



ABBEY PARK SCHOOL

1st April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

End of Term 4 Newsletter

The return to school has been very successful with the vast majority of pupils returning to engage once again with face to face learning. The school now feels as it should – a vibrant, learning environment with pupils enjoying working with their peers. I thank you again for your encouragement and support of online learning as this has enabled pupils to make a smooth transition back into the classroom.

Year 11 have initially engaged well with the assessment plans we have in place, which will enable grading of their GCSEs this year. Despite a number of the cohort having to self-isolate, pupils have adapted and risen to the challenge. We wish them all the very best as they continue to work through assessments next term. We are also running an Easter revision programme to further support pupils.

Now we are back in school we have been able to continue with our small group tutoring in English and Maths supported with the government catch-up funding. This we know is vital for some young pupils in helping them recover some of the learning they may have found difficult to engage with during lockdown.

Thank you for taking the opportunity to attend your child's consultation day appointment - these are extremely important in that we provide information on your child's progress and next steps for improvement. Please do take time to read through the report provided and discuss these areas with your child. During the day there were some queries regarding Year 9 subject option choices - pupils will be made aware of these in June.

This term we received the good news that in September we will welcome another 240 Year 7 pupils. Of these just under 200 were first choice places. This is the third year in a row we will be over-subscribed, which is very exciting for Abbey Park as we continue to build on our success.

Events and activities

This term there have been a number of events and competitions, some still requiring online engagement. My congratulations go to those pupils who participated in the Science Week competition, World Book Day Competition, Virtual Talent Show and the Bake Off. The time and effort pupils have put into these entries is fantastic. We were also very pleased to announce that



Principal: Mr J Young
Vice Principal: Mrs L Hunter

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our recent non-uniform day raised over £1400, which will be split between Red Nose charity and to support the treatment fund for a young pupil at Orchid Vale School. You can also follow these events on our official Facebook and Twitter pages.

Since being back in school, the PE department have been able to utilise the mobile basket ball hoops kindly funded by our Friends of Abbey Park (FOAP). I know our pupils have enjoyed using these in lessons and at break times. The FOAPs I am sure will be glad to get back to normal to continue their fund raising which we are extremely grateful for.

Uniform and equipment

On the return to school after the Easter break we will continue to allow pupils to wear their PE kit on the days they have PE, to avoid having to use the changing rooms. This should be Abbey Park PE kit. On days that pupils do not have PE we will be reinforcing our **uniform expectations** of wearing a **blazer, tie and footwear should be appropriate shoes**. All pupils have received an assembly on these matters and therefore are aware of our expectations.

I have included the equipment list again so that you can check with your child what equipment they might need ready for the Summer term.

Equipment

Pen Black or Blue x 2	Coloured pencils	Pair of compasses
Pencil x 2	Green pen (for noting feedback)	Protractor
Pencil Sharpener		
Ruler	Highlighter pens	Dictionary
Rubber	Glue stick	Pair of headphones
Pair of safety scissors	Calculator	Reading book (from home)

Home Lateral Flow Device Testing

Following the success of the Lateral Flow testing programme on the return to school, it is vital that your child continues to test at home throughout the Easter holidays and into the summer term. We have provided pupils with enough tests in order to do this. Please support your child to:



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- test twice a week at home (all those who are able to)
- report results as positive, negative or void
- continue to test twice weekly over the Easter holidays
- test before returning to school for the summer term, either the night before, or morning of, the first day back, Monday 19th April

It is important that all results are reported, whether they are negative, inconclusive or positive.

The result should be reported online at www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result. Schools are also required to collect the results so it is important that you also **complete the online form** at <https://tinyurl.com/APS-covid>. The QR code for the form is below:



If your child does test positive please on a lateral flow test, this needs to be confirmed with a booked PCR test. In the event of a positive test please do inform Mrs Stevens, Head of Pastoral, stevensk@abbeyparkschool.org.uk.

Thank you again for your continuing support in helping us getting back to some sense of normality. It has been a pleasure to have our pupils back in school and we look forward to more face to face teaching in the Summer term, which begins on Monday 19th April.

Best wishes for the Easter break

Yours sincerely

Mr Young
Principal



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