

The Abbey School Newsletter

Newsletter No 4/2021-22

Thursday 21st October 2021

Head Teacher's Review of the Half Term

This has been such a lovely half term! My personal highlights were seeing parents back in school for parents evening (thank you for coming!), welcoming our new year 7 students to The Abbey and the year 10 Duke of Edinburgh overnight camp on the school field!

I have been so impressed with how our students have conducted themselves since returning to school after the summer holidays. Over the past seven weeks I have undertaken a number of school tours with prospective parents, prospective new staff and visitors. Without fail every single person has commented at the end of the tour on how polite and friendly our students are and how happy they look. They have also been exceptionally impressed with the learning they have seen taking place in the different lessons across the school. The feedback I have received has been glowing and as a result we have lots of new parents wanting to send their children to The Abbey next September! Over the last term I have given out more head teacher awards than ever before which has been a delight.

This term was the first time we have ever had three forms within one year group - year 7. As part of Project 2022 we are now officially a three-form entry school. You will recall from my previous letters that this is part of Surrey County Council's plan to increase the number of specialist school places available for students with SEND across the county. I hope to be able to send you an overview of the plans for Project 2022 in the not too distant future so you can see for yourself how the school is going to change and the enormous curriculum benefits this will provide our students with. All being well building works should commence in the spring term.

Next half term will see the run-up to Christmas and we hope to have many of our normal events back on the school calendar this year, including a trip to the pantomime in Camberley, Christmas lunch in the hall with members of the local community, the Reindeer Run and perhaps even the annual school disco! I am sure Mrs Kennedy will also write, produce and direct her annual staff Christmas pantomime which of course all the staff love to take part in.... (some more than others!)

Unfortunately, we are not running the ski trip this year for obvious reasons but I do hope to be able to lead one in January 2023 so if this is something that may be of interest to your child please keep it in mind.

Whatever you are doing over the half term break I hope you have a fantastic time. As always thank you so much for your continued support this half term and I look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Best wishes,
David Jackson

Year 7s doing some reading practice with important signs in English.



Jack putting his all into a physio workout.

LIMA Group working on their gardening skills

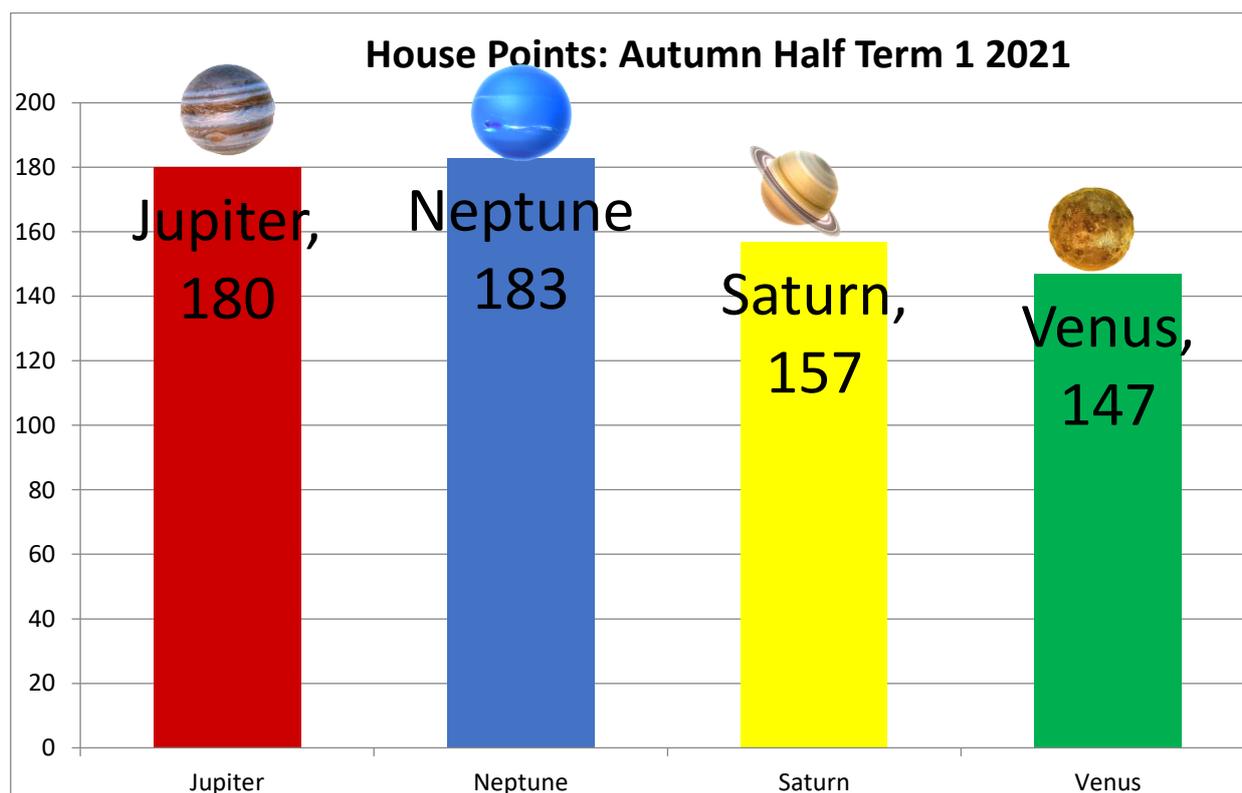


Students of the Half Term

The students below have been nominated by their Form tutor for outstanding achievement, progress, behaviour or contribution to Abbey School life. They each received 3 house points and Mr Jackson presented them all with £5 vouchers.

Form	Student	Citation
Key Stage 3A	Billy	<i>For gaining in confidence since joining, finding his voice to actively join in with class discussions in different subjects and ask engaging questions, earning an impressive total in the TWC award chart - a great start at The Abbey School.</i>
Key Stage 3B	Nicole	<i>For an excellent first term at the Abbey, a positive attitude to learning and being thoughtful and helpful to others</i>
Key Stage 3C	Sunny	<i>From day one he has been positive, a hard worker, trustworthy and a role model of how to settle into The Abbey School.</i>
Key Stage 3D	Luan	<i>For always remaining calm and attentive. For consistently following instructions and routines and regularly reading independently.</i>
Key Stage 3E	Piers	<i>For making massive progress from the start of the term, gaining confidence in class, engaging with staff and making positive relationships with his peers.</i>
Key Stage 3F	Charlie	<i>For a positive start to Year 8, working hard in all lessons and for being resilient when trying new things.</i>
	Storme	<i>For settling really well into the class, volunteering more in class and being a delight to have in the form.</i>
Key Stage 4W	Josh B	<i>For always having an excellent attitude to learning and going above and beyond to be kind and helpful to other students.</i>
Key Stage 4X	Aaron	<i>For a positive, helpful and 'can do' attitude and great mindset and for always being friendly and kind to his peers.</i>
Key Stage 4Y	Kieran A	<i>For trying hard in all his lessons and being a role model for the new Year 10s in the tutor group</i>
Key Stage 4Z	Jody	<i>For working really well in all her lessons, helping all the new students settle into 4Z and being a great role model to them.</i>

Students get points for every Head Teacher and Together We Can award they get as well as for being selected to represent their Form or the school in positions of responsibility or at events. This half term the students in Neptune earned more points between them than any other House, but only just!



Free School Meals and Pupil Premium Funding

Your child may be eligible for free school meals if you get any of the following:

- *Income Support*
- *income-based Jobseeker's Allowance*
- *income-related Employment and Support Allowance*
- *support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999*
- *the guaranteed element of Pension Credit*
- *Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)*
- *Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit*
- *Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)*

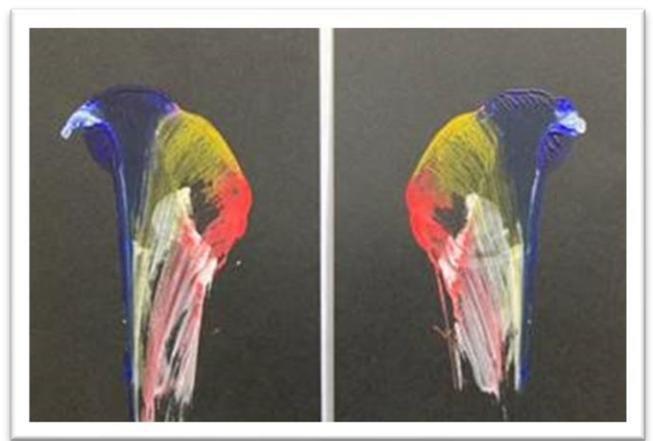
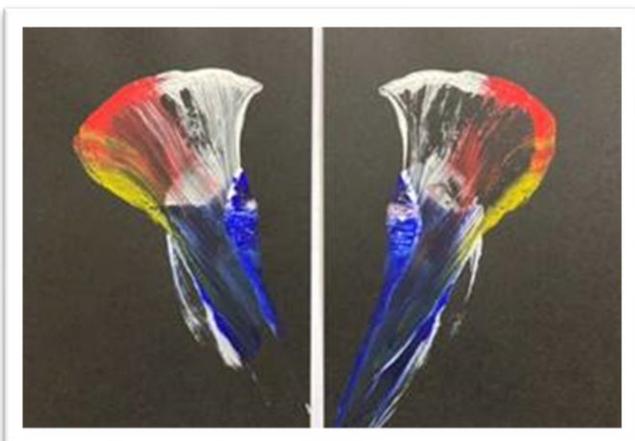
The application form is available to download from the school website

<https://www.abbey.surrey.sch.uk/1245/school-meals> or we can email you an electronic application form to complete so that we can register your claim, in confidence.

You will only need to provide your legal surname, date of birth and National Insurance number.

Please register your entitlement even if your child does not want school lunches. Students who are entitled to FSM attract a pupil premium payment for the school which is used to provide additional academic, therapeutic and pastoral support as well as help towards school trips, uniform, etc for students.

Key Stage 4 have been making some string paintings for their Natural Forms project



by Zoe

Bea's colour wheel



by Amelie



Guess how many sweets in the jar

Answer: 162

Winner: Nicole (Year 7)

Money raised for the school: £26.80

Thank you to: Mrs Baldwin (Friends of The Abbey) for donating the sweets, Rory who sold guesses at Parents' Evening, Preston, Caitlyn and the other students who took the jar round to the classrooms and everyone who had a go!!

HANDS, FACE, SPACE TEST, TEST, TEST

The twice weekly LFT testing is vital in identifying cases where there are no symptoms so the individuals can self-isolate and stop the spread.

There have been a few positives identified this week so please keep up regular testing.

If your child is becoming reluctant to co-operate and you would like their form tutor or a member of the Student Support Team to speak to them to reinforce how important it is that we **all** do this to keep everyone as safe as possible, please let the school know.

Students should carry out a COVID (LFT) test at home on Wednesday evenings and on Sunday evenings (unless they have had a confirmed case of coronavirus within the last 90 days). Students have been provided with test kits by the school and can request further supplies as required.

Please report your child's result **to the NHS:** <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

AND to the school: <https://www.abbey.surrey.sch.uk/1734/covid-home-testing>

Anyone who has coronavirus symptoms should stay at home and get a free PCR

test <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

You are worthy of a little
'you time' – what is it
going to be today?



Mrs Price's Thought for the Week

White school polo shirts are acceptable as part of school uniform during the summer term only. All students should be wearing a white shirt or blouse with a tie until after the Easter holidays. Thank you.



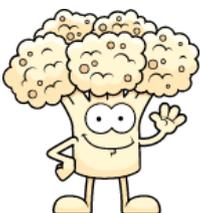
Dropping off or collecting your child from school

There is a before school club that starts at 8:15a.m. for parents and carers who need to drop their children off early (bookings in advance, please, because we need to monitor the student:staff ratio), but there are no staff on duty before this time so students must not arrive in school unsupervised before 8.15a.m.

Students waiting to be collected by their parents/carers at the end of the school day will be supervised until 3:30p.m after which there is an extended session until 4p.m. for those who need it. Again, we ask for advance bookings and that parents/carers notify the school of any variations in their regular home:school travel arrangements.

Until further notice, if you are collecting your child from an after-school club, kindly wait outside or in your car rather than congregating in reception because of the coronavirus prevention measures in place.

Cards/Mugs/Labels Printed with your child's design



The deadline for returning artwork to school: Friday 5th November

Place your orders at www.xmas.cauliflowergroup.co.uk using the unique code on your child's artwork form (additional forms available from the school office)

School Photos

Don't forget to place your order by 25th October
to take advantage of **FREE DELIVERY to the school**

Mindworks Surrey

Mindworks is a new emotional wellbeing and mental health service for children and young people in Surrey. Children and young people will have a central voice in decisions about their care and an opportunity to access a range of services in many different ways. The new website provides advice, help and support to children, young people and their families in Surrey.



There will be a greater emphasis on providing support earlier, and more opportunity to access a range of services in many different ways and settings.

Children and young people's mental health is everyone's business. So with increased support offers across the whole community, and the greater number of places and settings where it is available, schools, GPs and communities will be better supported to help children and young people with their emotional wellbeing and mental health needs.

A phased approach helps ensure they can keep families safe and well supported while they are introducing changes. Their new approach (phase one) began in April 2021, and phase two runs from September 2021 to April 2022. For more information, please visit their [website](#).

We are with you in Surrey - Free NHS Talking Therapies Service



We are with you Surrey offer a range of free, confidential talking therapies, such as cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT), for problems like:

- Worrying all the time.
- Feeling low and hopeless.
- Obsessive thoughts or behaviours.
- Panic attacks.

They offer different kinds of therapies depending on the difficulties you are having and how severe they are.

For example, you could:

- Join one of their free online courses – [see what courses they offer](#).
- Access Silvercloud, an online CBT programme that you can work through at your own pace.
- Have a one-to-one therapy, such as counselling or CBT.

How to register: You do not need a referral from your GP, but you do need to be aged 17 or over and registered with a GP in Surrey.

For more information and to register, please visit their [website](#).