

# George Abbot Bulletin

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



## Headteacher's Message

06 November 2020

2020, the calendar year that keeps on giving! We have commenced a second lockdown which we shall navigate and manage to the very best of our collective ability. **It is our absolute priority to keep our school open for our students.**

### Main National Messages from Government Guidance for Schools published 4 November 2020:

- Face coverings now mandatory in communal areas – *already in place in corridors at George Abbot.*
- Face coverings still not recommended in classrooms.
- Both staff and pupils who have been identified by their doctor as still considered *clinically extremely vulnerable* (CEV) advised not to come into school.
- After-School Clubs should not take place unless to support parents to work (e.g. wraparound care).

### Main Changes for Us as a Result of this Guidance?

- No parent meetings on site.
- No after school clubs except Homework Club (USIC) and period 6 lessons (including revision).
- We continue to use masks in communal spaces – this now **includes USIC, Sixth Form Common Room, the Atrium, shared staff workrooms/offices.**
- Student support interventions such as mentoring, tutoring, learning support, HSLW, careers **will all continue.**

### OPERATIONAL ESSENTIALS:

- Students must sanitise their hands on entry to every classroom.
- Students must give each other space in corridors and leave the building calmly with staff at the end of lessons.
- Students must maintain physical distance from others in the playground.
- Students must wear a mask in communal spaces – **failure to do so is now a COVID-19 Health and Safety infringement which will result in exclusion from school.**

**On this last point, as with our introduction of face masks in corridors, we shall keep our policy regarding face masks in lessons under VERY CLOSE review. PLEASE encourage your child to wear a mask in lessons if they would like to do so. We will be led by the national and local R rates on this policy and I will update you again next week. Meanwhile, for those students working closely with our Teaching Assistants in lessons, we would really appreciate if masks were worn for the protection of all as a 2 metre distance cannot be maintained.**

**We continue to refine our internal track and trace procedures and I will continue to keep you informed at every step of this pandemic.**

**It's been said that grit is living life like it's a marathon, not a sprint.** I think this is an important reflection. There is also much comfort in conquering one day at a time, relishing those early crisp mornings, the joy of the autumn leaves, the hoot of the evening owls, the annual ritual of Bonfire Night with sausages or beans (or both) and a crunchy baked potato.

Keep safe and well,

Kate Carriett  
Headteacher



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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
THIS WEEK	WEEK B—no lesson 1 Year 9 Maths Test—in lesson time Interfaith Week
Wednesday 11 November	Remembrance Day Year 11-13 Academic Clinic—Invite Only
Thursday 12 November	Year 13 Geography Trip—Juniper Hall
Friday 13 November	Year 13 Geography Trip—Juniper Hall
Saturday 14 November	Year 13 Geography Trip—Juniper Hall
Please visit <a href="http://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/events">www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/events</a> for full calendar of events.	

Lesson omission until Christmas		
Week Commencing	A or B	Lesson omission
9 November	B	1
16 November	A	2
23 November	B	3
30 November	A	4
7 December	B	5
14 December	A	1

Lockdown 2.0—Rules and Restrictions	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Schools, nurseries and universities are remaining open.	Households cannot mix indoors or outside.
You can exercise outside alone or with one person you don't live with.	Non-essential shops and businesses are closed.
You can leave home to provide care for vulnerable people.	Restaurants are closed except for takeaway and delivery.
You can leave home to shop for food and essentials.	Places of worship are closed except for funerals.
You can attend medical appointments unless you have COVID symptoms	
If your parents don't live together, you can move between the houses.	



## Remembrance Day – Wednesday 11 November 2020

### Remembrance Day—Wednesday 11 November 2020

Wednesday 11 November marks the annual Remembrance Day. This year, we will be honouring this important day in classrooms with a 2 minute silence at 11am.

### History House Competition—(ALL YEAR GROUPS)

Students will receive a Remembrance Day assembly in form time next week. As well as exploring the impact of the world wars locally, the assembly includes details of a House Competition encouraging students to research the lives of local people who were affected by the world wars. The assembly and competition details can be found in the House Competition folder of the History folder on the SLE. Entries to be emailed to Mrs O'Connor, [KOConnor@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:KOConnor@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk), Head of History, by 30 November 2020.

## Whole School

### ⇒ School Photographs

Students whose photographs were taken by Tempest Photographers this term will have received an order form in tutor period this week.

It is important to note orders will need to be completed either online([www.tempest-orders.co.uk](http://www.tempest-orders.co.uk)), by posting the order form to Freepost, Tempest Photography, or by calling 01736 751555 and making your order.

We are sorry, but no photograph order forms can be processed via school.

### ⇒ School Uniform Shop during Lockdown

For the duration of the second lockdown, the Uniform Shop will be closed to parents and students. Uniform will still be available. From Thursday 5 November, please email [spsschoolshops@yahoo.com](mailto:spsschoolshops@yahoo.com) for all your uniform needs. Please include a contact number and your requirements (item, quantity and size) and they will contact you regarding payment and collections/delivery. To view the Uniform Expectations please visit: <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/uniform/>

### ⇒ REMINDER—Using the Student Learning Environment (SLE)

A reminder, when students are off school for any reason they need to keep on top of work using the SLE. All lessons have now been uploaded to the SLE. Please read the [guide](#) for help. If a student is having problems accessing the SLE you should contact the form tutor in the first instance.

### ⇒ Headphones

To enable your child to continue accessing the curriculum in Music, please ensure they are bringing their own headphones to music lessons.

### ⇒ Reader and Scribe Volunteers

We are currently recruiting volunteers to play a central role in the support of our students in their exams this year.

A number of our students are permitted additional assistance in exams with the reading of exam papers and the writing of their responses: it is as 'Readers' and 'Scribes' that we want to enlist your help.

- A 'Reader' is an adult who reads the instructions and questions of an exam paper to the exam candidate.
- A 'Scribe' is an adult who in an examination writes or types a candidate's dictated answers.

No previous experience is required; just the willingness to give your time to make a huge difference to the students facing the challenge of examinations.

Training necessary to become a 'Reader' or 'Scribe' is provided by the school.

If you are able to generously volunteer your time to this important role, please contact the school Exams Office via email and include all your relevant contact details to - [exams@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:exams@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk) by Wednesday 11 November. We are looking to potentially deliver the training on Tuesday 17 November starting at 8:55am as a reference point for your diaries.

All volunteers will be required to be DBS checked, and the school will process all necessary paperwork on behalf of any volunteers.

Thank you in advance for the valuable support you will be giving our young people.

Joe Omar  
Assistant Headteacher

### ⇒ PSHE Education (Years 8, 9, 10, 11)

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.

I am writing to let you know, from the middle of this half term onwards, students will be taking part in lessons throughout the academic year which will focus on the relationships and sex education (RSE) aspect of this programme. Students will have opportunities to ask questions that help prepare them for relationships of all kinds in the modern world.

#### Lessons cover:

**Year 8** – puberty, consent, gender identity and healthy relationships.

**Year 9** – relationships, domestic violence, grooming, sexuality and online images.

**Year 10** – relationships, contraception, sexually transmitted infections, pregnancy choices and issues and sexual wellbeing.

**Year 11** – appropriate behaviour and unhealthy relationships.

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 PSE, 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/>

### ⇒ Consultation on admission arrangements for Surrey's community and voluntary controlled schools for 2022

Surrey County Council is consulting on:

- proposed changes to admission arrangements for the majority of community and voluntary controlled schools for September 2022.
- Surrey's relevant area – this is the geographical area within which schools must consult on their admission arrangements.

Full details of the consultation and the changes being proposed are available at: [www.surreysays.co.uk/csf/copy-of-copy-of-consultation-on-proposed-changes-t/](http://www.surreysays.co.uk/csf/copy-of-copy-of-consultation-on-proposed-changes-t/)

#### Why are they consulting?

They have a statutory duty to consult on admission arrangements if they intend to make a change.

## Whole School

The changes being proposed are as follows:

- **The majority of community and voluntary controlled schools** - Removal of use of 'nearest school' as a criterion within the admission arrangements
- **Beauclerc Infant School** – introduction of a sibling link with Chennestone Primary School
- **Horley Infant School** – introduction of a reciprocal sibling link with Yattendon School
- **Onslow Infant School** – reduction in published admission number for Reception from 90 to 60

### How can I respond to the consultation?

The consultation on the admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools and the proposed changes will run until Tuesday 1 December 2020. If you would like to take part please complete an online response form at [www.surreysays.co.uk/csf/copy-of-copy-of-consultation-on-proposed-changes-t/](http://www.surreysays.co.uk/csf/copy-of-copy-of-consultation-on-proposed-changes-t/)

### What happens next?

After the closing date, responses will be collated and presented to the County Council's decision-making Cabinet on 26 January 2021. It will decide whether to proceed with the proposed changes as well as determining the admission arrangements for all community and voluntary controlled schools for which no changes are proposed. Cabinet's decision will then need to be ratified by the full County Council on 9 February 2021. Once determined the final admission arrangements for all community and voluntary controlled schools for 2021 will be placed on Surrey's website at [www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions).

### ⇒ **Together at Home—معا في المنزل**

This timely, exciting and creative [resource](#) could be of real interest to those families who speak Arabic. Please forward this to anyone who might find it useful.

## Sixth Form

### ⇒ **Year 11-13 Academic Clinic – Wednesday 11 November 2020 – 5.00-7.00pm – online video appointments via the Parents Evening System**

Please be reminded the Academic Clinic will be taking place on Wednesday 11 November. Parents and Carers who have been invited to attend have been sent an email from the Parents Evening System notifying them of this, with details of their appointments. Please note students are also expected to attend the clinic. If you haven't received an email from the Parents Evening System inviting you to attend, please check your email junk or clutter folders or alternatively login to the system to check you don't have any appointments.

The appointments are five minutes long and at the end of the five minute appointment the video call will automatically end. Unfortunately, it is not possible for the teacher to extend the appointment.

Appointments have been made using the priority one contact we have listed for each student in our parents evening system. If you have appointments for more than one of your children, as long as they have been made for the same parent then the appointments should run consecutively after you have selected the 'Start New Appointment' button.

Please see the 'PES Guide to Video Appointments' attached. We look forward to seeing you on 11 November.

## Year 13

### ⇒ Autumn Progress Reports for Year 13

This is to notify you we have now released the Year 13 progress reports and they are available for you to view via the SIMS Parent App <https://www.sims-parent.co.uk> as a PDF file. Here is a report template, including the key, to give you an idea of what the report contains.

<<Forename>> <<Surname>> <<reg>>					
Achievement: <<Achievement Points>>		Behaviour: <<Behaviour Points>>		No. of Lates: <<NoOfSessionsLate>>	
Subject	PUG	SAM %	TEG	CPI	Engagement
Art					
Biology					
Business					
Business BTEC					
Chemistry					

SAM %	Significant Assessment Mark as a percentage.
PUG	Predicted UCAS Grade
TEG	Teacher Estimated Grade for the end of year 13.
CPI	Current Progress Indicator based on TEG.
Aspiring	Working towards making expected progress, based on TEG.
Achieving	Working towards exceeding expected progress, based on TEG.
Excelling	Exceeding expected progress, based on TEG.

This report includes a Predicted UCAS Grade (PUG). This grade will be used towards university or other post 18 applications. In the majority of cases, this grade will be the same as the TEG. The TEG is the school's most recent professional judgement on the grade that will likely be achieved, based on the evidence we have. However, the PUG grade can recognise a student's potential for further development and progress while offering a realistic judgement.

The behaviour points are the number of sanctions logged this term so far, the achievement points are the number of house points the student has achieved.

If you have any questions relating to these reports or need help registering for the SIMS Parent App, please contact [simsapp@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:simsapp@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk)

## Year 11

### ⇒ Autumn Progress Reports for Year 11

We have now released the Year 11 progress reports and they are available for you to view via the SIMS Parent App [www.sims-parent.co.uk](http://www.sims-parent.co.uk) as a PDF file. Here is a report template, including the key, to give you an idea of what the report contains.

<<Forename>> <<Surname>> <<reg>>					
Attendance: <<PercentageAttendance>>		Achievement: <<Achievement Points>>		Behaviour: <<Behaviour Points>>	
		Lates: <<NoOfSessionsLate>>			
Subject	TEG Y10 Summer	SAM %	TEG	CPI	Engagement
Art					
Biology					
Business					
Chemistry					
Child Development					
Computer Science					
Construction					
Core PE	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Dance					
Design Technology					
English Language					
English Literature					
Food and Nutrition					
French					
Geography					
German					
Graphics					
Hair and Beauty					
History					
Hospitality					

SAM %	Significant Assessment Mark as a percentage.
TEG	Teacher Estimated Grade for the end of year 11.
CPI	Current Progress Indicator based on TEG.
Aspiring	Working towards making expected progress, based on TEG.
Achieving	Working towards exceeding expected progress, based on TEG.
Excelling	Exceeding expected progress, based on TEG.

## Year 11

The attendance percentage and the number of lates are based on the morning and afternoon registration session. The morning registration mark is recorded by the form tutor and the afternoon registration mark is recorded by the teacher of the period 5 lesson.

The behaviour points are the number of sanctions logged this term so far, the achievement points are the number of house points the student has achieved.

If you have any questions relating to these reports, or need help registering for the SIMS Parent App, please contact [simsapp@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:simsapp@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk)

⇒ **Next Steps Form**

Please be advised next week, in tutor time and via email, Year 11 students will receive their Next Steps form. Once completed, they should be returned to Mrs Notley in Elmslie Office by 27 November.

⇒ **Year 11-13 Academic Clinic – Wednesday 11 November 2020 – 5.00-7.00pm – online video appointments via the Parents Evening System**

Please be reminded the Academic Clinic will be taking place on Wednesday 11 November. Parents and Carers who have been invited to attend have been sent an email from the Parents Evening System notifying them of this, with details of their appointments. Please note students are also expected to attend the clinic. If you haven't received an email from the Parents Evening System inviting you to attend, please check your email junk or clutter folders or alternatively login to the system to check you don't have any appointments.

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Please see the 'PES Guide to Video Appointments' attached. We look forward to seeing you on 11 November.

## Year 10

⇒ **Science Assessments—w/c 23 November 2020**

The Science Faculty will be running assessments for all Year 10 students in biology, chemistry and physics during the week beginning 23 November. These assessments will be completed in the timetabled science lessons for that week. Students should bring pens, pencils, rulers, rubbers and a calculator to these lessons. The table below shows the dates of these assessments for each subject. Please note the exam will take on these dates, regardless of which science subject students would normally have on that day.

Side of Year	Biology exam date	Chemistry exam date	Physics exam date
G	23/11/2020	24/11/2020	27/11/2020
A	23/11/2020	24/11/2020	26/11/2020

These assessments will include questions on work completed in both Year 9 (including the work completed during lockdown) and Year 10. The topics covered in each subject are summarised below. This will also be communicated to students via Show My Homework. Revision resources can be found on the SLE in the subject areas in a folder named "Year 10 Exam November 2020".

## Year 10

### Topics in exams

Biology	Chemistry	Physics
Unit 1: Cells and Cell Division  Unit 2: Organisation  Unit 3: Infection and Response (first section only - i.e. the work covered in class)	Unit 1: Atomic Structure & the Periodic Table  Unit 2: Bonding  Unit 4: Chemical Changes (Metals and acids; <u>not</u> electrolysis)	Unit 1: Energy  Unit 2: Electricity  Unit 3: Particle Model of Matter

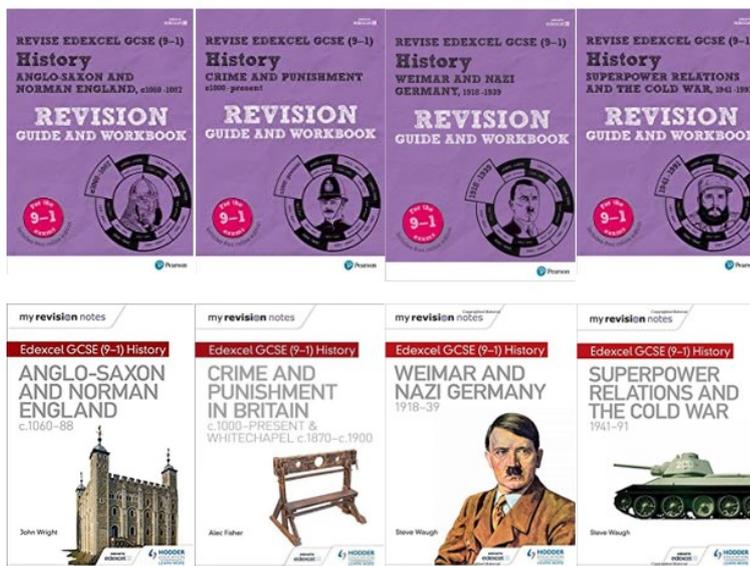
These assessments, together with other science assessments taken this term and in Year 9, will be used to decide which students will be offered a place on the treble science GCSE course. We expect to be resetting Year 10 students in January based on whether the student will be following the treble science GCSE course (3 separate GCSEs: Biology, Chemistry and Physics) or the combined science GCSE course (2 GCSEs).

## Year 9

### ⇒ GCSE History Revision Guides

To help your child with their revision and to consolidate what they have learnt in class, we recommend they have their own copy of a History revision guide/workbook. (This would of course also be particularly useful if they have to be absent from school for any length of time due to COVID-19.)

There is a wide selection of History revision guides on the market but below is a selection of the revision guides our students have found useful in the past. The purple guides are more visual and the white have more exam advice.



Year 9 History students are currently studying Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, so you may want to acquire only this book at the moment. For any queries, please email [KOConnor@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:KOConnor@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk)

## Year 8

### ⇒ GCSE Subject Choices Introduction

Please see important letter attached regarding KS4 Subject Choices.

# Ultraviolet Disinfectant Robots

Next week, George Abbot welcomes a UV disinfectant robot to school. This is thanks to the innovative design and technological skill of NESA Robotics. Originally built to address hospital-acquired infections, the newly developed corona-zapping robot uses ultraviolet disinfectant (UV-C) light to kill 99.99% of viruses, including coronavirus, in just seconds. It has recently been used in London Heathrow airport terminals to kill coronavirus and encourage passengers to return to air travel.

The robot disinfects surfaces, as well as the air, creating a "safe environment" for those operating in workplaces, healthcare facilities, airports, hotels and, in our case, schools.

It's a really effective way to disinfect areas. The robot can disinfect a standard 25 metre squared office in under six minutes.

The robot is going to be used in school to eliminate coronavirus germs and leave the site disinfected. Students will get to learn about the robot in their Science and DT lessons.

The photos below show the robot in West Byfleet Primary School and Heathrow Airport.

## Help us choose a name!

Head over to our [Twitter account](#) to vote for your favourite name:

1. Sunshine the Sanitising Robot
2. Kevin the Kleaning K9
3. Camilla the COVID Busting Cleaner

Find out in next week's bulletin which name has won and how the robot got on around the school.

To find out more, please visit <https://nesarobotics.com/>



# Focus on - Interfaith Week

Interfaith Week 2020 is taking place from Sunday 8 November until Sunday 15 November. Interfaith Week aims to strengthen relationships and understanding between people of religious and non-religious beliefs.

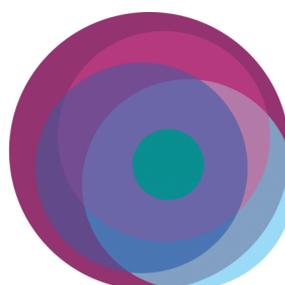
At George Abbot School we are incredibly fortunate to have links with some fantastic local speakers who represent their faith or belief. During RE lessons next week, students and staff will be learning about the views of these local speakers to help us understand and be aware of local faith communities and different beliefs. We will be watching some pre-recorded videos of the speakers discussing issues and questions which are directly relevant to the topics we study in RE.

In addition, the speakers will be taking part in a live virtual Q&A session for some students.

We are really looking forward to the discussions relating to these topics in RE next week!

For more information about Inter Faith Week please visit: <https://www.interfaithweek.org/>.

**Inter Faith  
Week**  
8-15 November  
[www.interfaithweek.org](http://www.interfaithweek.org)



# Another lockdown—too much opportunity for excessive teenage screen-time?

Perhaps encourage your child to escape in a book? Have a look at the following website for recommended reading for secondary age children: <https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/category/secondary-ks3-ks4-reading-lists/>

## Books by Year



### Year 7—Watership Down by Richard Adams

Fiver has a sixth sense for danger and he persuades Hazel to lead a group of rabbits to escape certain disaster and search for a new home.

### Year 8—Welcome to Nowhere by Elizabeth Laird

Omar dreams of being a successful businessman and to rule the world. But living in Syria, this 12 year old's dreams are set in a time and place where things can change rapidly—especially when his older brother finds himself in a dangerous situation and the whole family has to flee to safety.

### Year 9—Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

Brian, a streetwise teen who lives in the city, is left stranded in the wilderness after a plane crash—with only a hatchet to survive. Will he make it?

### Year 10—We Are All Made of Molecules by Susin Nielsen

Stewart has a slightly different perspective on life to those around him. He finds life difficult enough before he is thrown together with his new stepsister, the extrovert and social magnet Ashley, life gets even more interesting at school...

### Year 11—Looking for Alaska by John Green

Teenager Miles' life is turned on its head when he meets Alaska and her world of risk and demanding friendship.

## George Abbot Alumni, Clara, working at the National Gallery

Clara, a former George Abbot student, is currently an Educator at the National Gallery. In this video, she discusses van Kessel's detailed insect paintings. Well done Clara!



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# PTA

## Lockdown quiz night – 27 November – 7.30-9.15pm

In place of our regular autumn quiz night this term, we're running a lockdown event so you can compete from home. Tickets are one per household so everyone can join in - kids, adults, lodgers and whoever else you live with - for a flat rate of £10. All proceeds will continue fundraising towards the stage area for the drama department.

The quiz will be hosted remotely on Kahoot! - a fast and fun online quiz platform - and Zoom. Scores appear live as the quiz progresses and there will be a prize for the winning team including a Raj Doot voucher, two bottles of wine and a box of chocolates. Just add Netflix for yet another perfect lockdown evening!

A quiz night wouldn't be right without draught beer from the Tillingbourne Brewery, so we will be taking orders and delivering on the night. You can flag this when you buy a ticket. And don't forget our friends at Raj Doot are still doing deliveries during lockdown if you want to complete the full quiz night experience.

To participate, you will need a mobile device or computer with Kahoot, it's free on either app store or any browser, and another device for the Zoom call. Some of the questions are picture related so a reasonably sized screen is an advantage.

[Tickets are £10 per household and available on Classlist.](#) If you're not on Classlist then either register (it's easy) or email [PTA@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:PTA@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk).

## Second-hand Uniform

We're still taking orders for delivery during lockdown - email [PTA@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:PTA@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk)

## Clandon Park Run

Lord Onslow has very kindly offered to open his estate to host the Clandon Park Run which may be going ahead on 20 March, if restrictions are lifted by then. Otherwise, we may be able to move the date to Autumn 2021. To make this happen we really need one extra volunteer to help with coordination of the run. Could you help? If so then please let us know using the email address above.

Best wishes and stay safe,

From the PTA.

P.S. – don't forget Easyfundraising, AmazonSmile and Sainsbury's scheme while you shop online.



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