

The Abbey School Newsletter

Friday 17th July 2020

The end of the summer term has arrived and what a strange term it has been! I am so pleased that we are fully reopening in September and that we will be able to see all of our amazing students again. We have also missed seeing all of our students' families so are looking forward to seeing you all in person next term too.

A few weeks ago we said goodbye to our wonderful year 11s and wished them good luck for the future. It is always a day of mixed emotions because we are celebrating all they have achieved in their time with us, and the huge amount they have given to our school over five years, but at the same time feeling so sad that they have to go.

Two weeks ago we welcomed our new year 7s to The Abbey for their induction days. What a fantastic year group we have joining us in September! The days were an enormous success and the students were superb. I would like to officially welcome all of our new year 7 students and families to the school. A great 5 years ahead is waiting for you!

I wanted to reiterate the message I put in my letter to you all earlier this week - thank you so much for all that you have done over the past few months to support your child at home and us as a school. We are so aware that it has been an incredibly tough time so a huge well done to you all, especially with the online learning. Fingers crossed we will now begin to see a lot more normality next term.

We have three aims for our students when they return to school in September:

To ensure they feel safe and settled

To catch up on their missed learning

To ensure that school remains a fun and enjoyable place to be

With these three ingredients in place I am sure they will all pick up where they left off and continue to make the progress that we expect them to. If you have any questions on the return to school in September please don't hesitate to get in touch with your child's form tutor.

We recently sent a survey to parents and carers that we would like you to complete. We would normally ask you to complete this at the spring term parents evening but as it was cancelled we didn't get the opportunity this year. If you can spare five minutes please could you click the link below and record your answers. Without your feedback we cannot continue to improve!

<http://www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

I have put an end of term headteacher message on the school website in the news blog section for all students to watch. It feels very strange doing it this way but I wanted to send them a final message in person before we broke up for the summer. I would normally be delivering our end of term assembly in the hall today giving out lots of awards which I am really going to miss!

<https://www.abbey.surrey.sch.uk/1256/news-blog/post/174/message-from-mr-jackson>

This summer we have some building works taking place with new ladies and visitor toilets being completely refurbished in the main reception area. It isn't perhaps the most exciting sounding of developments, but I can assure you there are some very pleased female members of staff!

Earlier this term we also said goodbye to one of our long-standing governors, Elizabeth Pamplin, who has been on our governing body for 8 years. Elizabeth has been an immense support to the school during this time, providing us with lots of advice, knowledge and expertise, and we will miss her tremendously. She has been particularly instrumental in assisting our students on their work experience placements. I would like to wish Elizabeth the best of luck in her future endeavours.

If you have an interest in becoming a parent governor please make contact with me next term to discuss further. We value all our governors hugely and it's a great opportunity to help lead the school forwards in a positive direction.

Whatever you are doing this summer I hope you have a fabulous time and I look forward to seeing you all again for the start of another Abbey school year in September.

Best wishes,

David Jackson

Sports Week 2020

Well done everyone for competing in sports week! There were lots of great scores for all the different activities so well done!

Each of the following students will get 5 TWC's for taking part and should check their student email as they have been sent a certificate for taking part!

- Kitti-Jo
- Luan
- Christopher L
- Tyler
- Ray
- Oscar H
- Raihan
- Amelia
- Amelie
- Zoe
- Brad
- Joshua B
- Sophie B
- Jody
- Ali
- Chris P
- Caitlyn
- Charles
- Ellen
- Jacob
- Arron K
- Layla
- Jonathon
- Adam

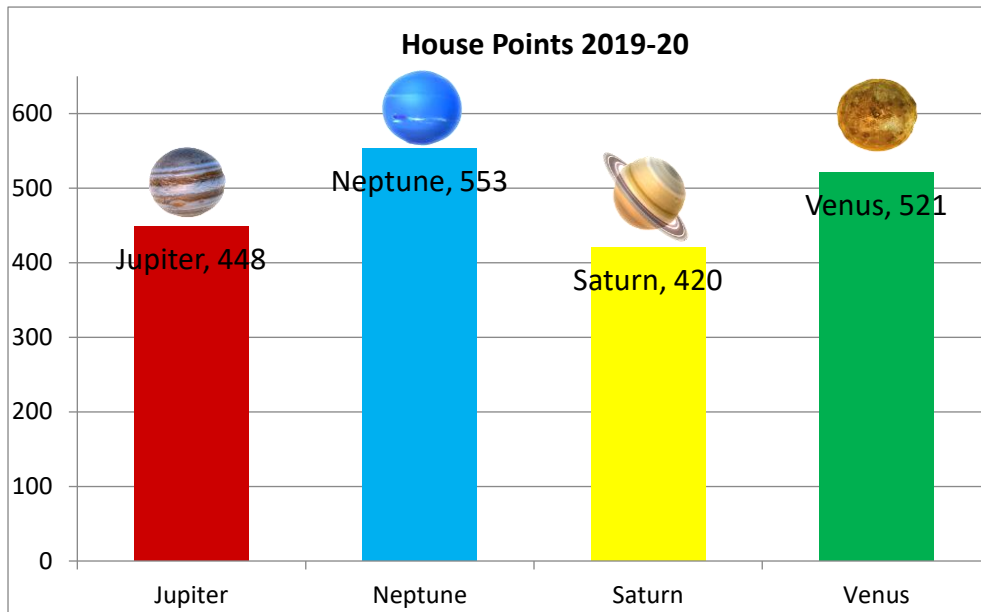
Outstanding performances:

Year 7	Tyler
Year 8	Raihan
Year 9	Caitlyn
Year 10	Jacob

The winning house is - **VENUS!**



House Points 2019-20



Thanks to Mr Hacker's, frankly rather rash, decision to award all the participants in Sports Week 5 points each, Venus (his House!) were able to close the gap to just 32 points for the year. Nevertheless, Neptune, who have headed the leader board and league table all year, prevailed and were the deserved overall victors for 2019-20.

It's all to play for in 20-21.

House points are awarded for TWCs, head (or assistant head) teacher awards, attendance awards, students of the half term, school council reps, visitor guides, representing the school at sports or other school or external events, performing arts, etc, as well as house competitions like sports week.

Duke of Edinburgh Awards 2020



"I want to congratulate the team at The Abbey School on achieving another fantastic year... Please pass on my congratulations to all involved with the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

*I am pleased to present you with your **Social Value Certificate** – which is to recognise and thank your participants for the voluntary service they donated to their local community through their D of E programmes".*

Kate Hall, DofE Operating Authority Manager

Because of the pandemic, our Year 11 D of E group were not able to carry out the expedition element of the award, however, those who had completed the other 3 sections will get the 2020 DofE Certificate of Achievement.



Young Carers

Surrey Young Carers have produced a summer 2020 newsletter, it's available to download from the Parents and Carers area of the school website or use the link below:

<https://www.abbey.surrey.sch.uk/1244/young-carers>

Ms Stevens, the Young Carers contact at the school

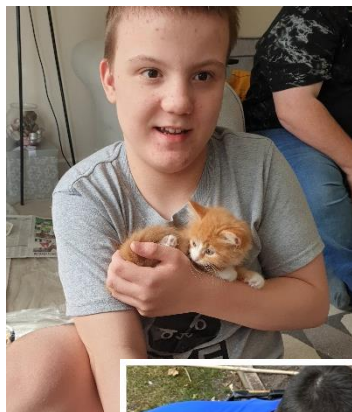


We don't know whether it's based on the design of the tower in Paris or the one in Blackpool, but either way, Brad's model is really impressive.



Who can resist a cute kitten?

... not Riley!



Ryan's gone fishing....

... and Scott is taking care of the slugs!



ONE DAY, HOPEFULLY BEFORE TOO LONG, LIFE WILL RETURN TO WHATEVER NORMAL WAS, PLEASE DON'T STOP SENDING IN PHOTOS AND NEWS OF THE STUDENTS' ENDEAVOURS, INTERESTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL SO WE CAN CONTINUE TO CELEBRATE THEM WITH THE WHOLE ABBEY COMMUNITY.

The school will be closed for the summer holidays from Friday 17th July.

The answerphone 01252725059 and email inbox enquiries@abbey.surrey.sch.uk

will be opened from 24th August

Students return to school as follows:

Years 10 & 11: Thursday 3rd September

Years 7, 8 & 9: Friday 4th September

Online Taster Music Sessions

Surrey Arts are excited to reveal their Surrey Music and Arts Summer Holiday Activities 2020. This is by far the largest summer programme they have put together and offer opportunities to join in activities remotely online across a range of instruments including free brass demos, free piano taster sessions, free singing taster session, DJ and music production, music theory, string lessons, percussion activities with instruments made from around the home, music from around the world and much, much more.

Surrey Arts website www.surreyarts.com for more information.

If you have any queries please contact surreyarts@surreycc.gov.uk

A promotional banner for the Qwell website. The background is a photograph of a woman with dark hair looking down at a colorful mug. The Qwell logo is in the top left. Text overlays include: 'Free. Safe. Anonymous', 'For parents or carers of children with Special Educational Needs and disabilities', three buttons for 'Articles & Advice', 'Live Chat', and 'Forums', 'Open to families in Surrey', the website URL 'www.qwell.io', and a call to action: 'Qwell is an online mental health platform for adults. Need to talk? Chat to our friendly counsellors'.

Qwell is an online well-being service for parents/carers of young people with SEND in Surrey that went live on the 1st June 2020.

What's on offer – FREE counselling for parents, online monitored chat rooms with other SEN parents, resources and more!

The website is brilliant and will be huge support to those that make use of it. Please note, **Qwell in Surrey is not for all parents and carers**, this has been specifically set up to support parents and carers with young people with **SEN**.

Sandra Hooper

Primary Mental Health Worker