

Term 1.1 into Term 1.2 Newsletter 2025-26



Abbey School
Inspire, Believe, Achieve

Stepping into Winter

Last half term overview

To our #teamabbey families

We have had a fabulous start to the year and a great first half term. As we reflect on these past few weeks, it is heartening to note the numerous significant moments that have enriched our students' experiences and fostered their development. One highlight was the STEAM Street Jobs Fair. This event allowed students to explore the wide array of job prospects available in today's ever-evolving world, helping them to envision potential future careers as they participated in our dedicated careers and enterprise lessons.

Additionally, our Chess Competition proved to be a resounding success, fostering not only strategic thinking and problem-solving skills among participants but also promoting camaraderie and good sportsmanship. It was delightful to witness the enthusiasm with which our pupils approached each game, showcasing their talent and dedication. In a similar vein, our British Food Tasting family event was a wonderful celebration of our rich culinary heritage, bringing families together over a variety of traditional dishes. This event not only allowed participants to indulge in delightful flavours but also served as an educational platform, highlighting the cultural significance of British cuisine.

We also hosted our Express Phase family event, which was exceptionally well-received. The positive feedback we received underscores our commitment to creating an inclusive and engaging environment for all families within our community. We look forward to organising more such engaging activities in the future, as they offer invaluable opportunities for families to connect and participate in their children's educational journey.

As we continue our journey together, we would like to remind all families of the vital importance of regular attendance in school. Consistent attendance greatly contributes to a child's academic success and overall wellbeing. Furthermore, we kindly ask all families to adhere to the 5mph speed limit within the school grounds, as this is crucial in ensuring the safety of our pupils and creating a secure environment for everyone.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to our school community.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Windle and Mr Askham

Moving into term 1.2

As we prepare for the next half term, we recognise that numerous events are scheduled within the school, including our much-anticipated Christmas Fayres and Christmas Shows. We would like to express our gratitude in advance for your continued support during this busy period. Should you have any donations for the Christmas Fair, they would be greatly appreciated, as they contribute significantly to the success of this festive occasion.

We would also like to inform you of a change regarding the Upper School and Post 16 Christmas Show. Due to the availability of the venue, this event will now take place on 17th December at 1:30 PM at St Thomas's Hall. As this is a ticketed event, we advise you to secure your tickets promptly to avoid disappointment, as seating is limited and we may not be able to accommodate additional requests for tickets.

Furthermore, we wish to highlight the school calendar of events included within this newsletter. Please note that pupils will break up for the Christmas holidays at 2 PM on 19th December, and we would like to reassure you that transport arrangements have been communicated accordingly. Thank you for your cooperation and support as we approach this festive season.

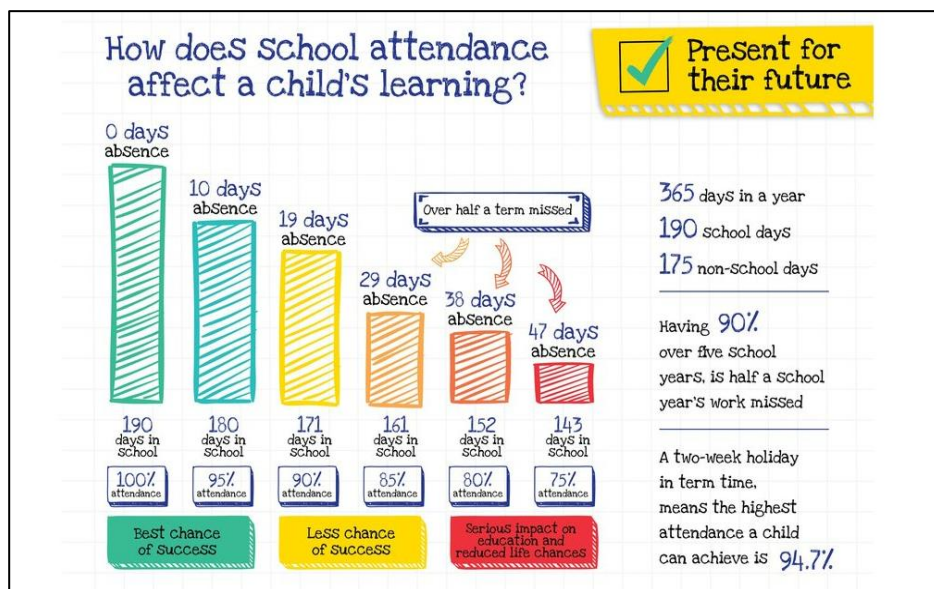


Making School Unmissable

We all know how important attending school is for a child's development and future opportunities. Statistics highlight that regular attendance significantly enhances learning performance. According to the Department for Education, pupils who attend school regularly are more likely to achieve their learning outcomes and develop essential social skills.. Furthermore, studies demonstrate that consistent attendance correlates with improved mental health and emotional wellbeing, setting the foundation for a successful future.

Should your child be unable to attend school due to illness. Please ensure that you are stating the reason for illness not just unwell as we have to report and analyse our attendance figures each day.

At Abbey, our "Making School Unmissable" initiative exemplifies our unwavering commitment to supporting your child's attendance. We understand that, while each child's education is paramount, various barriers can sometimes hinder regular school attendance. Our dedicated well-being team is on hand to provide tailored support to families, ensuring that these barriers are addressed effectively.



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.

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

The little book of
#teammabbey
Key Dates
2025-26

All the dates you need for the new
school year ahead. . .
and how you can be part of it!



Abbey School
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Our Year Ahead Together

We are delighted to share with you our Third "Little Book" of Key dates for 2025-26. The book has been well received by our families last year and we wanted to continue with this.

Don't forget, you are also part of the same House as your child and at whole school events we want you to cheer along for your house with your child.

A small disclaimer: Some events may be added to the calendar if more opportunities arise from our community links.

Similarly, we may have to reschedule or cancel events due to extenuating circumstances. We will of course, always update you if this is the case.

We can not wait to see you this year and thank you for your continued support
#teamabbey

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		
11 th November	Maths Functional Skills Exam (Selected Pupils)		
11 th November	Family Coffee Morning		10:00am-12pm (All Sites)
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		
WC 17 th November	GCSE Mock Examinations (Selected Pupils)		
Date to Be Confirmed	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		All Sites 1:30-2:30pm
26 th November	Winter Wonderland Visits for pupils School Photographs (Horizon Site)		
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		
11 th December	Christmas Dinner		
16 th December	Christmas Performance Lower School - St Thomas Community Centre Horizon - at the Horizon Hub	Ticketed Event Upper School and Horizon Christmas Performances 1:30pm Start.	
17 th December	Upper School and Post 16 Christmas Show Change of date Due to Venue availability	1:30pm Start at St Thomas Community Hall - Ticketed Event	
18 th December	Church Visit		
19 th December	Disco and House Event		
19 th December	Pupils Break up for Christmas 2:00pm		

Term 2.1

January – February 2026

Date	Whole school events/ pupil experiences	Family Invites
5 th January	Pupils Return to School Normal Time	
8 th January	Family Coffee Morning	Coffee Morning All Sites (10:00am-12:00)
WC 12 th January	Exam Walk Throughs (Selected Students)	
15 th January	YST Dance Festival Preparation @ Take 2 Theatre (Selected Students)	
19 th January	Martin Luther King Day	
20 th January	Big Write Day	
27 th January	Holocaust Day Assembly	
3 rd February	Football League Match	
6 th February	Time to Talk Day	
9 th February	Express Phase Whole School (Both Sites)	Parents into school 10:00-11:00am
10 th February	Functional Skills Maths Examination (Selected Students)	
10 th February	Safer Internet Day	
11 th February	Functional Skills English Exam (Selected Pupils)	
11 th February	YST Dance Festival @ Take 2 In Barnsley (Selected pupils and their families invited)	
13 th February	Valentines Disco	
13 th February	Pupils Break Up for Half Term	

Term 2.2

February – March 2026

Date	Whole school events/ pupil experiences	Family Invites
23 rd February	Pupils return to school (Normal Time)	
WC 23 rd February	GCSE/BTEC Mock Examinations	
3 rd March	Football League Match	
5 th March	World Book Day - Come dressed as a character from your favourite book	
6 TH March	YST Girl Power Day 2	
WC 9 th March	British Science Week	
12 th March	Family Coffee Morning	10:00am-12:00pm (All Sites)
17 th March	YST Shooting Stars Girls Football Tournament @Millmoor Juniors (Selected Pupils)	
18 th March	EID Celebration	
20 th March	Red Nose Day (Donate £1)	
25 th March	Family Easter Egg Hunt	All Invited taking place at Abbey School Main Site 2:00pm-3:00pm
27 th March	House Event PM	
27 th March	Pupils Break Up For Easter	

Term 3.1

April – May 2026

Date	Whole school events/ pupil experiences	Family Invites
13 th April	Pupils return to school (Normal Time)	
15 TH April	World Art Day	
16 th and 17 th	Exam Walk through and Functional Skills Resits (Selected Pupils)	
17 th April	Family Coffee Morning	
21 ST April	Earth Day	Earth Day Community Event 2:00pm-3:00pm
23 rd April	Forest Schools Eve	4-6pm (Ticketed Event) Main Site
28 th April	YST MATP Day	
4 th May	Bank Holiday	
7 TH May	VE Day	
7 TH May	BTEC Sport Exam (Selected Students)	
11 th May	GCSE Lit Paper 1	
12 th May	GCSE Biology Paper 1	
12 th May	Football League Match	
13 th May	National Numeracy Day dress as a Rock Star TT Rockstar competition	
14 th May	GCSE Maths Paper 1 Non Calculator	
14 th May	Parents Eve	
15 th May	Heritage Day - Come dressed to represent your Heritage	4-6pm (All Sites) Appointments sent Via Seesaw
18 th May	GCSE Chemistry Paper 1	
19 th May	GCSE Lit Paper 2	
20 th May	YST Upper School Athletics at Herringthorpe Stadium	
21 st May	English Language Paper 1	
22 nd May	House Event	
22 nd May	Pupils break up for Half Term (Normal Time)	

Term 3.2

June – July 2026

Date	Whole school events/ pupil experiences	Family Invites
1 st June	Pupils return to school (Normal Time)	
2 ND June	Physics Paper 1	
3 rd June	GCSE Maths Paper 2 Calculator (Selected Pupils)	
5 TH June	GCSE English Language Paper 2 (Selected Pupils)	
3 rd June	Eid Party - Come Dressed to Impress	
8 Th June	GCSE Biology Paper 2 (Selected Pupils)	
9 th June	Functional Skills English (Selected Pupils)	
9 th June	YST Adventure Challenge Primary @ Rother Valley (Selected Pupils)	
10 TH June	GCSE Maths Paper 3 Calculator (Selected Pupils)	
12 th June	GCSE Chemistry Paper 2 (Selected Pupils)	
15 th June	GCSE Physics Paper 2 (Selected Pupils)	
15 th June	National Sports Week Begins	
16 th June	Whole School Bowling	
17 th June	Courage Day	
18 th June	My Personal Best Day	
19 th June	Change Maker Summer Fair	1:30pm-2:30pm Abbey School Main Site Families invited (Ticketed Event)
23 rd June	Nexus MAT sports Day Primary	
25 th June	RSE Day	
26 th June	Y11 Leavers Date and Prom 6:30-9:00pm	
2 nd July	YST Adventure Challenge -Horizon @Rother Valley	
3 rd July	PRIDE Day (Sponsored Colour Dash)	1:30pm-2:30pm Abbey School Main Site Families invited (Ticketed Event)
9 th July	Parents Evening and meet the new class teacher Appointment options to be sent	Parents Eve 4-6pm Horizon Oasis and Main Site
6 th July - 17 th July	Transition Weeks Begin - New School Year Begins	
17 th July	House Event	
17 th July	Pupils break up for Summer (Normal Time)	



*It takes a village
to raise a child*