

ABBNEYFIELD SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER.

Tuesday 24 January 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Ambitious to
Achieve

*Creativity Honesty Independence
Resilience Respect Responsibility*



**Artsmark
Gold Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England

As we build momentum in the spring term, there are a lot of things to update you on that are occurring at the school and in response to all of the feedback our young people and their families provide us with.

This term we have increased our focus on interactions, behaviours and conversations with each other, and our commitment to challenge any behaviour that impacts the wellbeing or safety of others. We are focusing our **CALL IT OUT** campaign on building students' confidence in challenging comments, behaviours or actions that are inappropriate, disrespectful, or not accepting of the characteristics that make our diverse community so special. I will only be satisfied that we have made progress on this when our students are confident to call out situations amongst their own peer groups- this is the marker of a truly inclusive and accepting environment. In the meantime, we have lots of methods of anonymous reporting that students can access, and students are having weekly assemblies/Teams sessions related to key priorities by myself, or Mrs Schofield, our Designated Safeguarding Lead.

It has been great to get to see so many faces at the first few Principal Drop ins, which have given us an opportunity to discuss parent concerns, hear about the improvement direction of the school, and to offer you some free refreshments!

We have this week held reward parties for tutor groups with the highest attendance, and our new Education Welfare officer, Tracey Coare, has joined us to increase our systems around attendance. You have fed back that this is an area of communication that can be improved, and we are working hard to action these items.

Year 11 have had a taster day for 6th form which allowed them to experience some A level subjects, and we have seen some exciting developments in our Football Academy and Performing Arts Academy that will begin for 6th formers in September- please pass on to any budding performers or footballers who may not attend Abbeyfield- we're in it to win it!

There are some important upcoming dates for you all to remember such as Year 9 Options evening, Legally Blonde and the start of year 11 revision and intervention program. We have a college competition this week that has been informed by student feedback, and we'll hopefully see a FIFA champion crowned very shortly!

I will end with a reminder of attendance and punctuality expectations as a central factor in the support and educational offer we deliver at Abbeyfield is reliant upon students being present and on time. Mereway is very busy in the mornings, so some extra time if you are dropping students off will be required. Students should be attending every day and aim to arrive in good time for starting lessons at 8.45- this is the time lessons start, not the time that they should be walking through the gate.

To support this, we are hopeful of launching a breakfast club soon- I believe in providing students with the best possible start to their day, so this will hopefully allow us to support you all in improving punctuality and attendance where necessary.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

JAY KERBY

DAILY LATENESS EQUATES TO...



Remember - your education is important - **don't miss out!**

EVERY DAY COUNTS!

School and **future success** starts with good attendance!



Remember - your education is important - **don't miss out!**

CAREERS.

FUZE TECHNOLOGY

17/01/2023 - We were extremely lucky to have FUZE Technology come into Abbeyfield and carry out engaging coding workshops where students gained an insight into coding and its uses in the world. Students used Nintendo Switch's and used real test-based coding using video game mechanics.

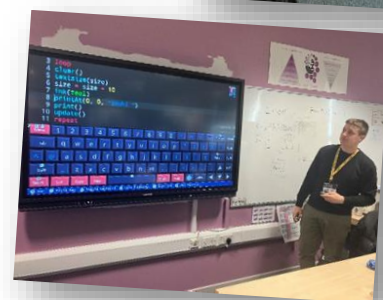
Excellent feedback from students:

"Very entertaining and fun lesson, learning a new skill"

"Coding was easier than I thought it would be, and it was a fun lesson"

"I loved using the keyboard, and was so interesting learning something new"

"Thank you for teaching us today. Coding seems like a really valuable skill and I'm glad I know more about it"



YEAR 7 AND 8 CAREERS TALK

05/01/2023 - Straight after Christmas Year 7 and 8 had the wonderful Helen and Avril in for a careers talk. They took the students on a galactic journey of careers in the future, discussing current and future job roles, including space travel. This was a great workshop, getting the students to start thinking about their career paths and aspirations.



RESILIENT ME

10/01/2023 – We had Helen from Resilient Me visit Abbeyfield and talk to year 10 and 11. Year 10 had a 'Circus of Life' workshop identifying and combatting the common causes of everyday mental health issues in students, helping them to reach their full potential. Year 11 had a study skills workshop, which gave them tips to improve their memory and revision skills.

Y11 PATHWAYS DAY

A reminder to all students and families that the deadline for 6th form applications for Abbeyfield School is rapidly approaching (End of January). Application numbers have been high this year, and we are now looking at additional opportunities to meet demand. Students requiring any support for applications can discuss with Mrs Dedman, Ms Wawrzesta or a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

We are very grateful to Starting Off Apprenticeships, Northampton College, and Moulton College who came in to talk to some of our year 11's about the courses and opportunities with them. We have emphasised the importance of year 11 making their applications at this stage. They can apply for more than one course, and change their mind, but courses are getting filled up, so it is essential that they apply to courses of interest. Also, a list of open days are on both Northampton and Moulton colleges websites, so check them out and fill in a form of interest. On this day we also helped students complete their CV's and gave some tips for interview skills.



CAREER NEWS: TIME TO CELEBRATE

We have some fantastic news to share with you. Before Christmas we informed you about a number of our students who had applied for the role of STEAM Youth Director. This is for a new nationwide initiative being led by the STEAM Project. Five students were interviewed face-to-face in December and we have just been informed that four out of five have been successful in achieving this role.

- **Namay S.**
- **Onyinye C-A.**
- **Oliver B.**
- **Nethumi C K-D.**

They received over 110 applications which were shortlisted to 48. They interviewed 45 young people online and face to face over 5 days in November and December. Representatives from the STEAM Project commented that every single one of them showed up and did amazingly. It was extremely hard to select the final twenty.

We are extremely proud of these students who took the initiative and applied for this role. The fact that there were only 20 places across the whole of the UK and we have 4 students who have been selected is just amazing.

We are looking forward to watching how these students develop over the coming months and the opportunities that they will be given.

CAREER EVENTS COMING UP

24/01/23: Year 12 Alumni Event

01/02/23: Car Crash Careers

06 – 10 February: National Apprenticeship Week

23/02/23: Ignite the Spark

28/02/23: Year 11 Mock Interview Day (all year 11 to take part in a mock interview with an external employee)

06 - 10 March: National Careers Week

BBC VISIT.

Before Christmas, Abbeyfield were lucky enough to have the BBC visit to inspire students to kickstart their creative careers. To read more, please follow the below link:

<https://www.northamptonchron.co.uk/education/bbc-visits-northampton-school-to-inspire-students-to-kick-start-creative-careers-3940217>



SCIENCE MUSEUM.

Last Thursday was such a great day visiting the Science Museum and Creative Education Trust. Our Year 8 Knowledge Connected Ambassadors were lucky enough to visit in order to investigate the exhibits and the wider world of work through the lens of the key concepts of Pattern, Performance and Structure.

It was also great to hear from Dr. Booth talk about his career and experiences in Archaeology and of course our students asked some excellent questions. The students' behaviour was impeccable and I was proud to see our ambassadors represent Abbeyfield School.



LEGALLY BLONDE THE MUSICAL.

We are very excited to be presenting Legally Blonde the Musical from Wednesday 8 – Saturday 11 February. Cast and Crew have been working tirelessly for what promises to be an excellent performance. We cannot wait for you to see it and look forward to seeing you there!

Tickets can be purchased by visiting:
www.ticketsource.co.uk/abbeyfield-school-tickets



TASSOMAI.

Please be reminded to complete your Tassomai homework. Any login issues, please see Mr Thomas in S8 or the Science Office.

SIXTH FORM.

The new term has started brilliantly for Sixth Form, with a positive and productive atmosphere. This week's BTEC exams have gone well for both Year 12 and 13, NEA work is coming in across all subject areas and we are reflecting on PPEs to support future learning. We had a wonderful trip to Milton Keynes before Christmas and we are busy planning another social event later in the term. We have engaging visitors booked in for Enrichment lessons, to talk to Year 12 and 13 about Blood and Organ Donation, safer driving and sexual health.

All Year 13 university applications were completed by December and we are excited to start looking at the Next Steps process with Year 12 from March, with a visit to the Futures Fair in Leicester on 17th March, and an evening for Year 12 students and their parents in May.

This week we held a Sixth Form Taster Day for current Year 11 students and were overwhelmed with the enthusiasm and progress in the short sessions. Applications are open until 30th January and we are so excited to meet all our applicants at their sixth form interviews in March.

For any sixth form enquiries please contact karen.collier@abbeyfieldschool.org.uk or Rachael.dedman@abbeyfieldschool.org.uk

FOOTBALL.

Year 7/8 girls entered the Northampton EFL 6-a-side cup held just before Christmas. With teams playing a round robin in the group stage, Abbeyfield were the team to beat winning all 8 group games, scoring 25 goals and only conceding 3. Abbeyfield qualified top of the group for the semi-finals and drew Parker for a spot in the final.

Despite the fantastic performance throughout the whole day, Abbeyfield conceded a few early goals and found themselves chasing the game. Managing to pull a couple of goals back, Parker held on to take the win 3-2. All the girls played a huge part in achieving 8 straight wins, but unfortunately the one defeat came in the knockout rounds. Well done to everyone involved, you all showcased how fantastic you are.



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE POLICE.

Northamptonshire Police are beginning 12 weeks of action to tackle their Matters of Priority. The first part relates to Drug Harm and part of that is the issue of child criminal exploitation.



BREAK

the money chain used by criminals

Allowing somebody to use your bank account to receive and transfer illegal funds is called **money muling**.

Criminals need bank accounts like yours to move and launder money they've obtained through fraud, cybercrime, drug dealing, child exploitation, human trafficking and other serious crimes.

Break the money chain that criminals rely on by never allowing anyone to move money through your bank account.

Money muling is illegal.

Money mules could face up to 14 years in prison.

ActionFraud
National Fraud & Cyber Crime Reporting Centre
0300 123 2040

Northamptonshire Police
Fighting crime, protecting people