

Abbeyfield Weekly



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#7 – 17th October 2025

Principal's Message

It was great to be involved in the 'Meet the Principal and Police Coffee and a catch up' this week – thank you to everyone who attended. We're also delighted to have such a positive response to our request for parents to get involved in our Friends of Abbeyfield School (FABs) group (please see below for more details). We've also had the fantastic Halloween Concert this week which once again highlighted the talents of both students and staff here at Abbeyfield.

Next week sees our first parents evening of the year and we look forward to welcoming year 7 students and parents to Abbeyfield for this important event. Next week will also see the final Abbeyfield Weekly of this half term – it's really flown by - and I look forward to sharing some of the upcoming opportunities for everyone after the break.

Coffee & Catch - up

◆ Thank You for Joining Our Police & Principal Coffee Morning ◆

A heartfelt thank you to all the parents who joined us this morning for our Police & Principal Coffee Morning. It was a pleasure to meet so many of you over coffee and chat about all things Abbeyfield and the surrounding area.

We're especially grateful to PCSO Lee Shelton for taking the time to join us and share valuable insights. Your presence was truly appreciated.

Thank you once again to everyone who made time to attend — your support means so much to us.

We look forward to welcoming even more of our amazing parents at our next meeting!

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 advice to the year 7's.

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Barclays Life Skills: We are being joined by a group of employees 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](#)

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.



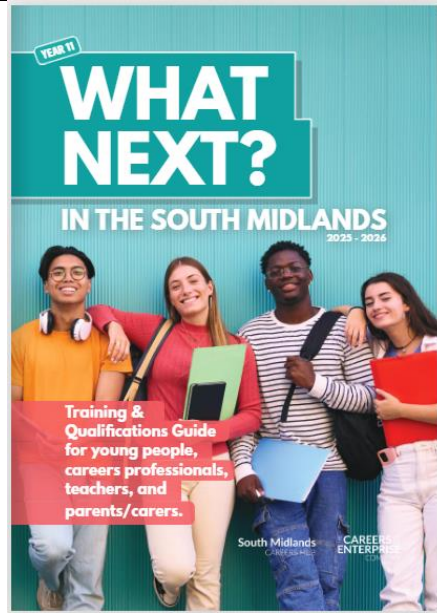
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The South Midlands Careers Hub are excited to launch the first edition of the Year 11 What Next Guide – a comprehensive resource created in collaboration with Resourceful Careers to support young people, parents/carers/families, and educators across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

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 11th November 6.00pm – 7.15pm . Parents/carers will need to book on using the below link:

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

Careers Room

We have a fun display outside our careers room – Halloween themed! Students are welcome to pop into the careers room at break times and talk all things careers. Students are also welcome to join our brand new Careers Club being held on Monday's Week B during Break A. We will have some fun competitions taking place.



Apprenticeships

Amazing Apprenticeships have just announced their next series of informative webinars for **teachers, careers advisers, parents and carers** and **aspiring apprentices** that will provide an abundance of tips, advice, and information around the topic of apprenticeships and technical education. Please click on the link below to explore the details of the webinars.

[Webinars & Workshops - Amazing Apprenticeships](#)

WEBINARS & WORKSHOPS

Amazing
Apprenticeships

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Halloween at Abbeyfield

SHORT STORY COMPETITION

Write your own ghost story (minimum 500 words, maximum 1000) for a chance to win a book, worth up to £15, of your choosing!
No AI/ ChatGPT- it needs to be your own writing.
Every entry will receive a free spooky boooooookmark!
.....
All entries need to be handed in / emailed to Miss Gilbert by the 5th of November.

Abbeyfield Halloween Ghost Story Competition

Get your pens ready and your imagination flowing! This Halloween, every student at Abbeyfield is invited to write their very own spooooooky ghost story for a chance to win a book of your choosing!

Who can enter?

Every year group across the school!

What do you get?

Each entry receives a spooky bookmark, and the winning story earns its author a book of their choice!

Let the haunting tales begin...

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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 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



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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 6th October – Friday 10th October
Monday 13th October – Friday 17th October

Find a new coat at The Coat Exchange

The Abbey Centre
East Hunsbury – NN4 0RZ

Monday 3rd November – Friday 7th November
Monday 10th November – Friday 14th November

For more information, please contact The Abbey Centre on 01604 787568

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
Follow East Hunsbury Parish Council on Facebook and keep up-to-date locally

RECYCLE YOUR SMALLER HOUSEHOLD ELECTRICAL ITEMS

AT HUNSBURY LIBRARY

Weds 12th November, 10am - 1pm

Do you have household electricals up to the size of a microwave you don't know how to dispose of?

Hunsbury Library, Overslade Close, NN4 0RZ

East Hunsbury Parish Council www.easthunsburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

VEOLIA

West Northamptonshire Council

Follow East Hunsbury Parish Council on Facebook and keep up-to-date locally

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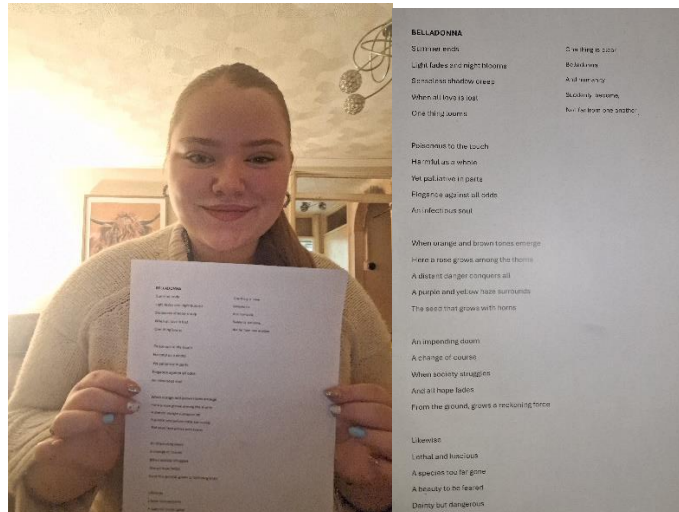


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Celebrating our wonderful students



🌿 Exciting News from Abbeyfield Sixth Form! 🌿

We're incredibly proud to announce that our Lead Prefect, Phoebe, has been shortlisted for the final of the Benjamin Zephaniah Poetry Competition! 📄 ✨

Phoebe's creativity, passion, and dedication to the art of poetry have truly shone through, and we couldn't be more thrilled to see her talent recognised on such a prestigious platform.

👏 Congratulations, Phoebe!

We're all cheering you on for the final in December! 🎉

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💡 Careers Event: Barclays Life Skills with Year 8! 💡

Today our Year 8 students took part in an engaging Barclays Life Skills workshop, learning essential lessons about money management and the world of work.

Students reflected on their own spending patterns and influences, explored how to balance a budget, and discovered the difference between income and expenditure - all valuable skills for their future.

We were also delighted to welcome employees from Barclays, who shared insights into their career journeys in the financial sector, inspiring students to think about the many exciting paths available in finance and beyond.

A big thank you to the Barclays team for supporting our students' financial awareness and career learning! 🙏



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🏆 Year 10 Boys Football Team Advance to County Cup Quarter Finals!

The Year 10 boys showed incredible determination and teamwork as they secured their place in the Quarter Finals of the County Cup after a thrilling match against Prince William School on Tuesday.

The game ended in a 2-2 draw, with Erjon netting both goals for Abbeyfield. The tension continued into the penalty shootout, where Abbeyfield held their nerve and scored all five penalties. Ollie made a crucial save, sealing a 5-4 victory!

👏 Amazing resilience and team spirit were on full display throughout the match. A huge well done to all involved!

🏆 Players of the Match, as voted by the team, were Erjon and Zayden — fantastic performances from both!



🏀 Well done to our Year 8 Basketball team!

They secured 3rd place at the District Basketball Championships, narrowly missing out on second by just one basket! A fantastic team effort and a brilliant display of skill and determination. 👏

Parent Information (Lockdown drill)

We will be holding our next Lockdown drill on Tuesday 21st October 2025. We will message all parents once the Lockdown drill has been completed.

Lockdowns involve partial or total locking down of the academy to protect pupils in the rare event of an intruder or dangerous animal being on site. Lockdown drills run very much like a fire drill, with pupils walking through the process of locking the classroom door and taking shelter away from windows.

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As you would expect, we will use assembly and form time to ensure everyone knows what to do should we need to initiate a lockdown. Teachers will also take the opportunity to educate pupils about HM Government's 'Run, Hide, Tell' campaign for staying safe in the community.

Staying safe from terrorism



Recent events in the UK and around the world remind us all of the terrorist threat we face. Police and security agencies are working tirelessly to protect the public but it is also important that communities remain vigilant and aware of how to protect themselves if the need arises.

Run

Run to a place of safety. This is a far better option than to surrender or negotiate. If there's no where to go, then...

Hide

It's better to hide than to confront. Remember to turn your phone to silent and turn off vibrate. Barricade yourself in if you can. Then finally, and only when it is safe to do so...

Tell

Tell the police by calling 999 (This will be done by a member of staff)

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

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


Friends of Abbeyfield School (FABS)


We are delighted to invite you to an exciting and important event — the launch meeting of our new Parent Teacher Association (PTA), Friends of Abbeyfield School (FABS).


FABS will be a wonderful opportunity for parents, teachers, and staff to come together to share ideas and collaborate in enriching the educational experience of all students at Abbeyfield School.

Your involvement, support, and voice are key to strengthening the relationship between the school and the wider community. Whether you have fundraising ideas, enjoy organising events, or simply want to work more closely with the school to support students and build deeper connections with staff — we would love to hear from you!

Meeting Details:

 Date: 6th November 2025

 Time: 15.30 – 17.00pm

 Location: Abbeyfield Sixth Form

Whether you're new to Abbeyfield or have been part of our community for some time, this is a great opportunity to meet other parents, learn more about FABS' goals, and help shape its future direction.

We warmly encourage you to join us and share your thoughts, enthusiasm, and ideas. Your participation truly makes a difference.

Please RSVP by 31st October at by complete this link - <https://forms.office.com/e/t46MZrjEZi>

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

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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.

Upcoming School Events

October:

- **22nd October** – Flu Vaccinations (Years 7–11)
- **23rd October** – Year 7 Parents Evening
- **24th October** – Last Day of Term

November:

- **6th November** - Police & Principal – Coffee & Catch-up – 14.15 – 15.15pm
- **6th November** – FABS – Meeting – 15.30 – 17.00pm
- **13th November** – Sixth Form Open Evening