



NEWSLETTER - JULY 2025

# ABBOTSWELD PRIMARY ACADEMY



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of the school year, it's a wonderful opportunity to reflect on all we've achieved together at Abbotsweld. This term—and indeed the whole year—has been full of learning, growth, and memorable experiences for our pupils.

We are incredibly proud of our Year 6 children who have worked with determination and focus throughout the year. Their SATs results have been excellent, with particularly strong outcomes in the number of pupils reaching Greater Depth across reading, writing and maths. These results reflect the hard work of the pupils, the dedication of their teachers, and the support of families at home. Alongside their academic success, Year 6 have had a brilliant send-off, enjoying a wide range of final experiences including recording sessions in a professional music studio, a much-loved residential trip, and celebrations that will culminate in a special dinner and dance. It has been a pleasure watching them grow, and we wish them every success as they move on to secondary school.

Across the school, there have been many other academic achievements to celebrate. We've seen an encouraging rise in our average scores in the national Multiplication Tables Check, showing the positive impact of hard work and targeted support in maths. Our pupils continue to rise to challenges and take pride in their learning.

This term has also offered a rich variety of trips and experiences. Our Reception children enjoyed a fantastic day at Barleylands Farm, learning about animals and rural life through hands-on activities. In Key Stage 2, Years 3 and 4 took part in a Viking workshop, immersing themselves in history and bringing their learning to life. Pupils across the school have also taken part in subject-specific opportunities—Key Stage 1 were invited to join a 3 Tees cricket tournament led by Essex Cricket Coaches, where they demonstrated both skills and great sportsmanship. Our school choir performed beautifully at Harlow Town Park, and we were especially proud that two of our children were chosen to speak during the event—an outstanding achievement.

Creativity and leadership have been another highlight this term. A visiting artist worked with a group of our budding young creatives to produce stunning artwork, which will soon be proudly displayed in school. As part of Harlow Creates, some of our pupils also took part in training for future House Captains and Sports Leaders, helping them develop valuable teamwork and communication skills they'll carry with them into next year. Finally, a huge thank you to everyone who supported our fundraising efforts this term. Thanks to the success of our Speed Kick Challenge and the generosity of our community, we're delighted to have reached our goal of funding a brand-new stage. This exciting addition will allow us to enhance performances and whole-school events for years to come.

As we close the year, we want to express our gratitude to all our pupils for their enthusiasm, effort and resilience; to our families for your continued support; and to our staff for their dedication and care. Abbotsweld continues to thrive because of the strong partnership between home and school, and we are excited for all that next year will bring.

We wish you all a safe, restful and sunny summer break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year of learning and growth.

Mrs Benson and The Abbotsweld Team



# Reception

What a year it has been in EYFS! From raising chicks, to making bread and fruit salad, to performing a dazzling Nativity and exploring life at Barleylands, the children have embraced all that Reception has to offer and we are SO proud of them all.

In Autumn term, the children began life at Abbotsweld with enthusiasm and settled really well into Kindness and Honesty class. They learnt about what it means to look after themselves in school, how to be a kind friend and how to follow our school rules. They explored their new learning environment and had lots of fun building really lovely and longlasting friendships with their peers. We began teaching phonics, and the children excelled our expectations with how quickly they learnt the sounds and took reading in their stride. We spent much of the second half term preparing for our Nativity, and it still brings a smile to our faces when we remember how wonderful our final show was!

Spring term was packed full of practical learning. We made bread just like The Little Red Hen, we dressed up as our favourite book characters for World Book Day, we conducted experiments to celebrate science week and we learnt about libraries by going on our very first school trip to the Parndon library. We had a very special delivery of our chicks, who we enjoyed watching grow and naming with some fairly unusual names (cat being our favourite!) The children began to write their own sentences, and continually wowed us with their resilience, maturity and creativity. They also made amazing steps forward in Maths and Literacy, growing in independence and confidence to apply all they were learning in CHiL time and beyond.

The Summer term has brought with it beautiful sunshine and extra time outside to learn in the outdoor classroom. We have spent lots of time solidifying our learning from throughout the year, and we are so proud of the children's academic success and remarkable progress across literacy and maths.

All of Reception loved sports day, and they had a great time using all of their PE skills to represent their house.

We will treasure the memory of taking the children to Barleylands, where they got to ride on a tractor, make a bread roll and feed the animals. As the term draws to a close, we have been practising our graduation and preparing for all that awaits the children in Year 1.

We have celebrated and laughed together about all of the precious memories we have made as a cohort, and we have talked about what we are excited for next year.

As we wave goodbye to our 24-25 EYFS cohort, we want to say again just how proud they have made us. They are eager, kind and respectful children who have been absolute pleasures to teach and watch thrive.

We wish them all the best as they continue their school journey, and we can't wait to see what they achieve in the years ahead.









# Year 1 and 2

What a year it has been for Key Stage 1!

It certainly has been busy and eventful.

From Autumn term when we met our new teachers, reunited with our fellow students and became familiar with our classrooms we hit the ground running.

The children of year 1 and 2 have shown their incredible capacity to adapt and learn their new routines, and meet the high expectations that we set here at Abbotsweld.

Highlights over the Autumn terms were designing and making our very own puppets, exploring micro-habitats in Science and exploring exciting new texts like 'The Lion Inside' in reading and writing. We came together to perform in our Nativity play for the holiday season and every single child showed great co-operation skills as they increased their confidence through their performative abilities as they sang and acted their hearts out.

Spring not only brought much needed light to our day, but, also a chance for us to explore the outdoors again and observe the new life that the season brings. We increased our knowledge about the trees and flowering plants that were starting to show their beauty. We also took ourselves out into the stratosphere as we explored our non-fiction text about Astronauts in Reading and Writing as well as discovered the monumental details of the Apollo 11 mission to the moon. Spring term brought with it Science week as we discovered the Peppered Moth and it's amazing ability to adapt and change over time.

Summer term rolled on like a steam train for us here in Key Stage 1 as we solidified all of the wonderful learning we have done and took the time to reflect on our efforts.



Wow! What improvements we all have made. What small milestones that we were starting to see flourish in our oracy skills and use of full sentences. In our ability to remember our 'All The Time Tool Kit' in our independent writing, and our spirit of working together as our 100 squares achievements came hard and fast. We crowned a new King of Abbotsweld in our very own Coronation day as Queen Benson sadly abdicated. And we have finished this year of accomplishments with a fun and full day 'On the Green' where we bonded over a communal artwork, a spot of stick weaving, pot painting and leaf printing.

It has been an honour to share this year with each and every member of Confidence, Determination, Perseverance and Responsibility.

Now it's time to rest up, ready for more adventures come September!









# Year 3 and 4

## English

In English this term, the children have been learning how to write an action wishing tale and a recount using the Talk 4 Writing strategy. The children have been successful at internalising model texts, analysing their features and innovating with them to create their own versions. The children enjoyed deepening their understanding of how to engage a reader and loved making their own kites as a 'hook' into the unit!

## Humanities

In History & Geography, we have had a major focus on World Countries and The Vikings. The children have enjoyed learning about different climates, holiday destinations and time zones. This sequence also encompassed a huge range of learning about the The Viking invaders and the children have immersed themselves in why the Vikings were keen to spread their power and land ownership across Europe and why they invaded Britain in 793AD.

## Science

This term, we have been learning all about light and shadows. The children have had a lot of fun experimenting with hand shadows and learning about how our shadows change throughout the day. The children showed great interest and outstanding learning behaviours as they drew around each other's shadows and measured them at three points throughout the day. Why not ask them what they found out?



# Year 3 and 4

## Viking Workshop

We recently enjoyed a very interesting Viking workshop. Ash, who is a Viking enthusiast and reenactor, brought a vast range of artefacts for us to learn about and touch. We covered Viking battle tactics, weaponry, food, home life and burial rituals.



# Year 5 and 6

This year has been a whirlwind of SELF:

Social experiences,  
Exposure to new and exciting opportunities,  
Life Skills, and  
Fascinating events that have made 2024-2025 a truly memorable academic year!

From classroom achievements to personal growth, the children in Year 5 and Year 6 have demonstrated exceptional commitment, curiosity, and creativity.

A heartfelt congratulations to our incredible Year 6 pupils on their fantastic SATs results! Your resilience, perseverance, and determination were nothing short of inspirational. You faced challenges head-on and should feel immensely proud of all that you've achieved.

Our brilliant Year 5 children have also shone brightly this year, excelling in vital areas such as swimming, road safety awareness, and Bikeability. These important life skills will stay with them for years to come.

Across both year groups, pupils in our school values groups – Empathy, Equality, and Resilience – consistently demonstrated hard work, thoughtful behaviour, and a wonderfully positive attitude towards learning.

We are incredibly proud of every single one of them.

Highlights of the Year:

- An outstanding, high-energy school production, School of Pop, which showcased the musical and theatrical talents of our young performers.
- The much-anticipated Year 6 residential trip to Bawdsey Manor, packed with adventure, team building and unforgettable memories.
- A fascinating visit to the Tower of London, bringing history to life in a way that only being there can.
- An inspiring visit from Harlow MP, Chris Vince, who spoke about politics, democracy and the importance of young voices.
- Crucial Crew – a powerful day of learning about safety, emergency awareness and responsible citizenship.
- A variety of Oracy opportunities, including passionate speeches delivered by students on pressing environmental issues – impressive public speaking from future changemakers!
- Year 6 celebrated their final term in style with a Silent Disco, bowling, a BBQ, and a special Dinner and Dance – a perfect send-off to primary school.
- Year 5 proudly took part in a competitive and fun-filled spelling bee, demonstrating their growing confidence in literacy.
- Exciting experiences such as a festive Pantomime trip and an immersive Prime VR session brought learning to life in dynamic new ways.
- Participation in Young Voices, where our students joined thousands in an unforgettable musical celebration.





## Looking Ahead:

As the Summer Term draws to a close, we want to take a moment to wish our Year 6 pupils every success as they move on to the next exciting chapter of their educational journey in secondary school. We are confident that the skills, friendships, and values they have developed here will serve them well in the years ahead.

To our Year 5 pupils – we can't wait to see you step up as the new leaders of the school in September. You've already achieved so much and we know even greater things are yet to come!



# SUMMER EVENTS

ACL

## LEGO CHALLENGES at ACL HARLOW

Lego Fun with your family!!! A free activity and opportunity to spend time together with your children and join in with a variety of fun learning activities.

Free for parents/carers and grandparents.

**Date:** Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2025

**Time:** 10.00 - 12.00pm

**Fee:** £FREE

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CM20 1HA

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ACL

## BRING STORIES TO LIFE at ACL HARLOW

Story Fun with your family!!! A free activity and opportunity to spend time together with your children and join in with a variety of fun learning activities.

Free for parents/carers and grandparents.

**Date:** Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2025

**Time:** 13.00 - 15.00pm

**Fee:** £FREE

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