



**ABBNEY**  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

*Together, Anything is Possible*

# Abbey C of E Academy September Newsletter

Our Christian Value for this half term is **THANKFULNESS**

## **WELCOME BACK!**

### **Dear Parents and Carers,**

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome parents and carers, whether you are new to our school or your children are returning, to the first newsletter of the school year. I hope that you had an enjoyable summer and managed to make the most of what good weather we had.

The summer break gave an opportunity to install a new climbing wall on the playground and for some much needed renovation work in the toilets. We are also in the process of relaunching our school library with a range of new books. We are hoping to further improve many other areas of our school during the course of this academic year.

But it isn't just the buildings and facilities that we are continuing to improve. Our main priority is to provide the best education for your child and staff will continue to receive training and support to enhance the quality of provision in the classroom.

We also ask your help with some of the more day-to-day aspects of school life: ensuring that your child is dressed smartly in correct uniform; that homework is completed on time; that you find opportunities to hear your child read. These are the little things that can really make a difference.

Attendance is one of our key improvement priorities for the year and you can support us with this by ensuring that your child is in school, on time as often as possible. Attendance is one of the main indicators of success at school—those pupils who attend more, do better at school.—and so it is right that we make this a priority. Over the next few weeks, we will be sharing with you our strategy to improve this.

Later on in the newsletter you will find some provisional dates for events that are happening later in the school year. We will obviously notify you of any further details nearer the time.

Finally, as ever, if you have any concerns or questions about school then please speak to your child's class teacher. They, alongside myself or Mrs Wade, are on the playground at the start of the day for any quick queries. As I am sure you appreciate, teaching staff are keen to get the children into class promptly to start learning so we do ask that if you require a longer chat, that you ask to make an appointment to speak to them.

*Matthew Reetz*

### WATER BOTTLES

Children may bring a bottle of water, with a sports top, to keep in their classroom.

We have water coolers in school so that children can top up their bottles during the day.

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Please ensure you update school with new mobile numbers, work numbers and change of address. So that we can keep our records up to date, being able to contact parents is crucial should there be an emergency.

Many thanks for your help.

### SCHOOL UNIFORM

We believe that school uniform promotes a sense of pride in our school; develops a sense of community and belonging towards the school; is practical and smart; identifies pupils with the school and makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance.

The majority of our pupils come to school smartly dressed and wear their uniform with pride. However, the start of the school year is a good opportunity to remind you of our, and all schools within the David Ross Education Trust's, expectations on uniform.

Boys: grey/black trousers, white shirt, blazer and tie, plain black/grey/white socks, sensible black school shoes—no boots

Girls: grey/black trousers/skirts/pinafores, white shirt, blazer and tie, black/grey/white socks or black/grey/white tights, sensible black school shoes—no boots

P.E. uniform:

☒ Trainers/ black plimsolls

☒ Blue shorts with House-colour T-shirt as follows:

Doddridge – blue

Priestley – red

Moot – yellow

Burton – green

☒ Earrings should be removed or ears taped for P.E. lessons.

Necklaces and watches should be removed for P.E. lessons.

☒ Hair should be tied back for P.E. lessons.

Children should not wear:

☒ Make-up

☒ Jewellery (other than that stated above)

☒ Nail varnish

☒ Nail extensions

☒ High-heeled shoes

In addition, any hair bows worn should match the colour of the school uniform and that pupils refrain from having patterns cut into their hair.

The smart wearing of uniform (shirts tucked in, ties on etc..) is one of areas of focus for this half term as we develop a sense of our pupils feeling proud to wear their uniform and proud to attend our school. Your support on this is greatly appreciated.

## BIKES

We encourage pupils to ride bikes to school, but need to ensure your child's safety and the safety of others around them. Please ensure that your child's bike is roadworthy, with fully working brakes and that they wear a helmet when riding to school.

We also ask that pupils refrain from riding bikes on the school grounds as this can be dangerous to other parents, pupils and families. Your co-operation is appreciated,

**Below are a list of dates as they currently stand. These will be updated in each monthly newsletter.**

### 2017/18

#### Term 1

**SCHOOL CLOSED—TRAINING DAYS**      **FRIDAY 1st & MONDAY 4th SEPTEMBER**

TERM STARTS      TUESDAY 5th SEPTEMBER

Author visit      FRIDAY 29th SEPTEMBER

Funtrition Taster      THURSDAY 5th OCTOBER

Harvest Service @ Holy Cross      THURSDAY 19th OCTOBER

TERM ENDS      FRIDAY 20th OCTOBER

#### Term 2

**SCHOOL CLOSED—TRAINING DAY**      **MONDAY 30th OCTOBER**

TERM STARTS      TUESDAY 31st OCTOBER

BCyberwise Days      TUESDAY 31st OCTOBER and WEDNESDAY 1 NOVEMBER

Shakespeare Performance      TUESDAY 7th NOVEMBER

Brass Band Concert      MONDAY 11th DECEMBER

Christingle Service @ Holy Cross      MONDAY 18th DECEMBER

TERM ENDS      WEDNESDAY 20th DECEMBER

#### Term 3

**SCHOOL CLOSED—TRAINING DAY**      **WEDNESDAY 3rd JANUARY 2018**

TERM STARTS      THURSDAY 4th JANUARY 2018

TERM ENDS      FRIDAY 9th FEBRUARY 2018

#### Term 4

**SCHOOL CLOSED—TRAINING DAY**      **MONDAY 19th FEBRUARY 2018**

TERM STARTS      TUESDAY 20th FEBRUARY 2018

TERM ENDS      THURSDAY 29th MARCH 2018

**SCHOOL CLOSED—BANK HOLIDAY**      **FRIDAY 30th MARCH 2018 (GOOD FRIDAY)**