

9 October 2026

All

Over recent weeks, George Abbot has been brimming with building Year 7 and performing arts energy; this culminated in a triumphant pair of Mini Musical shows. Our new arrivals took to the stage with great panache and we were treated to some highly accomplished acting and solo vocals. Team Performing Arts are delighted at the huge potential for future musical productions that is clearly amongst us. Thank you so much to all of the parents, relatives and friends who supported the shows and our Year 7 cast. We continue to see the huge impact of this annual fixture on the confidence, organisation, team work and sense of belonging of our youngest cohort. Great job, Year 7!

Next up is Community Week. This one is for everybody to get involved - staff and all students alike. One of the golden threads at George Abbot is our motto: non sibi sed toti - not for oneself but for all. In reflection of our altruistic ethos, we have a week of activities in support of our school and local community. Please do encourage your child to get involved on at least one of the days - together we are a big collective and can make a big difference for the better.



COMMUNITY LITTER PICK

Collect a litter picker & bin bag from Elmslie reception at 15:15. Complete a litter pick in your local area during the week. Take a picture of your litter pick and upload it to the Community Week form for 10 HPs (photo must be submitted by 5pm Friday).

MONDAY



PRE LOVED UNIFORM DONATION

Donate any old/outgrown uniform to the uniform shop in Elmslie (next to gyms) 8:10-8:35. HPs awarded per item donated (10 max per student).

TUESDAY



RECYCLE BIN BINGO

Students collect a bingo card from Mr Mudie at Elmslie gate between 8:00 - 8:35. During break times on Wednesday, students ask members of staff if they require their classroom recycling bin to be emptied. If so, staff will sign the bingo card. The more signatures, the more HPs (10 max per student).

WEDNESDAY



GUILDFORD FOOD BANK DONATIONS

Please bring donations for our local food bank to Elmslie Reception - 8:00-8:30. HPs awarded per item (10 max per student).

ITEMS REQUESTED - TINNED MEAT, TREATS (CHOCOLATE & SWEETS), SPREADS (JAM, MARMITE ETC), TINNED FRUIT, SPRAY CLEANERS & CLOTHS.

THURSDAY



GUILDFORD FOOD BANK DONATIONS

Please bring donations for our local food bank to Elmslie Reception - 8:00-8:30. HPs awarded per item (10 max per student).

ITEMS REQUESTED - TINNED MEAT, TREATS (CHOCOLATE & SWEETS), SPREADS (JAM, MARMITE ETC), TINNED FRUIT, SPRAY CLEANERS & CLOTHS.

FRIDAY

Notices	w/c 12 October - Week A w/c 2 November - Week B
Whole School	Ordering Your Child's School Photograph Parents wishing to order copies of the photographs taken by Tempest Photographers this year, can do so by following the instructions on the proof photographs that students were given in form period to take home this week. • Scan the QR code on the 'proof' to access the Tempest Photographers website ordering pages. • Alternatively, visit www.tempest-orders.co.uk • You will be requested to enter the 10-digit number from your child's proof photograph that was given to them at school. • Follow the remaining order procedure and payment. <u>Orders placed by Friday 23 October, will be delivered FREE back to school and issued to your child.</u> Orders made at a later time will be subject to delivery charges to your home. Full details are available on the Tempest website. Poetry Slam - Wednesday 18 November Students have been set the task to write a poem on the theme of 'Wonder' and submit it to their English teacher by Thursday 15 October. Selected finalists will have the opportunity to perform their poem live at our event, which will be held at The University of Surrey on the evening of Wednesday 18 November. This year, for the first time, finalists will also be invited to attend a workshop with BRIT Award-winning poet Woodzy, who will be one of our judges. Full details can be found on MCAS. We hope to see you and your child there! Coats Wednesday brought an impressive range of waterproof jackets being sported by our students on arrival to school. Do remind your child to bring a coat as we move into the more challenging weather season. Telephone system upgrade Over the half term the telephone system at George Abbot is being upgraded. On the day that the new system goes live there will be a short period of time when the main school telephone line will be down. If you need to contact the school, the email system will be fully functioning throughout this process. Fortunately, our main school office number will remain the same - 01483 888 000. Secondary School applications A reminder that if you currently have a child in Year 6, the application deadline for secondary school places is 31 October. Surrey schools applications

Notices	w/c 12 October - Week A w/c 2 November - Week B
Year 7	Please note Mrs Hillicks will be commencing her maternity leave from Friday 9 October. During her absence, any correspondence relating to the Year 7 Inclusion Manager role should be directed to Mr C Mallindine, who will be taking on this responsibility. Please be reassured that Mrs B Greenwood will continue in her role as Head of Year 7. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Hillicks for her continued, relentless and caring contribution to our Year 7 students and their families. We wish her all the very best for this exciting next chapter and look forward to her return.
Years 11 to 13	The upcoming two week half term is a vital one for revision and exam practice. Think about the range of revision strategies you have been taught and trial them all over this fortnight: * review the mock exam timetables on the school website * make and deploy a revision plan for the upcoming mock exams * print off past papers * review the revision materials you have for each section of the syllabus * prepare additional resources where you may have gaps in relation to the syllabus * test yourself everyday - where knowledge is not yet secure, revisit and consolidate * prioritise open book exam question practice at this stage in the year - this helps to both consolidate knowledge and apply it to the exam format

Guildford Community Lottery - Prize draw

Tickets can be purchased here:

[Guildford Community Lottery - George Abbot](#)



Enrichment

Exmoor DofE Expedition Success!

Congratulations to our Year 12 students who successfully completed their Silver Duke of Edinburgh expedition assessment in Exmoor last weekend. The students demonstrated outstanding teamwork, strength, and determination throughout. All our staff and volunteers were extremely impressed with their efforts.

A huge thank you also goes to the dedicated staff members and volunteers who supported the expedition. Well done to everyone involved - a fantastic achievement all round!



Duke of Edinburgh Celebration

Congratulations to the 125 Year 10 students who successfully completed all sections of their Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze award in time to attend the inaugural presentation evening which was held on Thursday in Elmslie Hall. With over 100 students in attendance along with their supporting adult, the audience were delightfully entertained and educated by our guest speaker, Mr David O'Brien. A local man, with the extraordinary experience of leading twelve Mount Everest expeditions. As his tales regaled, not all successful. The students received their awards from David alongside some rapturous applause. I would like to thank all those that attended and the DofE team, including Operations Officer, Tom McKnight, for their support, not only with this event, but with all that they do to help the young people achieve their goals.



PSE: Y11 Drop-down Day

An enormous thank you to Mr Peter Radford for delivering an informative and engaging seminar to our Year 11 cohort on the important topics of misogyny, masculinity and sexual harassment. Pupils responded with respect and maturity throughout and showed a genuine willingness to reflect on these issues from different perspectives.

Sport Achievement

Congratulations to Amelie (captain/co-captain) and Carys, whose team have been crowned England U12 Girls Touch Rugby National Champions. Competing in Nottingham over the August bank holiday weekend, the team won all of their matches except one, which ended in a draw. What a fantastic achievement. Well done, girls. Perhaps one day we will be watching you play for England!



Careers Fair

We are delighted to be hosting our **Daytime Careers Fair** on **Thursday 12 November** from **9:00am to 1:30pm**.

This event will provide students with an excellent opportunity to meet a wide range of employers, industry professionals, colleges, and other post-16 education and career pathway organisations. Students will be able to explore different career options, ask questions, and gain valuable insight into future opportunities.

All students will have the opportunity to visit and meet the exhibitors at some point during the day. In addition we will also be running a series of workplace and employability skills activities for **Year 8 students**, delivered by employer partners. These sessions are designed to help students develop key skills for the workplace and will complement their visit to the Careers Fair.

In the lead-up to the event, students will complete a number of pre- and post-event activities which will help students prepare for conversations with employers and reflect on what they have learned, ensuring they gain the maximum benefit from the experience.

We are excited to offer this opportunity and look forward to seeing our students engage with a range of inspiring employers and education providers as they begin to explore their future career pathways.

We have limited spaces left for exhibitors but if you or your company would like to take part in this event as an exhibitor we would be delighted to hear from you. Please email the careers team on ceg@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

Gallery Update

The Gallery is more than just a place to borrow books. Students can enjoy board games, recommend new books for purchase, and explore topics beyond the classroom.

Halloween Reading Display

With Halloween approaching, students can explore our new spooky reading display featuring ghost stories, mysteries, supernatural adventures, vampires and chilling thrillers. The display has been designed to encourage reading for pleasure and help students discover exciting new books throughout October.

New Wellbeing Corner

We are pleased to introduce our new Wellbeing Corner, a dedicated area of the library featuring books that support:

- Mental health and emotional wellbeing
- Resilience and coping strategies
- Self-confidence and self-esteem
- Friendships and relationships
- Mindfulness and relaxation

New LGBTQ+ Collection

We have also launched a dedicated LGBTQ+ collection to ensure that all students can access books representing a diverse range of experiences, identities and perspectives.

Why Reading for Pleasure Matters

Reading for pleasure is one of the most effective ways to support a young person's development.

Research shows that students who read for enjoyment are more likely to:

- Develop stronger vocabulary and communication skills
- Achieve higher levels of academic success
- Build empathy and understanding of others
- Improve concentration and focus
- Develop confidence and resilience

A recent study from the University of Cambridge, involving more than 10,000 young people, found that reading for pleasure is associated with better memory, attention, academic achievement and mental wellbeing. The study also identified links between reading and healthier lifestyles, including more sleep and less screen time. Even a short period of reading each day can have a positive impact on a young person's learning and wellbeing.

Important Information for Parents

Some books in the library are recommended for older readers due to their themes, complexity or content.

If your child is in **Year 7 or Year 8** and would like to borrow a book identified as **13+ or 14+**, parental permission is required.

Parents wishing to give permission should please email vdemidova@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

Thank you for your continued support in helping us promote a love of reading and lifelong learning.

Thank you...

Very many thanks to those of you who kindly responded to our plea for help in serving refreshments for this week's wonderful school mini-musicals, as well as for the new-intake parent social evening and the upcoming uniform sale. We're a tiny core group, and we really appreciate people stepping up in time of need! If you feel you might be able to spare a little time here and there to help out, do please join our WhatsApp volunteer group via the link <https://chat.whatsapp.com/EPIGVHLafQZASlimrX6ij9>

Christmas Fair: 22 November

A reminder – our Christmas Fair will run 12-3pm on Sunday 22 November. We are expanding this year, and will have 35-40 stalls ranging from craft gin to Christmas decorations, and skincare to hand-blown glass, so think of it more as a Christmas Shopping Event than a School Fair! There'll be hot food, mulled wine and other refreshments. Seymours are once again very kindly sponsoring the event, including providing the top prize in the raffle of £250 cash. For more details please go to our events website.

What you can do in the meantime:

- Put the date in your diary! And prepare to buy raffle tickets from 1 November.
- We will need help moving tables after school on Friday 20 November, and also on the Sunday morning.
- Fund matching: if you work for a company who offers fund matching please contact us.
- Would you coordinate gifts and goodies? The stall raises hundreds of pounds, but we currently don't have anyone to organise it.

All Christmas Fair enquiries: please contact Kristi on gachristmasfair@gmail.com

Mathnasium tuition auction

We have up for auction a month of expert maths tuition at Guildford Mathnasium. It's like gym membership – throughout the month you can go, for example, two or three times a week... an ideal present for those with GCSEs and A-Levels coming up! Put in your bids now: the lucky winner will be known on 22 November, the day of the Christmas Fair!

Uniform sales

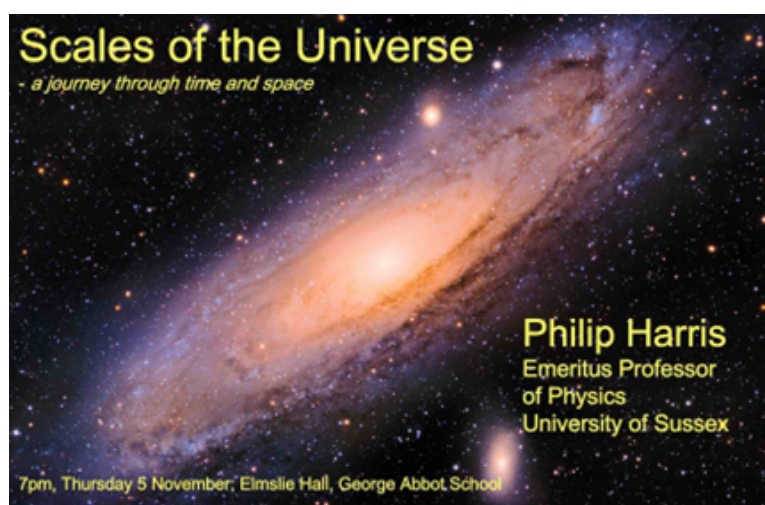
The year's second-hand uniform sale dates are now visible on our events website. Note that this year we're planning to hold one alongside our car boot sale in April.

**Hostess trolley**

Do you enjoy entertaining – and need something to keep the food hot for the crowd? The PTA has a classic Hostess trolley (this is a generic picture, not the actual one) that we're willing to part with in exchange for a reasonable donation. All sensible offers considered!

Evening talks

More events coming up... On 5 November, there will be another chance to see the highly popular talk "Scales of the Universe" – an entertaining journey through space and time, from the tiniest known particles to the largest galactic superclusters, and from the Big Bang to the end of life on Earth. Learn about the strength of Spiderman, and find out what's really in your morning coffee...

**Support us through our partners...**

Does your son/daughter need some tutoring? Are they interested in learning, or honing, programming skills? Do you need practical help around the home? Do you shop online, or in store at Sainsbury's? You can help the PTA to raise money for the new dining area at no additional cost to yourself. For these and other fundraising ideas, please visit <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/gapta> where you'll also see that we are assembling a directory of local companies that engage with us.

Philip Harris, PTA Chair
g.abbot.pta@gmail.com

Coaching for Children & Young People



My name is Claire Daniels, and I am a Certified Coach for Children and Young People, aged 7 to 21 years. My focus is on developing positive mental health and wellbeing.

Alongside my role as a Social and Emotional Wellbeing Coach at George Abbot School, I also work independently in my own private practice.

I am based in Merrow, Guildford, close to many of our local schools. Please visit my website for further information about the support I offer.

I look forward to hearing from you if you feel I can help in any way.

 www.coaching-with-claire.co.uk

 07899048563

...Growing Confidence for Life 

FRIENDSHIP
TEAMWORK
SKILLS
FUN



Play
Learn
Improve
Together

RCC JUNIOR WINTER NETS

WINTER IS NO EXCUSE TO HANG UP THE BAT!
8 WEEKS OF FUN, FITNESS & SKILL-BUILDING!

 OPEN TO AGES 7 - 13 YEAR OLDS

 IMPROVE YOUR SKILLS

 BUILD FITNESS

 HAVE FUN WITH FRIENDS

DATES

24 January 2027
31 January 2027
7 February 2027
14 February 2027
28 February 2027
7 March 2027
14 March 2027
21 March 2027

Train through winter - Shine in summer!



 **£100**
FOR ALL 8 SESSIONS

 **£15.00**
A SESSION (DROP IN)

 **TIME**
15:00 - 16:00

 **VENUE** Cranmore School, Epsom Road, West Horsley, Surrey, KT24 6AT

IF YOU'RE KEEN TO SIGN UP
CONTACT KIM OWEN
07570 009345
FOR MORE INFO

RIPLEY CRICKET CLUB
MORE THAN A CLUB

DISCIPLINE | RESPECT | ENJOYMENT | COMMUNITY





MERRIST WOOD PUMPKIN PATCH

17 and 18 October 2026

PYO

Pull on your wellies, dust off your favourite spooky costume and join us for a fantastic day of autumn family fun!

Free Parking

Come along and find your perfect pumpkin, enjoy our free activities and see our wonderful farm animals. Browse our seasonal stalls and stay for a refreshment and some ghoulish treats!

Book here!



For details visit: www.merristwoodevents.co.uk

For information Email: mwevents@activatelearning.ac.uk