

George Abbot Bulletin

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



Headteacher's Message

20 November 2020

All

Positivity is much needed at the moment - so Monday will welcome Double House Point week. I have asked staff to make sure that this is an opportunity to ensure double quantities of smiles, encouragement, words of happiness and to instil an extra sense of pride in all those little things done well. We are also launching our Gold Card nominations - over the next two weeks, we are asking every teacher to nominate their 'unsung hero' - a student who lesson by lesson, quietly goes about their learning, conscientiously and kindly.

I have been really privileged to get to know some of our Year 7 students a little better over the last few weeks. I am now on Year 7 break duty on a Tuesday - they have grown used to my arrival, with megaphone and are quite brilliant at lining up and awaiting my booming instructions! Over the next few weeks, I am teaching some Year 7 English lessons - this week, we have together enjoyed a poem - The Soldier, Rupert Brooke (1915). This has brought lively discussions about England and some of its iconic buildings, characters, qualities and passions. It also brought a moment, when a pen was dropped and needed to be retrieved from under a desk. I was suddenly struck by the vivid memory of one of my school mates. In secondary school, we had a decidedly quirky Biology teacher - his teaching style was to lecture, whilst pacing around the room. Our task was to write everything down, word for word. He would take great delight in adding in a sentence about something entirely unrelated which we would all dutifully scribble down. Attempting to revise from those notes was quite impossible. However, one day, a pen was dropped by my classmate Lizzie. She managed to somehow get stuck inside her metal high stool - the teacher came along and lifted the stool with Lizzie inside it, placed it outside the classroom door and continued his delivery of dictated notes without a moment's hesitation. I am mercifully grateful that teaching has moved on since then!

This week has also seen the privilege of interviewing for our Head Students. Mr Robinson and I very much look forward to this annual process. This year we enjoyed the interesting, astute and quietly confident responses of 8 very talented students. As ever, the decision was really challenging, but we are pleased to announce that Charlotte Thompson and Jack Van de Wiel have been appointed to these prestigious positions. Very many congratulations to them both - I know that they will serve the school and our students with integrity and pride.

Kate Carriett
Headteacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
THIS WEEK	WEEK B—no lesson 3 Year 10 Science Assessments
Saturday 21 November	Year 11 English Literature revision via Zoom Year 10 RE mock revision via Zoom
Monday 23 November	Year 7 Nasal Flu Vaccinations
Tuesday 24 November	Year 11 English Literature mock
Wednesday 25 November	Year 10 RE mock
Friday 27 November	Year 11 Next Steps Form Deadline PTA Quiz
Please visit www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/events for full calendar of events.	

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



Weekend Workout!

The promised workout session from the PE team arrives!

Each week we will provide a session that involves no equipment to ensure you are fit for the return of sport or to get you up and active!

If you give it a go, let us know how you get on. Enjoy!

GEORGE ABBOT
SCHOOL

Weekend Workout

Notices

<p>Whole School</p>	<p>⇒ Community Alert from Surrey County Council Surrey County Council have received reports of men approaching girls in the area of Monkey Bridge, Robins Way and Bellfields in Guildford on 11, 13 and 16 November both before school hours and also shortly after.</p> <p>The pupils were not harmed during these incidents but were understandably left shaken.</p> <p>We are investigating these reports and conducting extra patrols of the area to provide reassurance to pupils and parents.</p> <p>The suspect(s) have been described as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Male, white, between 20 and 30-years-old, average height and build with long mousy hair wearing a black coat with a white hood. • Male, tall with brown hair wearing a grey hoody and dark blue jeans with white shoes. <p>Reports of these types of incidents are taken very seriously and Surrey County Council would encourage anyone who has experienced something similar in the area to report information by calling 101 or via our website - https://www.surrey.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/. Always call 999 in an emergency.</p> <p>⇒ Careers Opportunities To view the range of virtual careers opportunities on offer for our students, please visit: https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/careers-opportunities/</p> <p>Events include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SATRO Surrey Next Steps—24 November - UNIVERSITY OF LAW Personal Statement Masterclass – 26 November - GlaxoSmithKlein STEM Webinar—26 November - STEM Careers and Skills Week—7-11 December - Farnborough College Virtual Open Events Information—9 December - Football College Opportunities—22 December
<p>Sixth Form</p>	<p>⇒ Careers Opportunities To view the range of virtual careers opportunities on offer for our students, please visit: https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/careers-opportunities/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Access VFX—Webinars: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 November – Compositing with Viridian FX, The Computer-Generated Imagery Department, Routes into the industry: Apprenticeships. • 26 November – Routes into the industry: Education, Panel Discussions. - GlaxoSmithKlein STEM Webinar—26 November - The National School & College Leaver Show—1 December - The National Apprenticeship Show—2 December - STEM Careers and Skills Week—7-11 December
<p>Year 11</p>	<p>⇒ Next Steps Form Please encourage your child to return their completed Next Steps form to Mrs Notley in Elmslie Office by Friday 27 November.</p>

Focus on—Woodland Trust: Trees for Schools

We are delighted to be supporting the Woodland Trust project to tackle climate change. Through their 'Trees for Schools' programme we have acquired 420 sapling trees for the school grounds!

This weekend we aim to plant them around the school site. Species include Hawthorn, Hazel, Dogwood, Birch, Willow, Wild Cherry, and Crab Apple.

As well as helping this worthy cause, the trees will also help to:

- Create green spaces to improve physical and mental health.
- Provide homes and food for wildlife.
- Clean the air we breathe.
- Absorb CO2 – one of the main causes of climate change.
- And create a legacy for future pupils to enjoy.

Information about the trust and what you can do to help tackle climate change can be found here <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/>



PTA

Lockdown quiz night – 27 November – 7.30-9.30pm

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 **for just £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!

And 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. Note that we will need these details by the end of **WEDNESDAY**. And don't forget that 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. Tickets sales need to be purchased by the end of **THURSDAY**.



Second-hand Uniform

We're still taking orders for delivery - email PTA@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk. The next uniform donation day will be on the **27 November**. As usual please send uniform in with students in bags to be dropped on Elmslie Stage.

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 2021** if restrictions allow it. 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, The PTA.

P.S. – don't forget [Easyfundraising](#), [AmazonSmile](#) and [Sainsbury's scheme](#) while you shop online!

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