH // 9AM-12PM**

From £10 per individual pitch // £30 per business pitch  
Refreshments available

For more information [www.pta-events.co.uk/gapta](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/gapta)

George Abbot School, Woodruff Ave, GU1 1XX

[Return to home page](#)



# Online Tips and Resources

We have seen an increase in reports of children using websites such as Omegle or OMETV. This site allows use to talk to strangers online. Please see the graphic below for more information. Other alternative sites include: Chaturbate, Bazoocam, Chatspin, FaceFlow, Shagle, Paltalk, Chatroulette, Chatous, Emarld Chat, Camsurf, and Flingster.

Most internet service providers have a function which allows parental control on the household internet. Below are links as to how to do this on the most common providers in the UK:

- <https://ee.co.uk/help/broadband/getting-started/using-parental-controls>
- <https://www.bt.com/help/security/how-to-keep-your-family-safe-online-with-bt-parental-controls-an>
- <https://www.sky.com/help/articles/sky-wifi-max-parental-controls>
- <https://www.sky.com/help/articles/sky-broadband-shield-using>
- <https://www.virginmedia.com/help/security/parental-controls>
- <https://www.plus.net/help/broadband/how-to-use-plusnet-safeguard/>
- <https://community.talktalk.co.uk/t5/Keeping-your-Family-Safe/bd-p/kfshub>
- <https://www.vodafone.co.uk/contentcontrolpage/vfb-force-choice-page.html>

**What Parents & Carers Need to Know about OMETV**

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to have an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

OmeTV is another app which encourages users to 'make friends from all around the world'. People can search profiles by age and gender and send direct messages or photos. However, the app is primarily used for video calls. When using this feature, users are connected at random, although only their country of origin is shared. People can then either choose to move on to the next chat or can stay in that call for as long as they wish.

**STRANGER DANGER**

While young people generally know not to share personal information with strangers, the safety of their home and the distance offered by technology can make them feel more relaxed and uninhibited. Combined with the fact that OmeTV provides a webcam function – and anonymity – it can be an easy way for groomers to gather information, talk to connect on other social media platforms, or potentially request intimate images.

**EXPLICIT CONTENT**

Unfortunately, there are a lot of users who use OmeTV's webcam feature to expose themselves. While users can swipe to the next call quickly, it's not something that can be filtered out completely – so young people could easily be exposed to highly inappropriate images.

**REPORTING DIFFICULTIES**

When video calling, the other person's username is often hidden and therefore they can't be blocked or reported. There is a 'Report Abuse' tab at the bottom of the video, but the speed with which calls can swipe past can make it difficult to use this system. There's also little evidence to suggest that offenders are dealt with appropriately (through warnings or account termination, for example).

**AGE VERIFICATION 17+**

Although the site states that users must be 18 or over, there's no way to verify this, and it's easy to use an existing Facebook account to log in, or for users to set up a fake account. To access OmeTV, users simply need to press a button confirming they're an adult, which means it's likely many users will claim to be much older than they are.

**VIDEO RECORDING**

When young people are chatting live on a webcam, they could be coaxed by others into doing things they don't feel comfortable doing, or persuaded that no harm can come from it. What they don't know is whether the other user is recording them. These videos could then be used to embarrass or blackmail them, or they could be kept by a potential online predator.

**LIMITED PARENTAL CONTROLS**

OmeTV has very limited parental controls. There is a 'safe mode', but this is of little practical use given that explicit content isn't filtered out. While the site lists several rules and regulations, there are few apparent ways to enforce them or restrict what users can see or do.

**Advice for Parents & Carers**

**FOLLOW AGE GUIDELINES**

OmeTV has an age recommendation of 18 and over, which suggests the developers are aware that it may facilitate adult content. It's important to adhere to the age guidelines and try to restrict access to the app for younger users. If you find it on an under-18's device, talk to them about the potential risks and explain why they probably shouldn't be using it.

**DISCUSS THE DANGERS**

Maintain communication with your child about online safety and empower them to protect themselves. Simply deleting an app from their device impacts their independence and can cause resentment. Instead, highlight news reports of predators exposing themselves to children on the internet, and discuss what they should do if asked for explicit images.

**DISCOURAGE CHATS WITH STRANGERS**

Remind your child of the dangers of talking to strangers online. The anonymity OmeTV offers, plus its webcam function, makes it an attractive place for groomers to network and create inappropriate content. Explain that your child may see something which upsets them – and that it's a crime for anyone to expose themselves to a young person online.

**ENABLE PARENTAL CONTROLS**

Regardless of how responsible your child may be, it's essential to use parental controls on their device. It's easy for young people to get lured in by others, feeling they've built up a trusting friendship and being coaxed into doing things they wouldn't normally do. Ensure in-app purchases aren't enabled on their device, and emphasise that they can always talk to you about anything online that worries them.

**Meet Our Expert**

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

**National Online Safety**

#WakeUpWednesday

Source: [https://www.niaa.com/news/crime\\_police/man\\_exposes\\_himself\\_to\\_morrovo-middle-school-students-in-online-chat-tv-station-report/australia\\_nationalonlinesafety](https://www.niaa.com/news/crime_police/man_exposes_himself_to_morrovo-middle-school-students-in-online-chat-tv-station-report/australia_nationalonlinesafety) | <https://www.wtv.com/news/crime/ind-marij-sentenced-to-15-years-for-owning-two-phones-with-nearly-2-300-files-of-children-being-sexually-abused> | <https://ome.tv/users/>

@nationalonlinesafety | /NationalOnlineSafety | @nationalonlinesafety | national\_online\_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 07.06.2023

# Focus on: Careers and Work Experience

As part of National Careers week all students in Years 7 – 11 have had a form time dedicated to Unifrog. This is the web platform that all George Abbot students' have access to both now and for several years after they have completed their education here.

Unifrog has a vast array of information on careers, apprenticeships, further and higher education and much, much more. Students can raise their own CVs and store them on the site for future amendment and use, write their university personal statements and participate in their own personality and skills quizzes. It is such a user friendly and interactive platform.

As staff, we have access to numerous assemblies and lesson plans. Equally we run the whole Year 12 work experience programme through it, including journals for students to complete with information about their placement that they can then refer back to for job applications and personal statements.

All students should have received an email from Unifrog with details on how to log in. If they have lost this they simply need to go to [www.unifrog.org](http://www.unifrog.org) / Sign in / and then click on the Reset password / Resend welcome email link.

How timely, this year's Year 12 work experience week is during National Careers Week!

Using our new Unifrog platform we have 85% of our Year 12 students with work experience, which is an excellent result. Although a steep learning curve for the careers team, employers, students and parents it certainly seems to have stream-lined the application process for all.

We have students out at a number of bespoke placements for example with a boat building company, at hospitals, with large London based finance and communications companies, veterinary practices and The Oval to name just a few.

However, we do understand that finding a placement can be a struggle; therefore, for those students without a placement we have provided information and links to virtual work experience placements and other career-related tasks to complete from home.



## CAREERS ... at George Abbot

EXPLORE

ASPIRE

ACHIEVE

## Careers

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

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

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

### IMAG RGS Career Convention—Friday 25 April, 6.30pm-8.30pm

Take advantage of the opportunity to connect with over 80 delegates from various industry sectors. This event will provide you with valuable information and help students explore exciting career opportunities. Employers will be present to inspire them about different industries and the career paths they offer. We hope this event will kickstart or rejuvenate your child's thinking about the future; "Pointing you in the right direction, wherever you're heading. Sign up here: <https://www.imag.education/events>

George Abbot School, Woodruff Avenue, Guildford, GU1 1XX

01483 888000 - [www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk)

DSL: Mrs T Young - [dsl@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:dsl@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk)