

George Abbot Bulletin

...the weekly round-up and preview for GAS parents and carers

Headteacher's Message

11 September 2020



I wonder if you have also welcomed home young people who are increasingly tired as this week-end has approached? Staff and students have re-familiarised themselves with the feeling of a full five days of learning and daily school routine – weary limbs are very much in evidence, but so is a sense of satisfaction that we can indeed do this. Education is up and running at full tilt – our students are thinking, socialising, concentrating and smiling.

This Saturday sees the first of a series of Saturday morning school sessions – this week the Maths Department are leading the charge with some of our Year 11 and 13 students. Over the coming weeks, more subjects will be offering their time. If your son or daughter is invited to any of these sessions, PLEASE encourage them to attend – 3 hours of their time will make a significant difference.

Next week, our Year 13s have their Tutor-Parent Consultation Evening – this will be facilitated through the PES system that we launched during lockdown. A Letter from Mr Robinson is attached with more details. Next week also sees the launch of our adapted PE, Music and Dance extra-curricular (15.30-16.30) programme. A reminder of the events follows in this bulletin. Students are all welcome (for PE, on their year group day) – they do not need to sign up first on this opening occasion – systems will be explained to students for future weeks at the introductory session. If your child does not happen to have PE on their sport or dance club day, they may wear their kit all day regardless. An extra snack or drink is likely to be welcomed, in addition.

A reminder that next week we are **omitting lesson 3** from our timetable – students all now have an amended timetable showing the 4 lesson model by date order – do remind them of this as they pack their school bags next week.

Lastly, the government has launched a new publicity campaign to remind us all about the ongoing need for real caution as we continue to deal with the impact of COVID-19. The 'Hands, Face, Space' campaign urges US ALL to continue to wash our hands, cover our face and make space to control infection rates and avoid a second peak. We need to do all we can to keep our children at school – being at school is of fundamental importance for every child's development. This week we saw over 97% attendance – a figure demonstrating just how valuable school is for all of us.

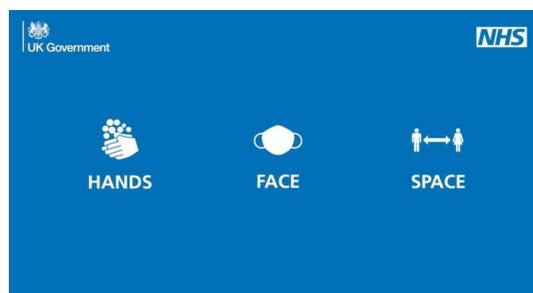
Thank you for all that you are doing to keep our community safe through your support of our systems and your child's sensible and cooperative approach.

Kate Carriett
Headteacher

Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline

The Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline is available to answer questions about coronavirus (COVID-19) relating to education and children's social care. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline by calling:

- Phone: **0800 046 8687**
- Opening hours: **Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm**



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Extra-Curricular Clubs

From the week beginning the 14 September, students are invited to attend extra-curricular clubs. In line with the restrictions currently in place we have created the following timetables.

Physical Education		
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Year 8	Year 9	Year 7
Netball	Netball	Netball
Football	Football	Football
Basketball	Basketball	Basketball
Year 11	Year 10	
Fitness Suite	Fitness Suite	

It is hoped that we will gradually increase the number of sports throughout the term as restrictions ease.

Students will not need to sign up to attend a club beginning next week but simply turn up on the appropriate afternoon.

At the club students will be asked if they wish to sign up for the chance to represent their house in 'house fixtures' which will take place throughout this half term and begin the following week. All students who sign up will represent their house at least once over the half-term. Any students not selected for the house fixtures during a particular week or those who wish to attend a club for the first time during a particular week are encouraged to attend still as there will be a second area for each club running parallel to the house fixtures taking place.

Performing Arts				
	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
MUSIC	GAMC Mrs Evans-Dix PA4	Theory Y9 Mrs Evans-Dix Y10 Miss Parry	Big Band Mrs Evans-Dix PA1	Concert Band (sectionals) Mrs Evans-Dix PA1
	Upper Voices Miss Parry PA3	Chamber Choir Mr Hartley PA2	Orchestra (wind & strings) Mr Hartley PA2	
DRAMA	Year 12 Rehearsals Mrs Hunt ES	Year 11 Rehearsals Mrs Hunt, Vault Mrs Melville, DS1 Miss Lamb, V/ DS1		
DANCE 3.15 – 4.00	Tap Technique and Performance	Jazz Technique and Performance	Contemporary Technique and Performance	Musical Theatre Technique and Performance
DANCE 4.00 – 5.00	Junior Dance Company	Yr11 Exam prep	Senior Dance Company	Yr 11 Exam Prep

THIS WEEK—WEEK A	Extra Curricular Clubs begin
Monday 14 September	HPV Dose 1—Year 8
Tuesday 15 September	HPV Dose 1—Year 8 Year 12 & 13 Parent Tutor Meetings
Wednesday 16 September	
Thursday 17 September	
Friday 18 September	
Please visit www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/events for full calendar of events.	

Click the links below to view news by year group...			
Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	Whole School

<h1>Notices</h1>	IMPORTANT DATES
	<p>w/c 14 September 2020 = WEEK A—there will be no lesson 3 14 & 15 September 2020—HPV Dose 1—YEAR 8 ONLY</p> <p>AUTUMN 2020 EXAM SERIES ENTRY DEADLINE DATES</p> <p>16 September 2020 3:15pm = GCSE (excluding English & Maths) 1 October 2020 3:15pm = GCSE – English & Maths only</p>

<h1>Whole School</h1>	<p>⇒ Face coverings on buses Please remind your child that they MUST wear a face covering if they are travelling on a bus to school. Additionally, please encourage them to maintain a social distance where possible. For more information on the government guidance for dedicated transport to school please click here.</p>	  
	<p>⇒ Driver and Cyclist Awareness in the surrounding areas Please be extra cautious when driving in George Abbot's surrounding roads, ensuring you drive at an appropriate speed, being extra vigilant of pedestrians and cyclists. Large numbers of students require extra caution.</p> <p>⇒ School Uniform Shop The School Uniform Shop will open at the following times:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday 9 September 3.30pm to 6pm • Thursday 10 September 3.30pm to 6pm • Saturday 12 September 10am to 12midday • Monday 14 September 3.30pm to 6pm • Wednesday 16 September 3.30pm to 6pm • Thursday 17 September 3.30pm to 6pm <p>Appointments aren't needed, please socially distance if there is a queue and please wear face masks into the shop.</p> <p>For more information, please contact spsschoolshops@yahoo.com</p> <p>⇒ Current Vacancies We currently have several active vacancies for different roles throughout the school, should you be interested in any of the roles or know someone who may be, please take a look at the following page of our website: https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/recruitment/ One role closes on 15 September and the others close on 25 September.</p>	

Year 13

⇒ Year 13 Parent Tutor Meetings—15 September 2020

Year 13 parents please see full details and instructions about booking for this event attached.

⇒ Virtual Work Experience Half Term Opportunity

Undertaking work experience in the workplace is a great way to allow you a 360 degree view of the world of work. However, as we know COVID-19 is changing the way we live, learn and work, and more companies are now offering Virtual Work Experience (VWEX) to allow students to still be able to gain some invaluable insights into different companies and how they operate.

We would highly recommend you try to source and undertake a VWEX opportunity and add it to your CV/use for your personal statement.

'Young Professionals' a partnering networking company are putting together a 3 day work experience program for you during the October Half Term. They have teamed up with some big brands such as **IBM, EY and PwC** to deliver an amazing 3 day programme for you to get involved with.

Key Details:

- **October Half Term (26 - 28).**
- 9am - 4pm each day (times may vary).
- Specifically for students looking to get into **Technology, Business, Accounting & Finance.**
- Online webinars and workshops with group exercises and prizes for stand out students.
- Digital log books will be sent out to complete during their experience.
- All sessions will be taking place on Zoom (so a laptop, tablet or phone will be needed).

This work experience program is **FREE** and places will be allocated on a first come first serve basis (**ONLY 300 PLACES**).

To book on, students will need to register their interest following the below link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/youngprouk>

Please note that George Abbot have not organised this event and all booking must be done directly via the booking link above. PLEASE ONLY USE YOUR STUDENT SCHOOL EMAIL ADDRESS AND NOT A PERSONAL ADDRESS. YOU DO NOT NEED TO ADD IN A PHONE NUMBER

We would also like to remind you to practice safe internet use and only ever interact with a speaker if you are part of a group. Parents please note that as the work experience is not in school term time, George Abbot cannot take any responsibility for the work experience and the relationship is between the company, students and yourselves.

⇒ Price WaterhouseCooper (PwC)

Young Professionals are offering the following webinars/workshops with **Price WaterhouseCooper (PwC)** for all year 12 and 13 students who are interested in accounting/finance/technology or who would like to know more about working for one of the Big Four.

These online events can all be added to your personal statements and CV's so are very worthwhile and can add value to your education and personal development.

Year 13

PwC ranks as the second-largest professional services network in the world and is considered one of the Big Four accounting firms. With headquarters in London, offices in 157 countries and employing more than 276,000 people, PwC help organisations and individuals create the value they are looking for by delivering quality in Assurance, Tax and Advisory services.

Get into Accounting with PwC:

- 29 September, 4pm - 5pm
- Careers in Accounting (workshops, Q&A and an overview of PwC opportunities)
- What it's like working for a Big 4 firm
- Parents and guardians are also welcome to join

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/H2C65G8>

Get into Technology with PwC:

- 30 September, 4pm - 5pm
- Careers in Technology (workshops, Q&A and an overview of PwC opportunities)
- Cyber security, AI, robotics and all things tech!
- What it's like working for a Big 4 firm
- Parents and guardians are also welcome to join

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HJJSDMV>

Please note that George Abbot have not organised these events and all booking must be done directly via the booking link above. PLEASE ONLY USE YOUR STUDENT SCHOOL EMAIL ADDRESS AND NOT A PERSONAL ADDRESS. YOU DO NOT NEED TO ADD IN A PHONE NUMBER

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Year 12

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<p>Year 12</p>	<p>Get into Technology with PwC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 September, 4pm - 5pm • Careers in Technology (workshops, Q&A and an overview of PwC opportunities) • Cyber security, AI, robotics and all things tech! • What it's like working for a Big 4 firm • Parents and guardians are also welcome to join <p>https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HJJSDMV</p> <p><i>Please note that George Abbot have not organised these events and all booking must be done directly via the booking link above. PLEASE ONLY USE YOUR STUDENT SCHOOL EMAIL ADDRESS AND NOT A PERSONAL ADDRESS. YOU DO NOT NEED TO ADD IN A PHONE NUMBER</i></p> <p><i>We would also like to remind you to practice safe internet use and only ever interact with a speaker if you are part of a group. Parents please note that George Abbot cannot take any responsibility for the students whilst viewing and/or interacting in workshops etc.</i></p>
<p>Year 10</p>	<p>⇒ Year 10 Maths Test on Units 1-5</p> <p>This will happen in lesson time during week commencing 5/10, there is a calculator and non-calculator paper.</p> <p>Students will need pen, pencil, ruler, compass, protractor and calculator. We are not able to lend equipment. For more information please see SMHW.</p>
<p>Year 9</p>	<p>⇒ Echo 2 German Textbooks</p> <p>Please can Year 9 students who had Echo 2 German textbook last year return them to the table outside Raynham Staffroom (up the stairs opposite Raynham Hall) by Friday 18 September.</p>
<p>Year 8</p>	<p>⇒ HPV Dose 1—Year 8—Monday 14 and Tuesday 15 September 2020</p> <p>⇒ Echo 1 German Textbooks</p> <p>Please can Year 8 students who had Echo 1 German textbooks last year return them to their current German teachers by Friday 18 September.</p>
<p>Year 7</p>	<p>⇒ Canteen Provision</p> <p>We have seen a big increase in the amount of students wanting to use the canteen at break time.</p> <p>In order for us to organise a more robust way to cater for students, please could you indicate a day that your child is most likely to use the canteen in order for us to ensure there is sufficient amounts of food.</p> <p>Please fill out the form below by Monday 14 September: https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=e9pf-JcRHUWtnM5YspbX4kzbqqE09Z1NiTL4n-4_7zRUQ09JT0hNWVBBNDVWNTRWTjJJQ0ZCQUpMTi4u</p> <p>Additionally, please can you encourage your child to bring a drink and snack to school every day.</p> <p>⇒ PSHE</p> <p>As a part of your child's education at George Abbot we promote personal wellbeing and development through a comprehensive Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education programme. PSHE education is the curriculum subject that gives young people the knowledge, understanding, attitudes and practical skills to live safe, healthy, productive lives and meet their full potential.</p>

Year 7

I am writing to let you know that, nearer to October half term, your child's class will be taking part in lessons which will focus on the relationships and sex education (RSE) aspect of this programme. RSE lessons in year 7 will include teaching about healthy relationships, including the statutory human reproduction; growing and changing, including puberty; changing feelings; and consent. Students will also have opportunities to ask questions that help prepare them for relationships of all kinds in the modern world.

PSHE education is taught throughout the school in every year group and is monitored and reviewed regularly by the staff and governing body. All PSHE teaching takes place in a safe learning environment and is underpinned by our school ethos and values. As a school community, we are committed to working in partnership with parents. The school has a written policy on sex and relationship education and if you would like to discuss or view the Schemes of Work with the Head of PSHE, a meeting can be arranged on request.

If you would like to know more or talk to your child about relationships and sex, the FPA (Family Planning Association) can help make these conversations easier. FPA is a UK-registered sexual health charity providing straightforward information and support on sexual health, relationships and sex to everyone in the UK. <https://www.fpa.org.uk/>

Sarah Murphy (Head of PSHE, smurphy@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk)

PTA

We hope that everyone is settling back into school.

Our next meeting will be on the **22 September 2020 at 7:30pm** on Zoom. Details to follow. It would be great to see some new Year 7 parents. We can't run any face-to-face events at the moment but you can still raise money for the PTA through the two methods below.



AmazonSmile

If you wish to support the PTA with no extra cost to you, [then shop via AmazonSmile](#). Amazon then donates to George Abbot Parent Teacher Association a percentage of what you spend.

EasyFundraising

As we can't fundraise in person we would like to ask if you are doing your shopping online, [please sign up to easyfundraising](#). Over 4,000 sites will give us a free donation every time you shop online. This will help us continue to support people that rely on us.

Second-hand Uniform

We would usually run a second-hand uniform shop at the start of term; this is difficult with the current restrictions. We now have access to our stock and are looking at selling online. In the meantime, please contact the PTA by the email: pta@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk or [message us by Facebook](#).

Keeping in Touch

You can keep up to date with what the PTA are doing by checking out [Twitter](#) (which we are going to start using again!), [Facebook](#) and [webpage](#).

Take care, from the PTA.



George Abbot School
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Staycation!

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