George Abbot Bulletin

19 December 2025

Key Dates—Spring Term:

5 January	INSET Day—school closed for students
w/c 5 January	Year 8 Assessment Week
6 January	Students return to school
w/c 12 January	Year 10 Assessment Week
Thursday 15 January	Year 13 Online Parents' Evening
Monday 19 January	Year 11 Parent Information Evening (online)
Monday 26 January	Year 10 Parent Information Evening (online)
w/c 2 February	Year 9 Assessment Week (core subjects and RE) Year 12 Assessment Week
w/c 9 February	Year 13 Assessment fortnight Year 9 Options Choices interviews commence
w/c 16 February	Half term

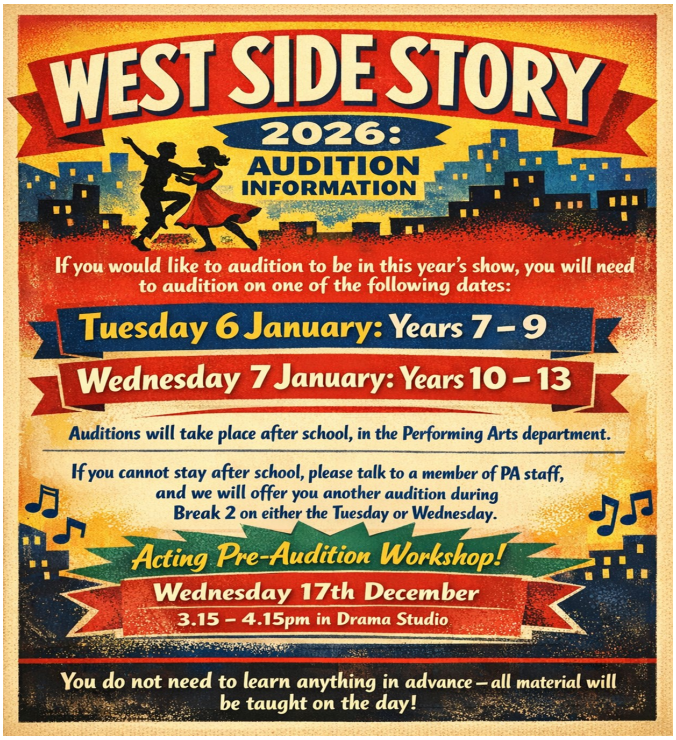
Production Reveal

We are delighted to announce that next year's production will be:

West Side Story!

Auditions for the production will be held in the first week of January, all in the Performing Arts department. See timings on the poster herein. Students should be prepared to stay in school until at least 5pm and ensure that appropriate travel arrangements have been made.

We look forward to seeing lots of students in the first week of 2026 - good luck!



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Notices	5 January = INSET Day, school closed for students w/c 5 January = Week B w/c 12 January = Week A
Whole School	⇒ **Learning Partners Parent/Carer Bulletin** Please click here to view. ⇒ **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: • Teacher of Maths • Head of KS5 Maths • Cover Supervisor ⇒ **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' driveways 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.
Year 13	⇒ **Year 13 Parents' Evening—Thursday 15 January** For more information on how to book appointments, please click here.
Year 11	⇒ **Last chance to sign up for Silver DofE Award** Well done to those in year 11 who have signed up to this years Silver Duke of Edinburgh scheme. We hope you are looking forward to the fun and rewarding experiences that await you. There are still a few places available. So any students who did not manage to sign up previously, we have therefore extended the final deadline to apply to **9am on Wednesday 7 January.** Students will be able to use the link that was previously sent out via Bromcom messages to register OR, can email Mrs Wolstencroft and/or Mr Mallindine: HWolstencroft@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/CMallindine@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk) directly to express your interest to partake.
Year 10	⇒ **English Literature** From January, Year 10 students will continue their GCSE English Literature course, studying J B Priestley's An Inspector Calls. We strongly encourage students to buy their own copy of the text as they will then be able to highlight and annotate key scenes, quotes, etc. This will be so useful for revising for assessments, mocks and their final GCSE in the summer of 2027. The text version we are using in school is the Heinemann edition ISBN 9780435232825 which is available from Amazon and other booksellers. Please ensure your child has their own copy and returns to school with it in January. If your child is in receipt of Pupil Premium then school will supply a copy at the start of the new term. If you have any questions please email cbatcheler@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

Wellbeing Resources

⇒ **Winter Resources for Wellbeing**

Please visit the webpage below to access some resources to support regulation, connection and rest during the holidays: https://beaconhouse.org.uk/winter-resources/

Young Minds offers some top tips for the winter months, and Mindworks has published 12 days of wellbeing tips to support you this festive season.

⇒ **Keeping your child safe outside of the home:**

- Relate has advice for parents/carer about how to handle the new challenges that parenting a teenager can bring.
- Family Lives has a helpline for parents/carers and a forum where you can talk to other parents about life with a teenager.
- The Suzy Lamplugh Trust is a leading charity promoting personal safety awareness. Online advice is available on various topics relevant to young people, such as personal safety for students, attending festivals and going for a run.
- Drink Aware have an information section for parents/carers on how to talk to children about alcohol, why children might drink and how to prevent underage drinking.

⇒ **Guide to Keeping Teens Safe on Social Media**

Young people are spending more and more time online. Whether for school or socialising, learning or creative expression, so much of their world exists at least partly online. As a result, social media is a big part of most teens' lives. And many parents and carers worry about the content they're seeing or the dangers they might encounter. Together with your young person, you can learn about how to set up controls on the content they might see online or on social media by viewing this Social Media Safety Guide.

⇒ **Calm Down! Calm Down!: A Practical Guide To Understanding And Mastering Anxiety by Steve Maher**

In Calm Down! Calm Down! psychotherapist and executive coach Steve Maher blends science, evolutionary psychology, and thousands of hours of coaching to explain:

- Why your brain is wired for anxiety—and how that wiring misfires today
- The everyday triggers that spark fight, flight, or freeze
- How your imagination, social instincts, and even your gut influence worry
- Practical, proven tools—from ACT to Human Givens—to break the cycle and reclaim calm

For more information, please click here.

⇒ **Matrix Youth Café Events 2026**

Please see the poster (right) for all of Matrix's upcoming events in the New Year. Wednesdays are Matrix's relaxed Neurodivergent friendly youth café day, with workshops running from 3.30pm.

Committed to promoting the welfare and safety of

SAMARITANS
Call us free 24/7 on
116 123

Mental Health Crisis Helpline
Call: 0800 915 4644
Mental health support for people in Surrey and North East Hampshire.

ChildLine
0800 1111

Please also see our wellbeing resources on the school website: **https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/wellbeing/**

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Sports Round Up

The lead up to the Christmas break has been an extremely busy period for all things extra-curricular sport. We thank all students for their continued efforts to attend clubs and representing George Abbot when selected for fixtures.

Netball:

Year 7Bs won 9-2 against Glebelands, working well with just 6 players.
Year 8Bs lost 4-0 to Glebelands.
Year 9 faced two very strong Tormead teams, losing 13-2 against their A team and 12-5 against their B team. Despite the result the team stayed strong and enjoyed the challenge. Year 9 A and B teams faced Howard of Effingham, winning in both games, showing their ability to bounce back following some tough competition in the week prior.
Year 10 finished third in the district tournament.

Girls' football:

Year 7 progressed to the third round of the National Cup following a win away at ACS Cobham, with just 64 schools in the country remaining. In a thrilling 2-1 win on penalties (1-1 after extra time) against Bohunt Wokingham, making them one of the last 32 schools remaining in the Cup. They will face Bournemouth School for Girls after the Christmas break in the next round of the National Cup.
Year 8 won at home 4-0 against St Peters in the district league.
Year 8B attended a football festival hosted by Surbiton High School, winning overall in some very competitive games.
Year 9 lost a very tight 0-1 game and are out of the National Cup after a great run.
Year 10/11 travelled to Grey Court for the third round of the National Cup, 3-3 at full time, winning on a dramatic penalty shoutout (8th penalty), progressing to the fourth round. Round four of the National Cup took place at Collingwood College, with a 5-4 win on penalties (following 1-1 after extra time) making them one of the final 32 teams remaining. They will face Sanders Draper School after the Christmas break for round 5 of the National Cup.

Boys' football:

Year 7 progressed to round 4 of the National Cup after a 2-1 win after extra time. The team made their way into the last 64 schools remaining in the National Cup following a 3-2 win at Latymer Upper. In round 5 of the National Cup, the team faced Glyn taking an unfortunate loss taking them out of the National Cup after a very successful run.
Year 7B teams enjoyed a round robin against Rodborough and Guildford County, with two teams, finishing second and third overall.
Year 8Bs showed a strong side to Glebelands Bs.
Year 9 played Wilson's School in round three of the National Cup, losing in a close 4-3 meaning they did not progress past the third round.
Year 9Bs enjoyed a friendly game on the astro, winning against Guildford County.
Year 10 saw an away win at Rutlish School, progressing to round four of the National Cup. In round four they played Collingwood College in the fourth round of the National Cup, finishing 1-1 after extra time, losing 4-3 on penalties. The team gave their all but did not progress past the fourth round in the National Cup.

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Boys' rugby:

Year 7 saw a hard fought win away at Weydon. At the Guildford district festival, they won all of their matches, with no conceded tries. At the Surrey Schools festival the team won all games, including against RGS and Tiffin, and drew one game against Whitgift.

Year 9 saw one win and one loss at the district tournament, placing 2nd in their pool, progressing to the finals after Christmas.

Year 10 also had a win away against Weydon. Then the team attended the District festival with four wins from 4 matches.

Girls' basketball:

Year 7 played in the first round of the Surrey Cup tournament, placing second.

Year 8 had their first tournament in the Woking District League, winning 8-6 against SJB and drawing 12-12 against Woking High School.

Year 8 A and B teams played a double fixture against Glebelands.

Year 9 travelled to Woking High School to attend the first Woking district tournament, facing some tough competition against five other schools, despite this the team grew in strength as the games progressed.

Year 9 and 10 enjoyed their first friendly game against a mixed Glebelands team, with a dominating year 10 side.

Boys' basketball:

Year 7 had their first round of District games against Guildford County and Rodborough, preparing them for the upcoming Surrey League.

Year 8 won a good friendly against Guildford County.

Year 9 took a good win against Southborough in the Surrey League. Followed by a very tight win against Rutlish at home in the Surrey League (50-40).

Year 11 team progressed in the Surrey Cup with a 57-41 win at Salesians. Following this they lost 57-66 but played very well against the competition, taking them out of the Surrey Cup. In the District tournament the teams placed 1st, 2nd and 4th, it was great to have so many teams representing the school. In the Surrey League, they played a strong St Andrews team, with a narrow loss in the last 4 seconds.

Cricket:

It is fantastic to see that George Abbot has been included in the Cricketer Magazine, named as one of the top 25 state schools for cricket in the country for another year.

Year 7/8 girls finished third in their pool at the Surrey Indoors competition, progressing to the plate round.

This half term has seen the return of Friday evening cricket training for selected year 8-10 students, coached by Mr Teale and two year 12 SACS scholars. Select year 7s have also been invited to join after the Christmas break.

Year 7/8 boys indoor cricket squad won 3 of their 4 games, in the group stage of the Surrey Cup.

U15 girls also finished third in their pool at the Surrey Indoors competition, progressing to the plate round.

U15 boys indoor cricket squad made their way to round two of the Surrey Cup with 3 wins in their group.

The SACS 6th form indoor cricket tournament finals were held at George Abbot, with teams from across the SACS network competing in pairs matches and fitness challenges. GA team A came away with a win for the day.

Cross Country:

It was excellent to have so many students represent George Abbot at the Charterhouse Cross Country back in November. Many students placed in the top 15 of their races. Overall, George Abbot came 3rd and were the top state school. Highlights of the results include Year 7 Boys 1st, Year 8/9 Boys 2nd, Year 10/11 1st and 2nd , Year 8/9 Girls 2nd, Year 12/13 Girls 2nd. Many students have qualified to represent Guildford at the Surrey Cross Country Championships.

Swimming:

Year 7/8 Girls qualified for Nationals team relays following the Surrey School Relay.

The ESSA Super league first round was held at St Teresa's, George Abbot had eleven 1st place finishes and fifteen 2nd place finishes, proving to be a successful day for all. 30 students have been selected for the upcoming ESSA event on Saturday 17 January.

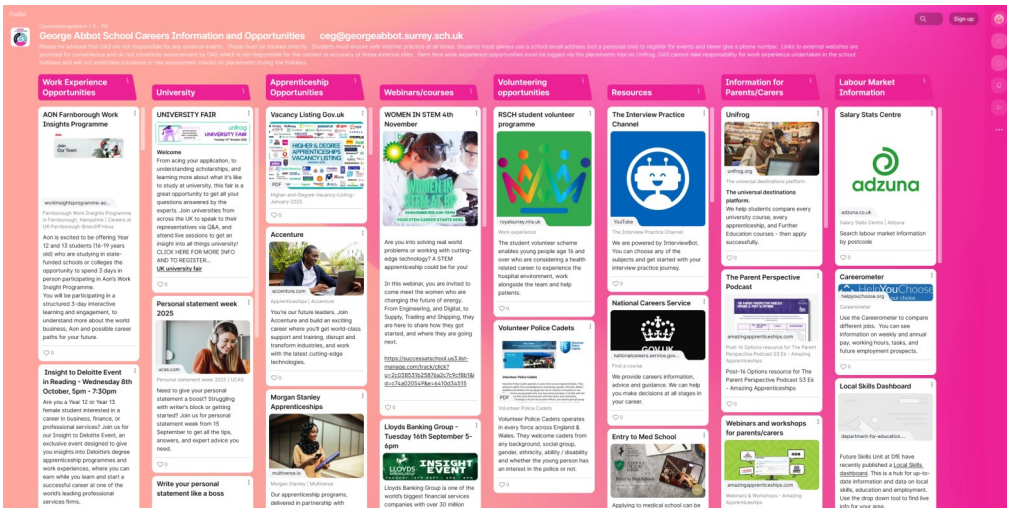
Volleyball:

Year 7 mixed and Year 10 mixed teams enjoyed their friendly games at St Peters.

Careers

CAREERS ... at George Abbot
EXPLORE ASPIRE ACHIEVE

Please click the image below or here to visit our Careers Information and Opportunities website. It is available to ALL students and is updated daily. Students can access the board via the STUDENT HUB on the school website. Please can we ask you to encourage your child to check the board on a regular basis for information on upcoming webinars, guidance and information on university and college, SEND/inclusion careers support, articles, volunteering and work experience opportunities, labour market information and more ... If you have any Careers based questions, please contact ceg@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk. https://georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/careers/



Work Experience Placements

Our Year 12 students are currently looking for work experience placements to take place between 2-6 March 2026. If you/your organisation would be able to host a student on a placement for up to 5 days that week, please email our Careers Team at workexp@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

PTA

A very happy Christmas from all on the PTA Committee!

We'd like to thank everybody for the tremendous support throughout this term, and we look forward to seeing you at next term's events. As a reminder, you can always find details of our upcoming events at https://www.pta-events.co.uk/gapta/ as well as on Facebook.

Monday 12 January: PTA meeting, to discuss outcome/feedback from Christmas fair, and the coming term's events. Please note that, exceptionally, this meeting will not be broadcast on Zoom due to staff absence: please come along and see us in person!

Wednesday 21 January: An Evening with Rosie Nixon, author, coach, and former Hello! editor.

Monday 9 February: Ashuka evening! Join us for an authentic and delicious Tandoori meal at Ashuka restaurant for the benefit of the PTA.

Please do get in touch if you can give us a hand with any of our events; and don't forget the excellent opportunities for fundraising - some of which don't cost you anything, and all of which will bring that new dining space a little nearer...