

ABBOTSWOOD SCHOOL

'Helping **everyone** achieve their best'



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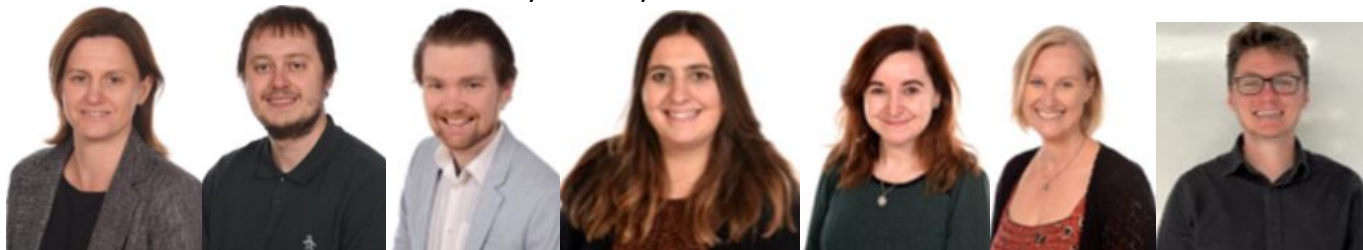
Wednesday 13th September

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you had a fantastic summer break and that the children are looking forward to the year ahead. Year 5 and 6 have already impressed us with their enthusiastic and responsible attitude to learning. It has been wonderful to see their smiling faces back in our classrooms!

In this newsletter, you will find general information that will allow your child to have a successful start to their year. A similar newsletter will be sent home each term, providing key dates and information. If you have any celebrations, queries or concerns, please feel free to contact your child's class teacher initially. Appointments can be made via the school office.

The Year 5 team would like to welcome you and your child to Year 5 at Abbotswood Junior School:



Miss Dunning Mr Swift Mr McConnell Miss Lowe Ms Gonzalez Mrs Everett Mr Anscombe
(Year Leader)

The Year 6 team would like to welcome you and your child to Year 6 at Abbotswood Junior School:



Mrs McCoy Mrs Hatfield Mr Shotter Mr Williams Miss Fletcher
(Year Leader)

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Curriculum

This half term, Year 5 are immersing themselves in the book, 'Firework Maker's Daughter' by Philip Pullman. Having explored the main character, they will become lost in her world and begin to understand the dilemma that she faces with her father in the story. The children will be inspired to create firework art and cook food that will immerse them in the setting of Indonesia.

This half term, Year 6 will exploring the book, 'Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief'. They will learn all about Greek life through an enquiry unit: How have the Ancient Greeks influenced the modern world?



Home Learning



All children in Year 5 and 6 are expected to play 5 games on Times Tables Rock Stars and 5 games on Spelling Shed each week. They will also be expected to read 3 times a week at home which will be recorded in their brand new Reading Diaries. Home Learning will start the week commencing **Monday 18th September**. More information about Home Learning will be sent out in Week 3.

Uniform & PE Kit

Thank you for ensuring that your child has a named uniform and PE kit. It makes it much easier to return lost items quickly to their owners when items are mislaid. Please could you make sure that your child wears their PE kit to school on the required days. **They will be allowed to remain in their PE kit all day.**

If your child wears earrings and is unable to remove them for PE and games, could you please provide them with tape to cover the earrings as we are not allowed to remove earrings and they need to be covered for health and safety reasons. Please provide your child with a note if they are unable to take part in PE/Games lessons due to illness or injury.

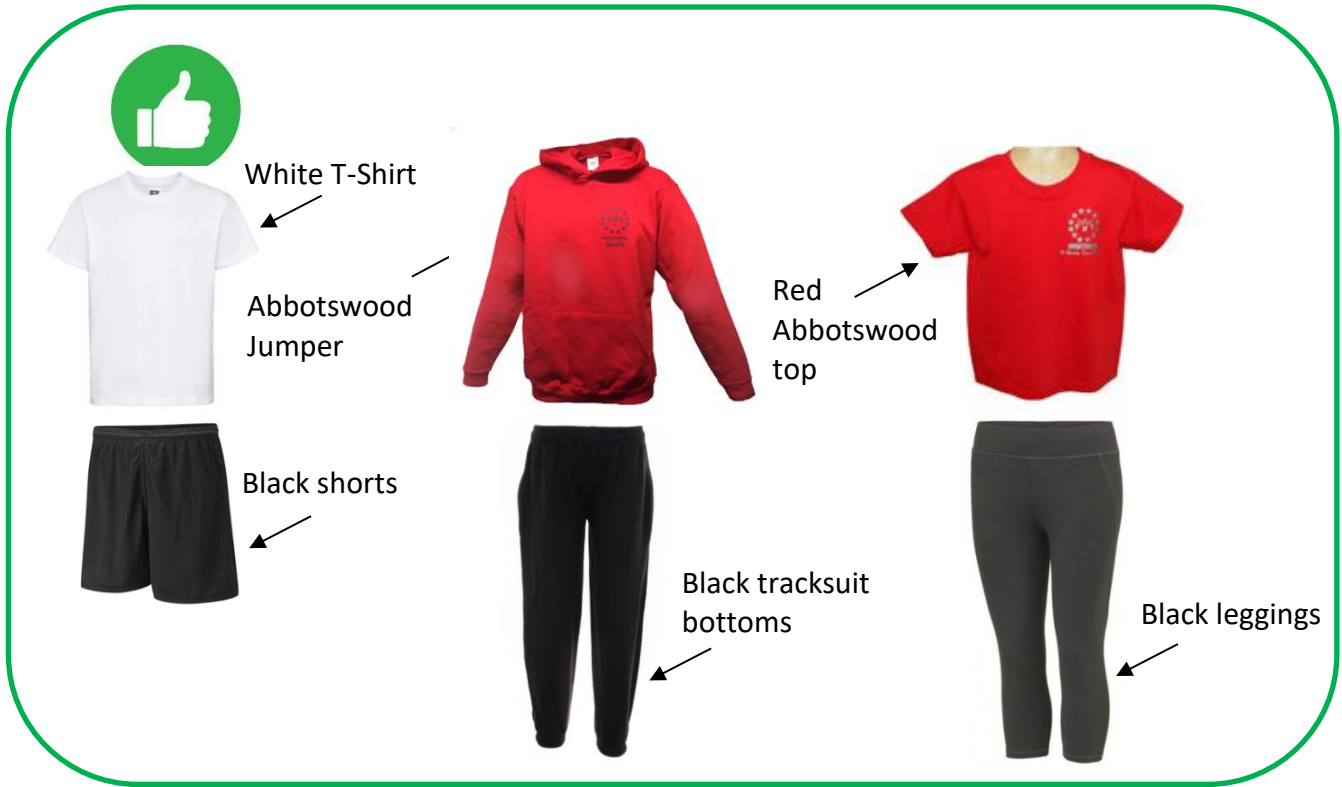
The PE days for Year 5 and 6 are as follows:

Day	Year 5	Year 6
Monday	5MD & 5GE	All classes
Tuesday	5ML, 5MM & 5BA	
Wednesday	5SS	
Thursday	All classes	
Friday		All classes

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Please ensure your child is wearing an appropriate PE kit on their PE and OSA days. Below is a guide as to what they should and shouldn't be wearing in school:



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Wristbands

Congratulations to those children who were awarded with one of their STARS wristbands last year! It is brilliant to see so many children now sporting their bands.

This half term, the children are learning about 'Stickability' with the aim of working towards their purple wristband. In the next half term, the children will work towards earning their 'Teamwork' wristband. Wristbands are awarded each week during Friday's celebration assembly.



Water Bottles

We encourage children to drink water regularly throughout the day as it helps them to concentrate and stay alert. Please send your child to school with a **named** water bottle. It would be helpful if you could remind your child to bring the water bottle home each day and to fill it with fresh water from home each morning.

Playtime snacks

Children are allowed to bring in a healthy snack to eat at break time. A number of children with severe nut allergies attend Abbotswood – **we are therefore a nut free school** and ask parents to ensure they do not include nuts in their child's snack or lunch at school.



Dates

Dates for Year 5 Spring Term		
Date	Event	Parent Helpers
September		
Thursday 14th	School Photographer	-
Monday 18th	Home Learning starts	-
October		
Wednesday 19th	Year 5 Parent Outcome	-
Thursday 19th	Flu Immunisations	-
Friday 20th	INSET DAY	-
November		
TBC	Trip to Winchester Science Centre and Planetarium	Yes
December		
13th December	Church Visit	Yes

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Dates for Year 6 Autumn Term		
Date	Event	Parent Helpers
September		
Thursday 14th	School Photographer	-
Monday 18th	Home Learning starts	-
Wednesday 20th	Year 6 Art Gallery trip - 6AM, 6MF and 6JS	Yes
Tuesday 26th	Year 6 Art Gallery trip - 6SW, and 6JH	Yes
October		
Monday 2nd	Year 6 Baseline Test Week begins	-
Tuesday 10th	Year 6 RE Day	-
Thursday 19th	Flu Immunisations	
Friday 20th	INSET DAY	-
November		
1st, 2nd and 3rd	Osmington Bay + Activities Week	-
December		
Wednesday 13th	Church Visit	

Other Information

As the school is cashless, please refrain from sending any money into school. All payments, including for school dinners and trips, can be made via Arbor. Please contact the office if you have any questions about Arbor and the Arbor app.

Please remember that the school website has a wealth of information on it - from the school calendar to suggestions to support your child's learning at home. If you use social media, we also have a very active Facebook page that provides regular information and reminders. We look forward to getting to know both you and your children further in the forthcoming weeks.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch should you have any further queries or concerns. We hope your child has a very happy and enjoyable year.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Michelle Dunning
Year 5 Leader

Mrs Amelia McCoy
Year 6 Leader