

George Abbot Bulletin

21 March 2025

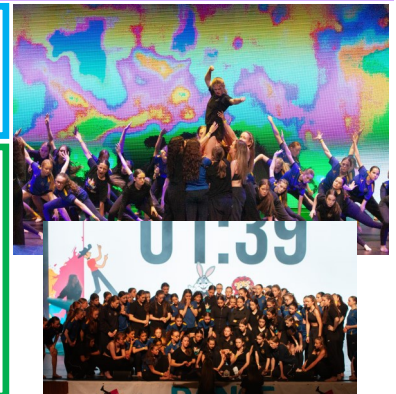


Message from Mrs Carriett: what a fantastic RAG Week it has been—the energy has been palpable. Each day brought house events and competitive staff vs students sports fixtures that everyone enjoyed. Netball - staff win. Cricket - student win. Football - student win. A special mention to our Year 12 Student Leadership team for their hard work and organisation; their commitment has been vital for this event to be a success. We're proud to announce that approximately £5,000 has been raised for our three chosen charities: Show Racism the Red Card, Shooting Star, and the Sierra Leone Development and Relief Fund. Thank you to all of our students who got involved in any way.

Next a call for support: we're always delighted to hear about our students' achievements outside school, whether in sports, performing arts, visual & creative arts & technologies, uniformed organisations or other hobbies and interests. Not all students are equally confident about sharing news of their skills and talents with us, so we're inviting parents and carers to tell us on their behalf by completing this questionnaire: <https://forms.office.com/e/sE73kSDKZu>. If you have more than one child at George Abbot, please complete a separate form for each one. Subject Leads, Tutors and other colleagues will look through your responses and reflect on our extra-curricular offer, our rewards & recognition processes and our support for More Able & Talented students.

Lastly, something that may be of interest to our parents and carers on the theme of anxiety—in particular, in relation to young people. This [13 minute clip](#) captures the central themes of Jonathan Haidt's book 'The Anxious Generation'. It is food for thought.

Many congratulations to our **Dance Live squad** who achieved an excellent second place at this week's competition at G Live. They now wait to hear whether they progress to the final. We are super proud of them all.



A reminder that we need your donations for the George Abbot Preloved Clothes sale—final call! Our Preloved Clothes and Second Hand Uniform Sale is on **Thursday 3 April from 3.30pm**. Please keep the date in your diary to come and have a browse. Donations can be delivered to Reception and will be very gratefully received.



Spring Concert: This year's Spring Concert will take place on Thursday 3 April, at 7pm in Raynham Hall. The concert will feature performances by/from the following ensembles:

KS3 Boys' Choir	Contemporary Dance Company
Flute Choir	Junior Dance Company
GAFC	Jazz Dance Company
Concert Orchestra	Year 7, 8, 10 & 12 Dance Companies
Concert Band	
Boomwhacker ensemble	
Big Band	

There will also be a selection of solo performances from our Year 13 and Year 11 musicians, and our recent cabaret evening.

Tickets will go on sale from Monday 24 March, available from:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/gabbotperformingarts>

All students performing in the concert will need to be in school from 6.15pm on Thursday 3 April. We look forward to as many friends and family as possible joining us as we celebrate the arrival of Spring, and the approach of the Easter holidays.



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PTA Building a stronger home-school community

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

All details at pta-events.co.uk/gapta.



GEORGE ABBOT SCHOOL Car Boot Sale



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

George Abbot School, Woodruff Ave, GU1 1XX

Notices

Week commencing 24 March = Week B
Week commencing 31 March = Week A

Whole School

⇒ Free School Meals eligibility

The Free School Meals eligibility rules are changing from 1 April 2025. If you are already in receipt of FSM for your child, no action is needed. If you think you might be eligible or want to find out if you are, please have a look at the [attached application form](#). There is quick turn around. All forms should be returned to Elmslie Reception, or via email to: office@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk by Tuesday 25 March 2025

⇒ Free School Meals

We have been advised by Surrey County Council that we are able to issue a £30 voucher to students eligible for Free School Meals to cover the Easter Break. This voucher was issued by email via eVouchers on 18 March. If you have any queries regarding your vouchers, please email Bernice Evans (bevans@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk). If your request is for a printed copy of your voucher, please specify the supermarket you would like the voucher to be for.

⇒ Cycle and Traffic Safety

Following feedback from local residents, we would like to draw your attention to the concerns raised about traffic safety, with particular concerns regarding Great Goodwin Drive, Charlock Way and Woodruff Avenue. Please could we remind parents/carers:

- Please do not park on pavements or in the cycle lanes when dropping off or picking up children.
- Please do not drive in the cycle lane while queuing to leave Woodruff Avenue at the roundabout, this makes it unpassable for cyclists. This is particularly dangerous for students who ride bicycles to and from school.
- When parking, we ask you to be considerate to others and ensure residents' drive-ways are left clear.
- Please could all road users take care to ensure that the safety of pedestrians is paramount. Do ensure you allow enough time for your journey to school and drop off in a safe area.
- Please always treat our neighbours and members of our community with politeness and respect at all times. Thank you for your support in ensuring the safety of our community.

Whole School

⇒ Warhammer Club

We are starting up a brand new Warhammer hobby club in association with Warhammer Alliance and Games Workshop Guildford. The club will run after school on Tuesdays every week from 3:15-4:30 and is led by Mr Healy in the English Department. This club is open for years 7-11 and welcomes all people, whether you are veterans of the hobby or brand new players. Warhammer is a popular tabletop miniatures game, set either in the far distant science-fiction setting of 40,000ad, or the fantasy lands of Sigmar. The club will provide students for free with the basic tools, paints, models and teaching to help players construct and paint their first Warhammer models, before moving into teaching the tabletop game itself. Students do not need to bring their own Warhammer to the club and anything that is brought in should be kept safe, secured, and at the discretion of the students. We hope to students there!

⇒ Charlie & the Chocolate Factory Band Auditions

If your child is interested in auditioning, please ask them to pick up some music from the PA Office from Friday 21 March. Auditions will be held after school, in PA2, on Thursday 27 March. Students should expect to be in school until 5pm.

⇒ International Women's Day

Last week in assemblies, students learnt about International Women's Day. This year's theme is 'Accelerate Action' which calls for action that can unlock equal rights, power and opportunities for all and a feminist future where no one is left behind. Central to this vision is empowering the next generation—youth, particularly young women and adolescent girls—as catalysts for lasting change. For more information, [please click here](#).

⇒ Gas Works—Shalford

We have been made aware of some planned gas works in Shalford from Monday 31 March. For more information, [please click here](#).

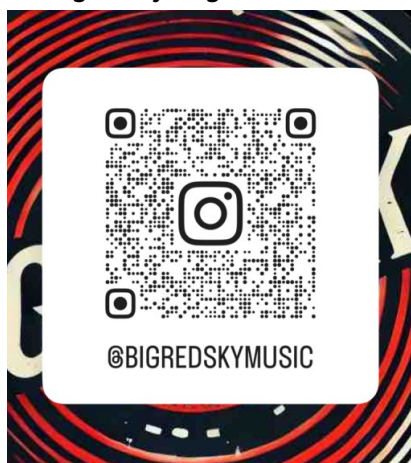
⇒ Dinner Money

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.

Focus on

Big Red Sky at Guilfest!

We are delighted to announce that one of our Year 10 students, Ben H, and his band, Big Red Sky, will be playing the Cave Stage at Guilfest at 12.00pm on Sunday 6 July! Congratulations Ben, what an amazing achievement. Big Red Sky are a band of young talented musicians between the ages of 12-19 and they enjoy performing rock and pop covers. They would very much appreciate your support and it promises to be a great weekend. More information can be found here: <https://www.guilfest.co.uk/> and you can follow Big Red Sky on Instagram using the QR code below or by searching BigRedSkyMusic. Good luck Ben, we look forward to hearing how you get on.

A poster for Guilfest 25, held at Stoke Park on 5th-6th July. The poster lists the lineup for 'THE CAVE STAGE' and includes a QR code for tickets. The band Big Red Sky is highlighted with a red circle and a red arrow pointing to their name in the lineup.

5th-6th JULY
STOKE PARK

Guilfest 25 Winner of the best family festival in the UK

THE JACKSONS
SOUL II SOUL • LEO SAYER
STEREO MC'S • SLEEPER
THE WEDDING PRESENT • ODYSSEY
N-TRANCE • BAY CITY ROLLERS
BABY D • DEFINITELY OASIS
LETZ ZEP • THE MARLEY EXPERIENCE
FUNKE AND THE TWO TONE BABY
THE SPIKE GIRLS EXPERIENCE
ROCK CHOIR
GUILDFORD VOX AND HORSSELL SINGS

RAZORLIGHT
KT TUNSTALL • ELVANA
ALTERED IMAGES • DUB PISTOLS
DITTY MOONSHINE BIG BAND
THE AMY WINEHOUSE BAND
THE PRIMITIVES • SKIDS
BEANS ON TOAST • VOODOO RADIO
SEX PISSED BOLLS • FEZZBOX
GAVIN THOMAS • ROCK CHOIR
TROJAN BEATS • BLONDED
ROYAL SURREY CHOIR

THE CAVE STAGE

• SAPPHIRE • DUCK FUNK • GIRL LIKE THAT • NIHILIST • BOSS HARBING BAND • CANINE GYMKHANA • TRIBAL JURY
• JOHNNY NO SHOW • THE SUPERPOWERS • LIGHT FOR YANBOLS • BELMONTWOOD • THE SERIAL THEFTERS
• UNLUCKY AT MIDNIGHT • ROOM SERVICE • EMPTY TRAINS • BONE-DIE • SPONGE-CORNER • ANCHIE ROSE
• BLANK XPRESSION • BACCANAL • WHAT HAPPENS NEXT • CHANGE PERSONA • ROGUE AWAKENING • SNOR FIRE
• ANA THE SYNDICATE • ALONG THE PINES • LOCAL POP HERO • BIG RED SKY

Plus many more acts to be announced

RADIO SURREY

Tickets: [guilfest.co.uk](https://www.guilfest.co.uk/) or use the QR code

Alumni Olivier Award Nominees!

We are proud to announce that two former George Abbot Alumni have been nominated for Lawrence Olivier Drama awards in 2025, with Tom Edden being nominated for Best Actor in a Supporting Role for his work in 'Waiting for Godot', and Joe Hill-Gibbins a cast member in the same production, which has been nominated for Best Revival. These are extremely prestigious awards, with former winners including Judi Dench, Andrew Lloyd Webber, Ian McKellen and Michael Gambon, so it is a huge achievement for former George Abbot students to be considered amidst such high talent and company. Best of luck to both students in their respective categories.

Mrs Jennings has nearly raised £1000!

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 to get her to her goal, please click the link below: https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/jackie-jennings2025?utm_term=VZKXRDJQq

Community Notices



Family Advice sessions

Are you facing difficulties in your family life?
Do you feel like you need some extra support and advice?

We provide parents/carers with advice and guidance.

Book your free virtual 30 minute advice session

now on

01483 510570

We understand that buying an e-scooter can be tempting, especially as you can get them from many popular retailers.

However, the current law is clear

You can buy one but you can't ride it on a UK public road, cycle lane or pavement. The only place an e-scooter can be used is on private land.

Why is this?

E-scooters are classified as Personal Light Electric Vehicles (PLEVs), so they are treated as motor vehicles and subject to the same legal requirements, such as:

- MOT
- Licensing
- Insurance
- Drink / Drug driving legislation

As e-scooters do not have number plates, signalling ability and don't always have visible rear lights, they can't be used legally on the roads.

What happens if I've been stopped by Surrey Police?

Section 165 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 allows police to seize vehicles that are used on the road without a policy of insurance or driving licence. Please make sure you only ride your e-scooter on private land with permission of the land owner, so this does not happen to you.

Why can't I use my e-scooter on a public road, cycle lane or pavement?

Drive SMART Surrey and Surrey Police understand the public's support for environmentally friendly modes of transport. We want to work with the public to make sure the roads are safe for everyone.

Many privately owned e-scooters can reach speeds of up to 30mph. Without noise from an engine, lights, or other methods to alert road users of their presence, e-scooters can be a danger to both riders and other road users.

The UK Government is currently taking part in trials for e-scooter hire, with a view to making them legal to use on the roads; however Surrey are not part of the trials.

Until the UK Government develops current laws and regulations to include e-scooter use and safety, they remain illegal to use on public roads, cycle lanes and pavements.

Refer a friend
TO BE IN FOR A CHANCE TO WIN £200!

Enter our **Super Draw**
WIN A HOME ROBOT BUNDLE!
OR £1,000 CASH PRIZE

SURREY ARTS
BRASS LESSONS AT SURREY ARTS WEST CENTRE - GEORGE ABBOT SCHOOL

Year 3+
Mondays and Fridays after school

Contact Surrey Arts for more information:
T: 01483 519303
E: surreyartsmusic@surreycc.gov.uk

Learn more and apply online:
surreycc.gov.uk/music

Careers

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

- Activate Learning Open Events

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

- Tesco Apprenticeship Programme

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

- Space Science Week

World Book Day at George Abbot

George Abbot celebrated World Book Day on Tuesday 11 March. It was a positive day that saw our community unite to embrace the magic and power of reading for pleasure. Staff and students dressed up in highly creative costumes displaying a huge range of inspiration from both fiction and non-fiction texts. Smiles, laughter and conversations about books filled corridors and classrooms alike, and the day was abuzz with literary energy. We also had an inordinate number of books donated for our first ever World Book Day fair - over 3,500! Thank you to all members of our community who donated to the cause, and special shout outs to the following form groups who won the competition to donate the most books in their year group:

- 7FG
- 8WG
- 9MA
- 10FA
- 11WA

The World Book Day Fair continues its success into the evening. We had performances from poets and musicians, thousands of books taken to a new home and plenty of prizes won in our literary competitions. We cannot wait to celebrate again next year and put reading for pleasure even more firmly on the map. If any students would like to take home some books for their shelves, please come up to The Gallery during break times and select as many as you desire!



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