

George Abbot Bulletin

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



Headteacher's Message

10 February 2021

All

As we approach half term, we would like to seek your views on how effective George Abbot's remote learning provision has been for your child/ren over the last 6 weeks. We anticipate more weeks of lockdown to come and would really appreciate your feedback so that we can continue to adapt and ensure the very best for our students.

Please fill out the following survey, using the link below or the QR code (right), by Tuesday 23 February 2021.

<https://t.co/2F4b2TJz4P>



Thank you to all of you who are able to find time to complete the survey. Over the next few days, students will also be sent a student survey so that they can let us know their views.

We expect Monday 22 February to be a significant day for both government news of schools reopening and of the summer examinations plan for our Year 11 and 13s. At this stage, we are anticipating the return (either full or part time) of our Year 11s and Year 13s from 8 March. In advance of that possibility, we thought it would be helpful to let our **Year 13 students** know that we will run the delayed formal mock exam series from **Monday 15 March to Tuesday 23 March**. For our **Year 11s**, we will run a series of Maths assessments and two English Literature papers (covering A Christmas Carol and An Inspector Calls) from **Monday 29 March to Thursday 1 April**.

A reminder to all that Monday 22 February is an INSET day and we recommence virtual teaching and on-site provision for our key worker students from Tuesday 23 February, 2021.

I am certain that there are many tired students and parents amongst us who are very much looking forward to a half term break. I hope that some rest is possible for all of our George Abbot community over the coming days - we are so grateful for all that you have done to support your children through these tricky weeks. A well-earned rest is now just a few days away.

Sending best wishes,

Kate Carriett
Headteacher

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REMINDER

Monday 22 February: INSET Day
 Tuesday 23 February: Home Learning and Key Worker on-site provision resumes

REMOTE LEARNING AGREEMENT

Please continue to read and complete the [IT Acceptable Use and Remote Learning Agreement](#).

Please use the link below, or scan the QR code to complete the consent form:

<https://t.co/04oXqDnTdF>

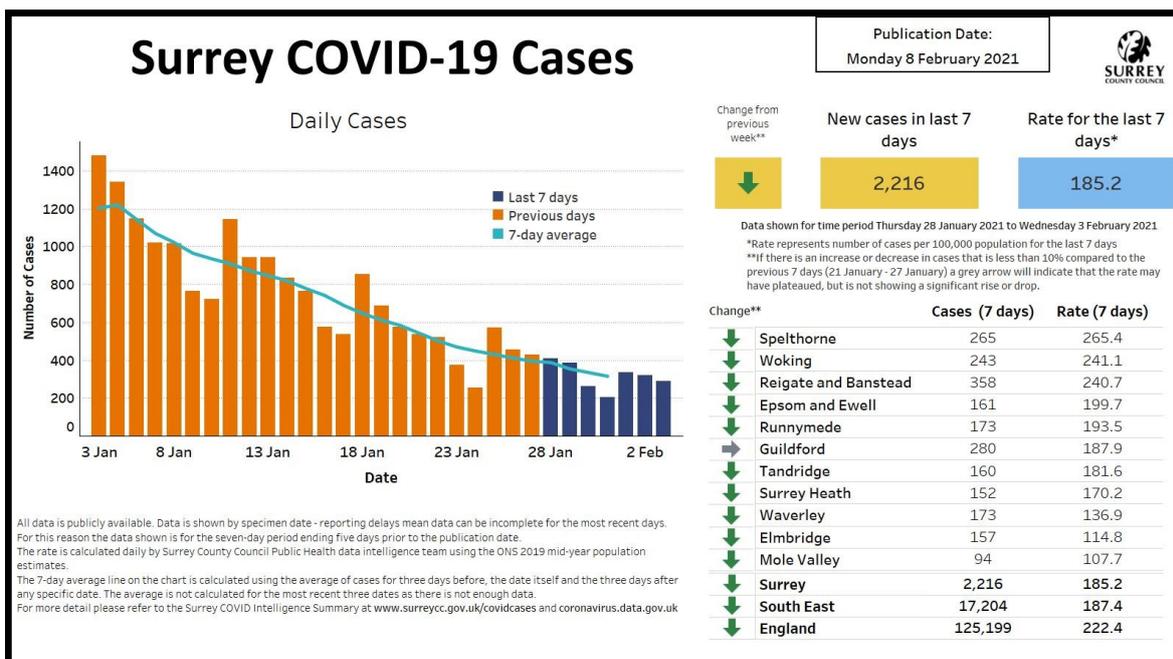


Lesson omission		
Week Commencing	A or B	Lesson omission
15 February		HALF TERM
22 February	B	3
1 March	A	4
8 March	B	5

COVID-19 TESTING CONSENT

Please continue to fill in a testing consent form for your child, if you have not done so already. There are different forms for each year group so please ensure you are completing the correct one.

Forms can be found on the following page: <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/year-group-info/>



GOVERNOR VACANCY DETAILS—EXTENDED DEADLINE

George Abbot School is currently recruiting a Parent Governor. For more information and application details, please visit: <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/governance/> Deadline: Monday 22 February 2021

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Notices

IMPORTANT DATES

w/c 22 February 2021 = WEEK B—there will be no lesson 3
Monday 22 February 2021—INSET Day

Whole School

⇒ Using School Email Addresses

The ICT department has provided students with a Google account, which gives them access to the Google G-suite platform, which includes Google Classroom, as well as Google Drive for their own cloud storage. The account provides students with a username that has a domain extension of (@gabbot.co.uk). The domain is administered within the department and allows us to control student access within the Google suite.

This is expected to **only** be used within ICT lessons for communication with their ICT teachers. **It is not to be used for any other purpose.** Students must continue to use their official school email accounts (@georgeabbot.surrey.ch.uk) for all other communications with teachers, their use of Microsoft Teams and the SLE.

⇒ Career Opportunities and Virtual Work Experience Opportunities

We are continuing to update the careers page on our website with lots of opportunities for students.

Over half term there are some brilliant and insightful careers and industry talks available from a wide variety of speakers, on the Speakers For Schools Virtual Talks library. Select and watch any pre-recorded broadcasts from their library [here](#). (All years)

Please visit: <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/careers-opportunities/>

Apprenticeship opportunities:

Please visit: <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/apprenticeship-opportunities/>

Virtual Work Experience opportunities:

Look out for some exciting Virtual Work Experience opportunities in the Easter holiday. These will include work in TV and Film, Dentistry, Veterinary, Technology, Hospitality and Graphic Design and will be posted on the Careers pages of our website and via bulletins after half term. (Years 10-13)

Please visit: <https://www.georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk/virtual-work-experience/>

New opportunities this week:

- LGBT+ in Law from the University of Law—Year 11, 12 & 13.
- Volkswagen Group Apprentice Programme—Year 11.
- Fidelity International Apprenticeship Event—Year 12 & 13.

⇒ Creative Careers Presentation

King Edward's in Witley have very kindly shared a Careers Presentation from Bruce Devlin, a 'Media Scientist' who is trying to change the view of STEM careers. The presentation includes content from Carrie Wooten at RISE about the role of diversity in business and opportunities for young men and women in the digital Broadcast Media Industry. Bruce addresses pre-conceived ideas about engineering and media careers and explores a role play scenario of a media recruiter choosing between CVs of mono-skilled vs. multi-skilled candidates. Please click the following link to view the presentation: <https://youtu.be/qjuw8NW9Lpo>

Year 8

⇒ Submitting Curriculum Choices for Year 9

Please see important information attached regarding the process of submitting your child's GCSE subject choices. Deadline: Monday 8 March 2021, by 9am.

Please email curriculum@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk if you have any problems.

Focus on: Safer Internet Day 2021

Yesterday marked Safer Internet Day. It's celebrated across the globe in over 170 countries, with thousands of young people joining in across the UK to explore how they can use the internet responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively. In times of Remote Learning, practicing safer internet use is important now more than ever.



This year in the UK, Safer Internet Day explores reliability online. The campaign focuses on knowing what to trust online and the strategies that young people use to question, challenge and change the online world.

For a useful resource pack from UK Safer Internet Centre, please [click here](#).

The UK Safer Internet Centre partnership:

	<p>UK Safer Internet Centre (UKSIC) The UKSIC co-ordinates Safer Internet Day in the UK. Appointed by the European Commission, the UKSIC is made up of three partners: Childnet International, the South West Grid for Learning and the Internet Watch Foundation. We raise awareness about online safety, develop resources and organise nationwide events such as Safer Internet Day: saferinternet.org.uk/parents.</p>
	<p>Childnet A non-profit organisation working to help make the internet a great and safe place for children. The Childnet website has lots of resources for young people, parents, carers and teachers. The Parents and Carers page contains a family agreement, advice on talking to your child about online issues and further places to go for help: childnet.com.</p>
	<p>Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) The UK's hotline for reporting illegal content found online. The IWF deals specifically with child abuse and criminally obscene images hosted in the UK and internationally. The IWF works in partnership with the online industry, law enforcement, government and international partners. It is a charity and a self-regulatory body with over 100 Members from the online industry: iwf.org.uk.</p>
	<p>South West Grid for Learning (SWGfL) A not for profit, charitable trust dedicated to the advancement of education through information and communication technologies. Provides professionals, parents and children with advice, resources and support to use internet technologies safely to enhance learning and maximise potential: swgf.org.uk.</p>

Useful information and organisations

	<p>UK Safer Internet Centre (UKSIC) As well as resources and information about Safer Internet Day, the UKSIC produces weekly blogs which offer advice on a range of topics that reflect current and emerging trends as well as questions received during training sessions.</p>
	<p>Media Smart – Parents & Guardians Guides and resources to help parents play a key role in supporting young people to understand the key features of digital advertising: mediasmart.uk.com/parents/.</p>
	<p>Common Sense Media – News and Media Literacy Advice, articles and videos for parents and carers to help their child think critically, resist advertising pressure and become smart consumers: commonsensemedia.org/news-and-media-literacy.</p>
	<p>Full Fact The UK's independent fact checking charity. Provides free tools, information, and advice so that anyone can check the claims made by politicians and the media: fullfact.org/.</p>

Online safety information for parents and carers

	<p>Let's talk about life online Advice for parents and carers on how to talk with their child about staying happy, positive and safe when online: childnet.com/resources/lets-talk-about-life-online.</p>
	<p>Critical Thinking key topic Advice for parents and carers for supporting children of different ages to recognise unreliable information online: childnet.com/parents-and-carers/hot-topics/critical-thinking.</p>
	<p>Information and Advice for Foster Carers/Adoptive Parents Free, printable leaflets with top tips and conversation starters to help foster carers and adoptive parents support their child to use the internet safely: saferinternet.org.uk/fostering-adoption.</p>

Where to report and get help

	<p>UK Safer Internet Centre – Need help? Advice on what to do if a child comes to you for help and how to report online concerns such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content or illegal behaviour: saferinternet.org.uk/need-help.</p>
	<p>Report Harmful Content Provided by the UKSIC. Gives advice on how to report online problems, offers help in removing harmful content from platforms and supports with reports that need to be escalated: reportharmfulcontent.com.</p>
	<p>Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) The UK's reporting hotline for illegal content found on the internet. The IWF specifically deals with child sexual abuse and criminally obscene images hosted in the UK and internationally: iwf.org.uk.</p>
	<p>Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) A police agency tackling child sexual abuse and grooming online. Parents and young people can make reports of grooming or child sexual abuse online at: ceop.police.uk. CEOP's Think U Know website contains information for children and parents, as well as a link for children to report sexual abuse or grooming online: thinkuknow.co.uk.</p>
	<p>Action Fraud The UK's national reporting centre for fraud and cybercrime. Make a report of fraud if you have been scammed, defrauded or experienced cybercrime: actionfraud.police.uk/.</p>
	<p>ParentPort Run by the UK's media regulators. Provides information about media standards and a reporting tool to make a complaint about online advertising, video games, online media and more: parentport.org.uk/</p>
	<p>NSPCC helpline The NSPCC has partnered with O2 to provide an online safety helpline for parents and carers to answer questions and address concerns about a child's online safety: 0808 800 5002 nspcc.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/. The NSPCC also provides the Childline helpline. Children can talk to someone for advice and support at any time by contacting 0800 1111 or chatting to a counsellor online at childline.org.uk.</p>
	<p>Young Minds A UK charity committed to improving the wellbeing and mental health of children and young people. They offer a free confidential helpline for parents on 0808 802 5544. Information and advice for young people and parents/carers can be found at: youngminds.org.uk.</p>

PTA



Lockdown quiz No.2 - Friday 26 February 7.30-9.30pm

We are running another lockdown quiz! Tickets are just £10 per household, email us at PTA@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk to purchase one.

Please note, payments on classlist are currently not working. If you have already successfully bought a ticket this way, then do not worry. We will be in touch to confirm you have one.

As before, the quiz will be hosted remotely on Kahoot! and Zoom and the prize for winning is a Raj Doot voucher, box of chocolates and a bottle of Prosecco. We will be delivering **Tillingbourne Ales and prosecco** on the evening, just let us know when buying a ticket!



Kelly's March Marathon

Instead of Kelly's Clandon Park Run and keeping in the spirit of this fabulous annual event, we will be hosting Kelly's March Marathon. You will have the month of March to run or walk a marathon. There will be a prize for the top fundraiser and a prize for the longest distance completed in one session. In addition, there will be optional fun challenges throughout the month for you to complete with prizes!

All money raised for this will go to the **George Abbot Hardship Fund** to offer much needed support to students and families in need. Details and sign up link will follow after Half Term. It'll be a great way to welcome in Spring!

Next meeting

And our next PTA meeting will now take place on Tuesday 2 March at 7.30pm. Zoom details to follow.

Best wishes and stay safe,

from the PTA.

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01483 888000

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