

# George Abbot Bulletin

17 October 2025



## Message from Mrs Carriett:

As we approach half term, we showcase all things Gabbot Sport. We are very proud of the breadth and depth of our sporting talent. Thank you to all of our students have represented us; they are ambassadors for our school and our community and I am really proud of them all. Please read on for the Sport Review.



**A reminder that Friday 24 October is an INSET day. We look forward to welcoming students back to school on Monday 3 November. We hope all of our students have a safe and happy half term rest.**

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# Sports Review

The PE department are incredibly proud of the successful start that we have had in our extra-curricular sport in the first half term back. Attendance to our after-school clubs has been fantastic, and we hope to see this continue as the winter draws in.



## **Netball:**

Four Year 7 teams took victory against St Peters at home. Another three teams took on Guildford County, with a draw and two losses. All teams have shown outstanding commitment to training, with huge numbers every week. Over 50 girls have represented the school in a competitive fixture against another local school and continue to work hard to develop their skill set in the game.

Year 9 took on the first tournament of the season, some wins, some losses but had an enjoyable afternoon of netball.

Year 10 claimed 1st place at the Guildford District friendly tournament, winning all 6 of their games, demonstrating high levels of skill but great teamwork and communication. This team go from strength to strength each year and have their eyes set on Surrey School Finals day in March

Year 8, 9 and 10 teams took on Guildford County, enjoying 3 wins in 5 games.

## **Girls' football:**

Year 7 through to round two of the National Cup following a 4-0 win against Howard of Effingham School.

Year 8 started the year with a friendly 2-2 draw against Surbiton High.

Year 9 into round two of the National Cup after a 3-1 win against SJB in early September, then into round three of the NC following an away win to Kingston Grammar School.

Year 10 also into round two of the National Cup after a 5-3 win against All Hallows. Then progressed to round three following a 4-0 win away at ACS Cobham.

## **Boys' football:**

Year 7 won 4-2 against Guildford County in their first fixture, success continued in a tight 2-1 win against Howard of Effingham securing them a place in round two of the National Cup.

Year 8 started the year with a win against Guildford County in the first game of the district league, followed by a 4-11 win against St Peter's.

Year 9A into round two of the National Cup with a win on penalties after a tight 0-0 against Fulbrook. Then into round three of the National Cup winning 8-7 on penalties after a 2-2 draw against Ash Manor. Followed by a further win against Guildford County in the district league.

Year 10 have made it through to round three of the National cup, with a round two home win against Southborough.

GA6 through to round two of the National Cup after a 3-1 win, then unfortunately knocked out by a 2-0 loss to Glyn.

## **Rugby:**

Year 7 boys enjoyed a Surrey County rugby festival, playing in 8 matches across the day: winning 5, drawing in 1 and 2 losses. Their success continued into a four out of four-game winning streak in an evening district rugby festival at Guildford Rugby Club.

Year 8 boys unbeaten in 4 of 5 games at the Guildford District rugby festival.

Year 9 boys took 1 win, 1 draw and 2 tight losses at the Guildford District rugby festival. In a close game against Rodborough, they took a close 14-26 loss.

U16 boys enjoyed a 3 out of 4 game win at the Guildford District rugby festival.

U18 boys took a loss to Woking College following a great game of rugby.

## **Basketball:**

Year 9 boys took a 46-28 loss to Hampton School; but look forward to the approaching season.

## **Badminton:**

Three U12 doubles pairs took on Tormead School, winning 12 of 20 matches. Later, U15 and U16 enjoyed a 22/30 match win against Tormead School.

## **Golf:**

GA6 Golf squad won 5 points to 1 against RGS in a lovely afternoon at Guildford Golf Club.

## **Aquathlon:**

Year 7/8 girls posting top 5 times in their individual age categories with a third place in Year 7.

## **Swimming:**

A successful evening in the Surrey School Relay with all year groups (7-13) represented and the best state school results overall in the county. Highlights of the results include Junior G FS 2nd place, Inter B FS 2nd place, Senior G FS 2nd place, Inter G Med 2nd place, Senior G Med 2nd place.

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## Whole School

⇒ **Free School Meals**

We have been advised by Surrey County Council that we are able to issue a £10 voucher to students eligible for Free School Meals to cover the Summer break. Vouchers have been issued this week by email via Evouchers. If you would prefer a printed copy to be posted to you or have any queries regarding your vouchers, please email Bernice Evans (bevans@learningpartners.org). If your request is for a printed copy of your voucher, please specify the supermarket you would like the voucher to be for. The value is lower than previous vouchers because the government has reduced the funding, and more families now need help. Surrey County Council is continuing to offer vouchers, even though some other Local Authority areas have unfortunately had to stop. If you feel this will affect you financially, please let us know and we can put you in touch with our Home School Link Worker team and/or Heads of Year who may be able to offer further support.

⇒ **Truancy alerts**

A reminder to contact the school **as soon as possible** if your child is absent. We are seeing an increase in absences where no contact has been made and it is vital we know where our students are every day. Please report absences via email or call, ideally before 9:00am:

**Year 7-11:** attendance@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk / 01483 888000 option 1

**Sixth Form:** sixthformoffice@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk / 01483 888151

**If you do receive a truancy alert, please can we ask for your supporting in replying to it, as soon as you are able,** so we can follow safeguarding procedures if a student is missing.

⇒ **Penalty Notices Reminder**

A reminder of the national framework that came into action in June 2024 regarding penalty notices. A penalty notice can be issued:

- When a child has been taken out of school for 10 sessions (i.e. 10 x ½ days or 5 days) of unauthorised absence in a rolling period of 10 school weeks. A school week means any week in which there is at least one school session.
- This can be met with any combination of unauthorised absence (e.g. 4 sessions of holiday taken in term time plus 6 sessions of arriving late after the register closes all within 10 school weeks).
- These sessions can be consecutive (e.g. 10 sessions of holiday in one week) or not (e.g. 6 sessions of unauthorised absence taken in 1 week and 1 per week for the next 4 weeks).
- The period of 10 school weeks can also span different terms or school years (e.g. 2 sessions of unauthorised absence in the Summer Term and a further 8 within the Autumn Term).

Penalty notice fines are payable by every adult in a household and for every child in that household where the child's absence meets the penalty notice threshold.

First penalty notice fines are:

- £80 to be paid within 21 days or
- £160 if paid after 21 days but within 28 days

Second penalty notice fines are £160 if paid within 28 days. The government expects schools to work with Surrey County Council in consideration of prosecution if a third set of absences occur within the parameters set out above. Full details of the penalty notice system can be found on the exceptional absence request form and on our website at [www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/attendance/](http://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/attendance/). The exceptional absence request form should be completed at least two weeks before the requested absence date/s.

Thank you for all that you will continue to do to support the best possible attendance for your child and their future.

## Whole School

### ⇒ Year 11 - 13 Online Progress Support Meetings – Tuesday 11 November 5.00pm – 7.00pm, online video appointments via SchoolCloud

We will be holding the above event on Tuesday 11 November. Appointments are by **staff invitation only**. We will only contact parents/carers with appointments if subject teachers have concern about how:

- Year 12 students have started their new exam courses
- Year 11 or Year 13 students are working in their final year of their courses.

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.**

We will notify you via an email from SchoolCloud no later than Wednesday 5 November. You may also log in to the SchoolCloud system **after** this date to view your appointments. If you have not been contacted by this date, please assume that your child's teachers have not requested an appointment.

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>.

### ⇒ Secondhand uniform sale

We will be running a secondhand uniform sale on Thursday 23 October from 3.15pm-4.00pm. Please report to Reception on arrival.

## Year 11

### ⇒ Year 11 PSE Speaker programme

As part of the Year 11 PSE speaker programme, please be aware that on Tuesday 4 November Period 2, all Year 11 students will be attending a talk by Natasha Devon on Body image. The talk will contain content regarding the following themes:

- Understanding beauty ideals as a social construct;
- How body image satisfaction impacts other areas of our lives;
- Understanding how social media influences body image;
- Debunking some of the common myths around the relationship between weight and health;
- Finding online role models and practising digital self-care;
- Where to seek further support

## Year 10

### ⇒ RE GCSE Mock

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

- Christianity: Beliefs and Teachings
- Christianity: Practices
- Buddhism: Beliefs and Teachings
- Buddhism: Practices

A revision calendar as well as revision guides, workbooks, mind-maps and recorded PowerPoints are all available here: [Mock resources 2025](#) (link also available to students on Bromcom).

In addition, their first assessment week is w/b 20th October. This will be an in-class assessment and their teacher will give them the exact date closer to the time. This assessment will last 25 minutes and they will be examined on Crime and Punishment. Revision resources are available here: [Crime and punishment](#) (link also available to students on Bromcom). Please do encourage students to start revising for these assessments early. 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 we are asking students in Year 7 to wear their House polo shirts on both Monday and Tuesday next week for mini musical rehearsals.

## Community Week 3-7 November 2025

This is an opportunity for staff and students to be involved in improving an aspect of our environment. There will be a range of activities taking place during tutor time. The aim of this event is to continue to shape students' personal development, specifically around acknowledging their role as an active citizen who has the capacity to make a difference in the world.



**WHAT WILL WE BE DOING?**

Community Week is an opportunity for all staff and students to be involved in caring for our environment.

Each of you will have a chance to work on a small project or task, designed to enhance an aspect of our school.

You will work alongside the Year 11 prefects and your tutors, during a dedicated tutor-time slot.

Do your best to get involved and support each other.

**PROJECTS & TASKS**

- Introduction to Community Week Presentation
- 'Improving the Community' Student Voice
- Planting, Mulching, Clearing & Gardening
- Recycling from Classrooms
- Litter Picking
- Creating signage reminding students of need for putting rubbish in bins
- Gallery Book Review Writing
- Sustainability Online Assembly
- E Waste recycling – bring in / work with network team
- KS5 Students – Bag-packing at Sainsbury's and volunteering at Guildford Food Bank & Albury Care Home

**COMMUNITY WEEK 2025**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> to Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November

## Exmoor DoE Expedition Success!

Congratulations to our Year 12 students who successfully completed their Silver Duke of Edinburgh expedition assessment in Exmoor earlier this month. Despite the extremely challenging conditions brought by Storm Amy, the students demonstrated outstanding resilience, teamwork, strength, and commitment throughout. Their determination and positive spirit were truly impressive. A huge thank you also goes to the dedicated staff members and volunteers who supported the expedition, ensuring everyone's safety and success despite the weather. Well done to everyone involved — a fantastic achievement all round!

## Assembly Focus: Celebrating Black History Month

This week in Assembly, we came together to celebrate Black History Month, exploring how the study of History helps us to understand the world and ourselves. We reflected on how historians collate, evaluate, and interpret evidence from the past, and how History is not fixed—it is an academic discipline that constantly evolves as new evidence and perspectives come to light. I encouraged students to think about how, for many years, certain voices and experiences were left out of mainstream history books. In particular, we discussed how women were not routinely included in historical narratives until recent decades, and how initiatives like Black History Month are continuing to help redress imbalances in our history by shining a light on stories that have too often been overlooked.

Students heard examples of Black contributions to British history, including the roles played by Black people who fought and served as part of the British and Commonwealth forces during the World Wars. We also reflected on the impact of Black activists who helped drive forward equalities legislation, shaping the fairer, more inclusive society we value today. I encouraged everyone to see these additions to our shared story not as separate histories, but as essential pieces that enrich our collective understanding of the past and strengthen our sense of belonging.

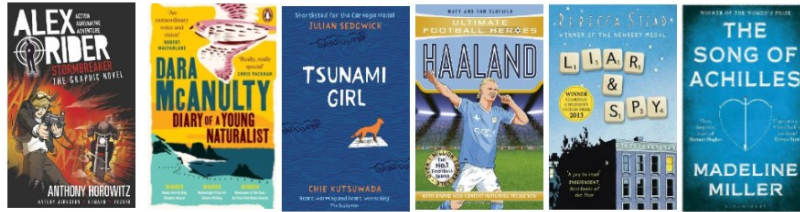
Finally, we took time to celebrate the diversity and richness of our own school community. Our varied backgrounds and heritage stories are what make us stronger together. By learning from one another and connecting our histories, we not only honour those who came before us but also build a more inclusive and thoughtful future—one in which every student's story is seen, valued, and celebrated.

Students may enjoy borrowing 'Black and British', by historian David Olusoga, from the Gallery library, to learn more.



# Reading

As we gear up towards 2026 as the National Year of Reading, we would be grateful for your support in building on a strong reading culture at George Abbot. Stay tuned for more information on events we will be running to promote reading for pleasure. All students can browse our library website [Reading Cloud](#) to find inspiration for their next read. Access is via Student Hub on the school website, using their Microsoft login. On there you can browse for books, leave reviews, reserve books and read recommendations from other students and staff. Students can also request additions to the library. See below for the latest new arrivals and I look forward to welcoming your child to the library soon! Ms King



## Community Notices

### Andrew Lawrence Basketball Camp—October Half term

We're excited to welcome young players aged 7–16 to the Andrew Lawrence Basketball Camp, the perfect way to stay active, build confidence and level up your basketball skills over the school break. Join us for three days of engaging, skill-based sessions led by current and former professional players and coaches, including Surrey 89ers players! 27, 29 and 31 October – 9:00am to 1:00pm at George Abbot School. [Sign up here](#). Email us at [andrewlawrencecoaching@gmail.com](mailto:andrewlawrencecoaching@gmail.com)

**Support programmes for parents & carers of children with autism**

A variety of 6-part support programmes for parents and carers of children with autism (or suspected autism) are available online and in-person around Surrey. Your child must live in Surrey or attend a Surrey education setting.

**Early Bird programme for parents of children aged 5 years and under**

- Understanding autism
- Communication
- Understanding autistic experiences
- Supporting daily living
- Health and wellbeing
- Connections

**Cygnets programme for parents of children aged 5-18 years old**

- Introductory session
- Overview of autism with parent and carer experience
- Thinking & sensory
- Social interaction & communication
- Understanding & supporting behaviour
- Analysing behaviour

**Teen life for parents of children aged 10-16 years old**

- Understanding autism
- Understanding autistic identity
- Stress, anxiety and understanding behaviour
- Health and wellbeing
- Puberty
- Education and transitioning into adulthood

Can I ask some questions?  
Email us on [parenttraining@freemantles.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:parenttraining@freemantles.surrey.sch.uk)

How do I join a course?  
Please scan the QR code to register your interest & be part of our mailing list. We will email you each time a new set of courses are available for booking.

**GIVE ROWING A GO** Free; no prior experience required

Rowing taster sessions at Molesey Boat Club, Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November pm

For more information or to apply, contact [ben.reed@britishrowing.org](mailto:ben.reed@britishrowing.org)

Online Course

**strengthening families strengthening communities**

Online Course

**Stronger Relationships**

For parents and other adult carers living together or apart

**NETBALL CAMP**

**AGE 10-15**

27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER

Forge Netball Academy

Come and join us at Forge Netball Academy. Our camps are designed to develop and enhance skills, fitness and overall performance of young athletes. Supported with expert coaching and competitive opportunities.

Want to get some new ideas to help you be the best parent you can be?  
Enhance your relationship with your children?  
Learning at a time that suits you?

6 online sessions, 6 group discussions, Certificate on completion

Do you want to get some new ideas to help you be an even better parent?  
Would you like to reduce the arguments and disagreements in your family and cope better with stress?  
Would you like to enhance your relationship with your current partner, or improve communication with your ex or the other people helping to raise your children?  
How about learning at a time that suits you?

6 online sessions, 6 group discussions, Certificate on completion

**What to expect...**

- Information on strategies and child development.
- Hear from other parents.
- Worksheets and hand-outs.
- Videos, quizzes and fun activities.
- Do sessions at a time that works for you.
- Expert help from a real person each week.
- Choose a course that suits your child's age.

**Topics covered...**

- Healthy relationships.
- Understanding and managing behaviour.
- Enhancing children's self-esteem.
- Emotions and empathy.
- What to expect for the age of your child.
- Being part of a community.

**Group discussion...**

- Speak to a course expert and get answers to any questions you might have.
- Talk about how the strategies are going at home and how to adjust them for you.
- Address other difficulties relating to parenting.
- Hear from others about what works for them.

**What to expect...**

- Information on strategies to identify and reduce arguments.
- Hear from other parents and carers.
- Downloadable worksheets and hand-outs.
- Videos, quizzes and interactive activities.
- Do sessions at a time that works for you.
- Weekly support from our course experts.

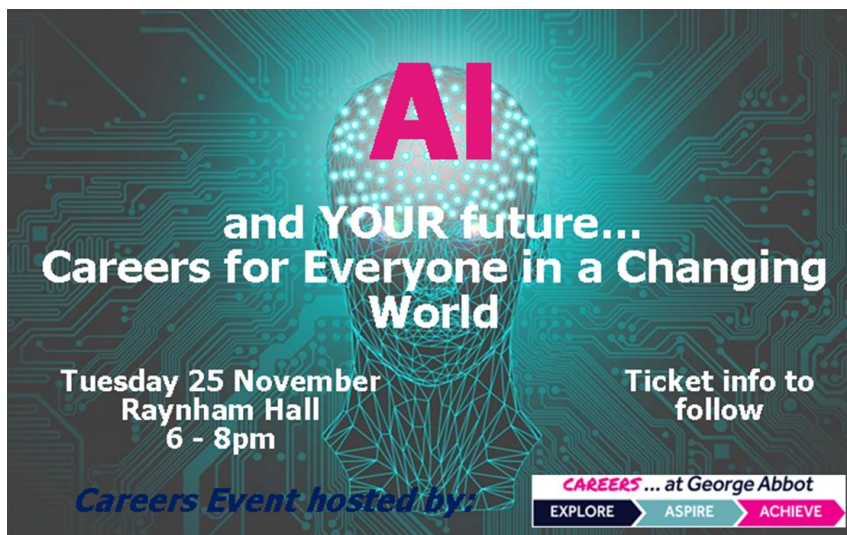
**Topics covered...**

- Healthy adult relationships.
- Identifying and managing disagreements.
- Understanding how conflict affects your children.
- Enhancing parent-child relationships.
- Managing stress, anger and emotions.
- Strategies to resolve conflict and create a parenting agreement

**Group discussion...**

- Speak to a course expert and get answers to some of the questions you might have
- Talk about how the strategies are going at home.
- Address other difficulties relating to your relationships.
- Hear from others about what works for them.

Find out more or register for the course by scanning the QR code or emailing us at: [sfscparent@racefound.org.uk](mailto:sfscparent@racefound.org.uk)



Our Careers team have been busy developing a website full of careers information and opportunities. Please click [here](#) to visit the site. If you have any Careers based questions, please contact [ceg@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:ceg@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk). <https://georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/careers/>

## PTA Building a stronger home-school community



### What just happened?

On Wednesday evening, James Hanson gave a fascinating and insightful talk about what goes on in Guildford at night – the drinks and drugs; the risks that young adults encounter, and ways to mitigate them; and the help provided by community organisations such as Street Angels. We have other talks planned: on 12 November, Helen Gowers – who has been on a remarkable personal journey since her time as a teacher at George Abbot – will tell us about crucial aspects of nutrition (and illness) in [How to feed a human being \(so they will thrive!\)](#); on 21 January we have an evening with author and coach [Rosie Nixon](#); and on 18 March we're scheduled to learn [What's Really in the River Wey](#). If you're interested in any of these, it would be **very helpful** if you could register for them on the websites. If not enough people do so, the events may be cancelled. If you have ideas for topics that you think would be of more interest, please get in touch.

### Can you help?

We are, as always, very short of volunteers. If you wouldn't mind helping, e.g. to serve refreshments at the occasional school event, please let us know: [g.abbot.pta@gmail.com](mailto:g.abbot.pta@gmail.com)

**Fundraising challenge:** A reminder of our fundraising project, particularly for those parents/carers who have recently joined our community. We are raising £75,000 to help us expand our dining and social space for students. A new dining area will allow students to eat comfortably, enjoy a meal with friends and provide a sheltered space where they can socialise, relax, and take refuge from the elements during breaks, especially on rainy or colder days.

Our target is to complete the building project by the summer of 2027 at the latest. Every donation, big or small, makes a difference. [Please share this page with family, friends, colleagues, and the wider community](#) and thank you for anybody able to donate—it will make a big difference to daily school life for all our young people.



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