

# Abbeyfield Weekly



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#6 – 10th October 2025

## Principal's Message

It's been great to get into assemblies this week with Mrs Pykett to talk to students about how we can further embed our values of Ambition, Respect and Kindness across the school. We've focused on the importance of getting the small things right, in particular, being on time and ready to learn. I've reminded students that they should be on site by 8.40 and in line ups by 8.45. We will be having a focus on punctuality to school next week – please remind students to leave in time to arrive with us for 8.40.

We also spoke about the importance of being a positive active bystander and helping each other to keep our community positive. Whether it's picking up litter that's been dropped or helping someone when they need it, all of these small actions help keep our community positive and safe. I've also explained to students about the work that we are carrying out with other agencies including the police (see below for our first coffee and a catch up) and how they can report concerns both within our school and the wider community.

We've had the pleasure of welcoming our CET CEO, Nicole McCartney this week and she commented on the positive community feeling that was prevalent in the school. This was fantastic to hear as we continue to focus on embedding our values across the community. We will continue to work with all our students on making our Abbeyfield community as welcoming for everyone as possible. Thank you for all your support already this half term.

## Coffee & Catch - up

### 🕒 Police & Principal Coffee & Catch-Up 🕒

Come join us for a friendly chat over coffee!

👮 Meet your local police officers

🎓 Catch up with the Principal

💬 Share your thoughts, ask questions, and build community connections

📅 Date: 16<sup>th</sup> October 2025

🕒 Time: 9 - 10.30am

📍 Location: Abbeyfield School

Everyone is welcome – Please book via this link - <https://forms.office.com/e/txjua7iPpT>

Let's connect, listen, and support each other.

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#6 – 10th October 2025

## Careers

### *What is happening in the careers department before Half Term?*

IAG: We have started our interview and guidance meetings, prioritising year 11 and 13, but also seeing any younger students that may need early careers support. Students are welcome to request meetings via their tutor or head of year.

Trip to Campbell Square: We have an exciting trip to Campbell Square in which selected students who are interested in police/ criminology will be visiting the police station and museum. This is the first time this trip has been offered, if successful, we hope to roll out the trip to many others in the future.

Year 7 Introduction to Careers: We are looking forward to meeting the year 7's and introducing them to careers. We are lucky to also be supported by Abbeyfield Alumni who are coming in to discuss their post-16 choices and give advise to the year 7's.

Barclays Life Skills: We are being joined by a group of employee's from Barclays who will deliver their Life Skills workshop to some of our year 8 students. They will introduce budgeting and forward thinking.

Careers Club: We are thrilled to announce that we will be offering a Careers Club during select break times – more information to follow.

Year 10 work experience: You should have received letters home with details about the year 10 work experience happening in March 2026. Year 10's also received an assembly this week in which we outlined the key information they need to start thinking about their placements.

Here are some articles from 'The Parents Guide' for extra support:

- [Using mind maps to complete UCAS personal statements](#)
- [How to help your teen write their personal statement](#)
- [UCAS key dates](#)

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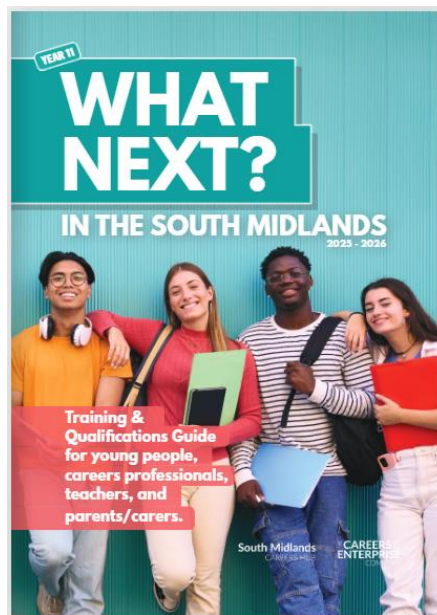
#6 – 10th October 2025

## OPTIONS AT 18:

### UCAS early entry Deadline - 15 October

Students applying to Oxbridge, medical/veterinary school and dentistry will need to submit their completed UCAS forms soon.

Meanwhile, university open days are a great chance for students to get a feel for whether university might be for them - even if they haven't made up their minds yet. Parents should go along too, if you can.



The South Midlands Careers Hub are excited to launch the first edition of the Year 11 What Next Guide – a comprehensive resource created in collaboration with Resourceful Careers to support young people, parents/carers/families, and educators across Bedfordshire, Luton, Milton Keynes, and Northamptonshire. You can explore the guide here [Online Flipbook](#)

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#6 – 10th October 2025

### Apprenticeship Information Webinar for Parents!

**Tuesday 11th November 6.00pm – 7.15pm**

Do you want to know more about Apprenticeships?  
Apprenticeships are a great opportunity for school leavers to enter the world of work and gain a qualification.

This webinar will cover everything you need to know including:

- How Apprenticeships work
- What subjects you can do
- How they are funded
- How and where you can apply

Starting Off are a Northamptonshire based Apprenticeship Training Provider who have been helping young people in the county find their first jobs with apprenticeship training opportunities for over 30 years.

Due to ongoing popularity, Starting Off are running another apprenticeship information webinar for parents/carers of school leavers on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 6.00pm – 7.15pm . Parents/carers will need to book on using the below link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/starting-offs-apprenticeship-information-webinar-for-parents-tickets-1765658615449?aff=oddtcreator>

## Halloween at Abbeyfield

# HALLOWEEN AT ABBEYFIELD

**WEDNESDAY 15TH OCTOBER**  
Doors open at 6pm, Starts at 6.30pm

Come and join us for a spooktacular evening!

Tickets can be found via the Abbeyfield Facebook Page or Ticketsource

**PRIZE FOR BEST DRESSED AUDIENCE MEMBER!**

Please book your tickets by visiting [www.ticketsource.co.uk](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk) and searching for **Abbeyfield School**.



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#6 – 10th October 2025

## Student Ambassadors

### Interested in Becoming a Student Ambassador?

We're excited to offer students the opportunity to join one of our ambassador programmes:

#### ✦ Wellbeing Ambassador Programme

Support your peers, promote mental health awareness, and help create a positive school environment.

#### ✦ LGBTQ+ Ambassador Programme

Champion inclusivity, celebrate diversity, and help make Abbeyfield a safe and welcoming space for everyone. If you're interested in either role, please email us at [counsellors@abbeyfieldschool.org.uk](mailto:counsellors@abbeyfieldschool.org.uk) with:

- Your name
- Your form
- Which programme you're interested in
- The best way to contact you
- 

We look forward to hearing from you and building a stronger, more supportive school community together!

## Green Projects 2025

**The Coat Exchange**

Choosing pre-loved clothing can help reduce the effects of Climate Change

**Donate your unwanted coats to The Coat Exchange**

**Drop off Location:**  
The Abbey Centre  
East Hunsbury – NN4 0RZ

**Donations:**  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October

**Find a new coat at The Coat Exchange**

**The Abbey Centre**  
East Hunsbury – NN4 0RZ

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November  
Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November

For more information, please contact The Abbey Centre on 01604 767568

**Festive Free For All**

**Come and get some FREE STUFF!**

*It's that simple!*

We would like donations of **Christmas Jumpers & Festive Hats** in good clean condition!  
**Christmas decorations, tinsel, baubles, hanging decorations etc, Boxed Christmas Trees, Christmas wrap and cards** - unused (Sorry, no electricals)

**Drop off between 27th October - 7th November at East Hunsbury Parish Council Office Hunsbury Library, Overslade Close, NN4 0RZ**

**FREE items available to re-home between 10th November – 20th November in EHPC Activity Room**  
Open to all during Library Opening Hours

East Hunsbury Parish Council  
[www.easthunsburyparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.easthunsburyparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
Follow East Hunsbury Parish Council on Facebook and keep up-to-date locally

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#6 – 10th October 2025

A blue poster for a recycling event. The text reads: 'RECYCLE YOUR SMALLER HOUSEHOLD ELECTRICAL ITEMS AT HUNSBURY LIBRARY Weds 12th November, 10am - 1pm'. It features icons for a tablet, a hair dryer, an iron, a microwave, and a kettle. Below the icons, it asks: 'Do you have household electricals up to the size of a microwave you don't know how to dispose of?'. The location is 'Hunsbury Library, Overslade Close, NN4 0RZ'. At the bottom, there are logos for East Hunsbury Parish Council and Veolia, along with the West Northamptonshire Council logo. A small text at the bottom says 'Follow East Hunsbury Parish Council on Facebook and keep up-to-date locally'.

## Celebrating our wonderful students



20 Abbeyfield School students had the fantastic opportunity to visit Campbell Square Police Station and Northampton Fire and Rescue.

Students enjoyed an action-packed day, including:


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#6 – 10th October 2025

 Talks from employers about careers in the emergency services



 A tour of the police museum and a visit to the cells!

 Exploring the fire truck and learning about the specialist equipment used by firefighters

We have had amazing feedback from everyone involved. Student comments included 'I loved hearing from the police officers about how they help people very day. It sounded like a really rewarding career' 'Visiting the cells was so cool and gave me a sense of what it is like to work in law enforcement' 'My favourite part of the day was exploring the fire engine and trying on the equipment, it made me think about becoming a firefighter one day'.

A huge thank you to both teams for inspiring our students and giving them such an insightful behind-the-scenes experience! 



 Alumni Careers Talk – Inspiring Our Year 7s! 

Our Year 7 students took part in a fantastic careers session during their PSHE lesson, where we welcomed back several Abbeyfield School alumni to share their experiences since leaving Year 11.

Our visitors represented a range of exciting pathways including college, apprenticeships, and sixth form, giving students valuable insights into the different routes available after school.

To make things even more fun, students got involved in our 'Spin the Wheel' challenge, where they could:

# Abbeyfield Weekly



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#6 – 10th October 2025

🗨️ Ask an alumni a question

💬 Answer a question themselves

🎁 Share a fun fact or even win a small prize!

It was brilliant to see so much enthusiasm, curiosity, and confidence from our Year 7s. A huge thank you to Christine from Aspire Higher, and our amazing alumni for coming back to inspire the next generation! 🌟



## Year 10 Boys Football Update

Our Year 10 boys played a competitive match yesterday against Wootton Park. Despite a strong effort, the team unfortunately lost 2–0.

The boys remain determined and are already focused on bouncing back in their upcoming league and cup fixtures. We're confident they'll come back stronger!



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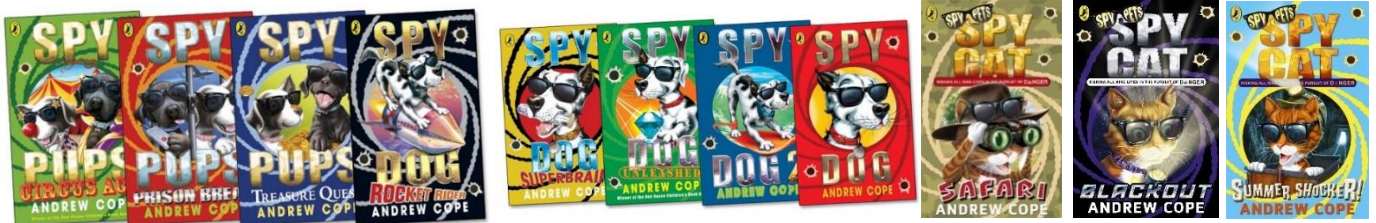
#6 – 10th October 2025

## Parent Information

We have been made aware that several titles in the **Spy Dogs, Spy Pup, and Spy Cat series by Andrew Cope** contain a weblink at the back of the book that no longer directs people to information about the books. The book asks children to explore the website to find out more about the characters, however the website (identified on the back or inside page) has been compromised and leads to inappropriate and unsafe material.

If your child has any *Spy Dog, Spy Cat* or *Spy Pups* books at home, please check the back for website links and make sure they do not try to visit the site.

Below are images of some of the front covers in the series to help you identify the books should you have any at home. We advise you remove and dispose of the page in the book with the link on immediately. Should any be the property of the school, please return them.



## Join Our Academy Council

We are currently seeking new members to join our Academy Council. If you are interested in contributing to the strategic direction and success of our academy, we would love to hear from you.

If you would like an application / expression of interest form, please contact the school office at [enquiries@abbeyfieldschool.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@abbeyfieldschool.org.uk)

If you would like further information or have any questions, please contact Kerry Sherwood at: [Kerry.Sherwood@creativeeducationtrust.org.uk](mailto:Kerry.Sherwood@creativeeducationtrust.org.uk)

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## World Mental Health Day



*We are selling green ribbons to raise awareness & funds for World Mental Health Day  
50p per ribbon, to be paid via ArborPay - ribbons will be delivered to students on Friday  
All proceeds to go to Mental Health Foundation*



Today we have celebrated World mental Health Day  
It has been so lovely see so many staff and students with their green ribbons.

## Parking and Roadworks

### ◆ Reminder to All Parents & Carers

For the safety of all our children, please ensure that when dropping off or collecting your child from school, you:

- **Adhere to the speed limit**
- **Stay alert and mindful of your surroundings**
- **Watch for children crossing and follow all school zone signs**

### ⚠ Important Notice Regarding Roadworks

Due to ongoing roadworks, we kindly ask that:

- **Parents do not park on the slip road** to collect students.
- **Students are not dropped off on the main road**, even if traffic appears stationary.

These actions pose a serious safety risk to our children and school community.

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#6 – 10th October 2025

## Upcoming School Events

### October:

- **15th October** – Halloween at Abbeyfield
- **16th October** – Police & Principal – Coffee & Catch-up - 9.00 – 10.30am
- **22nd October** – Flu Vaccinations (Years 7–11)
- **23rd October** – Year 7 Parents Evening
- **24th October** – Last Day of Term

### November:

- **6<sup>th</sup> November** - Police & Principal – Coffee & Catch-up – 14.15 – 15.15pm
- **6<sup>th</sup> November** – FABS – Meeting – 15.30 – 17.00pm