

Welcome Back to the 2025-26 School Year



Abbey School
Inspire, Believe, Achieve

Our First Edition for 2025-26

Welcome Back

Dear #teamabbey Families,

We are delighted to welcome our pupils back to the new school year! It is with great enthusiasm that we embark upon this academic term, and we are excited to share that we have an abundance of events planned for our community, inviting you to be an integral part of them.

As our pupils have returned, we have already hosted a number of engaging events. Notably, our STEAM Street Jobs Fair provided students with insight into the job opportunities available this year, demonstrating how they can earn house points through their involvement. We also celebrated International Literacy Day with our 'Big Write,' which offered pupils the opportunity to further develop their writing skills in a creative environment.

Our first family coffee morning proved to be a resounding success; we extend our heartfelt thanks to Rachel and Dawn, our dedicated family champions, for their organisation of this event. We hope that many more families will join us in future gatherings.

For additional details, please refer to our Welcome Back newsletter, which outlines the events we have already undertaken and those that are upcoming, as found in the updated family calendar.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind families of the importance of regular attendance, a key factor in the ongoing success of our pupils. We are excited to launch our initiative, 'Making School Unmissable,' which encourages pupils to take an active role in designing their own house events. Further information regarding this initiative will be dispatched in the coming weeks.

In the meantime, we wish to express our gratitude for your continued support and warmly welcome you back to the #teamabbey for this new school year.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Windle – Executive Headteacher

Mr Askham – Head of School

Steam Street Jobs Fair



We are delighted to inform you about the exciting developments within our STEAM Street programme, which aims to provide our pupils with enriching and engaging learning opportunities in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics.

As part of our commitment to enhancing the educational experience of our students, we have introduced new roles during our Careers and Enterprise Lessons, breaktimes, and lunchtimes. Pupils now have the opportunity to explore various professions through these interactive sessions. We are pleased to announce that we have expanded the range of roles available, which now include hospitality, radio presenter, and DJ mixing. These additions allow our learners to engage in imaginative play while gaining insight into potential career paths.

In line with our goal of creating a stimulating environment, we have also invested in an extensive collection of role play outfits and accessories for our younger pupils. This investment is designed to further facilitate the transformation of role play into reality, fostering creativity and encouraging our children to express themselves in a variety of settings.

We believe that such initiatives not only enhance our pupils' learning experiences but also equip them with essential skills for their future endeavours. We recommend that families encourage their children to participate actively in these STEAM Street activities, as they provide valuable opportunities for exploration and personal growth.

Cross Country at Abbey

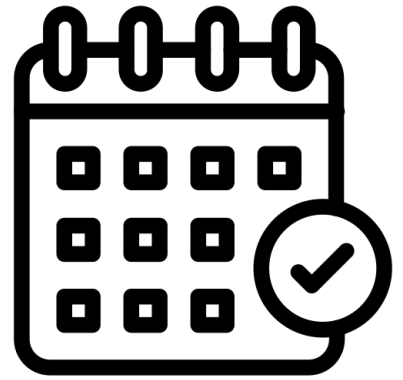


We are also pleased to share with you the wonderful opportunity we recently had to further our lead school work in partnership with the Youth Sports Trust. Over 15 schools, including both mainstream and special educational needs settings, participated in our recent Cross Country Event, which was met with enthusiasm and excitement from all involved.

This event not only showcased the sporting talents of our pupils but also provided a platform for our Sports Leaders to engage in vital leadership roles. They were able to plan, participate, and lead various aspects of the event, fostering their confidence and teamwork skills. The positive atmosphere and camaraderie present on the day truly highlighted the spirit of our community.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Mrs Crowley and Miss Newbolt for their exceptional work in organising this successful event. Their dedication and commitment ensured that everything ran smoothly, allowing our pupils to enjoy a memorable and enriching experience.

Key dates for your diary



As we embark on another busy term, we wanted to take a moment to remind you of some key dates and events that are approaching in our school calendar. We understand how hectic life can be, and we aim to keep you informed and engaged in our school community.

You may have noticed that the Year Calendar of events is available on our website; however, we have also included this term's important dates in the newsletter for your convenience. Additionally, Mr Askham sends out weekly updates via See Saw and shares information on the Parents' Facebook Group to ensure you are kept up to date.

Please take note of the following key dates:

25th September, 4:00pm–5:00pm – British Food Tasting Event (Ticketed event)

29th September – School Photographer at Main Site

26th November – Horizon School Photographer

**2nd October, 10:00am–12:00pm – Y9 – Y14 Family Event: Careers and Options (Main Site)
– for families of parents from Year 9 Post–16.**

9th October, 4:00pm–6:00pm – Parents' Evening. Appointment opportunities will be communicated by your child's class teacher next week.

The remainder of the events for this term have also been republished in this newsletter for your reference.

Staffing

We want to this opportunity to share some important staffing updates that are taking place this half term.

Firstly, we would like to inform you that Miss Day has commenced her maternity leave. We extend our heartfelt wishes to her during this special time. Equally, Miss Wilson has also begun her maternity leave, and we wish her all the best as she steps into this exciting new chapter of her life.

At the end of next week, Friday 19th September, Mrs Yorke will be leaving Abbey School. Mrs Yorke has been part of the school since April 2014 as Assistant Head Teacher for Lower School but her health has such an impact that she has decided she needs to retire early. Mrs Yorke says...

'In my heart, I don't want to leave you all, I've had eleven amazing years at Abbey and it has been a privilege to be part of the transformation from a school that was closing when I arrived, to a school that has achieved 'Outstanding' judgements from OFSTED twice in the past few years. I have loved working with the pupils, staff and parents/carers, you are all incredible and I will miss you greatly. Thank you for all you have done during my time at Abbey and for supporting me in making sure we had the best provision possible for your child in Lower School; I wish you continued success and happiness. I will miss being part of the amazing team (that is all of us, staff, pupils and parents) that is #TeamAbbey. Your children will forever be in my heart, I love them all!'

Good Luck to all of our staff in their new ventures – We wish you all the best and I know our families will join us in this sentiment

Contacting Staff

Contacting staff

As within the last newsletter we continue to encourage our staff to have a good work / life balance at all times. This means that they will not return your call/ email/ seesaw message after working hours so please be aware of that. Could I also request that you continue to send in messages that are routed in kindness rather than anger. Nobody in our school community is perfect and we understand how frustrating it can be when your child is upset however a problem or worry is best sorted with a positive enquiry rather than a shout so please be kind at moments of stress and anxiety. The Schools Yellow pages over the next few sections of this newsletter

See Saw

Please ensure that you are checking your SeeSaw Accounts for updates from your class team and from the school. We have included Class contact details over the coming pages.

The Problem with Seesaw should now have been rectified. This was a problem with their system updates. If you are still having issues please contact the school reception who will be more than Happy to Help

You Can Access Our Yellow Pages [here](#)

The year ahead a reminder

School Calendar 2025/26: **Abbey School**

August 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

September 2025 (22 days)							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
3	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
4	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
5	29	30					

October 2025 (18 days)							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
5			1	2	3	4	5
6	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
7	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
8	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9	27	28	29	30	31		

November 2025 (20 days)							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
9						1	2
10	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
12	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
13	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2025 (15 days)							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
14	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
17	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
18	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
19	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
20	29	30	31				

January 2026 (20 days)							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
20				1	2	3	4
21	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
22	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
23	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2026 (15 days)							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
24							1
25	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
26	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
27	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
28	23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2026 (20 days)							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
28							1
29	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
30	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
31	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
32	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
33	30	31					

April 2026 (14 days)							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
33			1	2	3	4	5
34	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
35	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
36	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
37	27	28	29	30			

May 2026 (15 days)							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
37					1	2	3
38	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
39	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
40	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
41	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2026 (22 days)							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
42	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
43	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
44	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
45	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
46	29	30					

July 2026 (14 days)							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
46			1	2	3	4	5
47	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
48	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
49	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
50	27	28	29	30	31		

Bank Holidays	1
School Holidays	1
Inset Days	1

Term 11 September – October 2025

Date	Whole school events/ pupil experiences	Family Invites
1 st & 2 nd September	INSET DAYS No pupils in school	
3 rd September	Pupils return to school (Normal time)	
8th September	International Literacy day -The Big Write	
11th September	Family Coffee Morning (All Sites)	10:00am-12:00pm (All Sites)
12 th September	YST Cross Country @Abbey (Selected Pupils)	
16 th September	Flu vaccinations - main site only	
23 rd September	Football League Match (Selected Pupils) Flu Vaccinations - Horizon hub	
24 th September	YST Netball Taster Day	
25th September	British Food Tasting	Family Cooking Event 4:00-5:00pm (All Sites) Ticketed Event
25 th September	Adventure Challenge (Upper School) @ Rother Valley	
29 th September	School Photographer - Main Site (9am)	
1 st October	Adventure Challenge (Upper School) @ Rother Valley	
2 nd October	Y9 -Y14 Family Event Careers and Options	Families of Parents from Year 9 Post 16 (Main Site 10:00am - 12:00pm)
25 th September	Adventure Challenge Barnsley Horizon Pupils	
6th - 10 th October	World Space Week (Theme Living in Space)	
9 th October	Parents Evening	Parents Eve 4-6pm Appointment options to be sent out via Seesaw
10 th October	World Mental Health Day -Pupils can wear Blue if they so wish.	
WC 13 th October	Black History Week to celebrate Black History Month - Enrichment Week	
14 th October	Boccia Competition (Selected Pupils)	
14th October	Lower School Express Phase	Lower School Families 10:00-11:00am (Ticketed Event)
15 th October	Upper School and Horizon Express Phase	Upper School and Horizon Families 10:00am -11:00am (Ticketed Event)
Friday 24 th October	Pupils Break up for Half Term (Normal Time)	

Term 1.2

October – December 2025

Date	Whole school events/ pupil experiences	Family Invites	
3 th November	Pupils return to school (Normal Time)		
11 th November	Remembrance Assembly and Presentation	10:00am-12pm (All Sites)	
11 th November	Maths Functional Skills Exam (Selected Pupils)		
11 th November	Family Coffee Morning		
12 th November	Anti-Bullying Day		
12 th November	English Functional Skills Exam (Selected Pupils)		
14 th November	Children in Need Dress Up Day Girl Power Day	All Sites 1:30-2:30pm	
WC 17 th November	GCSE Mock Examinations (Selected Pupils)		
18 th November	Football League Match		
21 st November	Art Enrichment Day (Pupils to come dressed in old clothes)		
25 th November	Christmas Fayre Pupils can wear a Christmas Jumper if they wish		
26 th November	Winter Wonderland Visits for pupils School Photographs (Horizon Site)	Ticketed Event Upper School and Horizon Christmas Performances 1:30pm Start.	
28 th November	INSET Day No Pupils In School		
1 st December	INSET Day No pupils in School		
4 th December	Singing in the Community	Church Visit	
9 th December	Upper School Christmas Show		
11 th December	Christmas Dinner		
16 th December	Christmas Performance Lower School - St Thomas Community Centre Horizon - at the Horizon Hub	Pupils Break up for Christmas 2:00pm	
18 th December	Church Visit		
19 th December	Disco and House Event		
19 th December	Pupils Break up for Christmas 2:00pm		



*It takes a village
to raise a child*