



Abercrombie Primary School and Nursery Newsletter



Abercrombie Primary School, Higher Albert Street, Chesterfield, S41 7QE

Email: headteacher@abercrombie.derbyshire.sch.uk Tel: 01246-232425

Newsletter 2 15th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have enjoyed a fantastic start to the new school year and it has been wonderful to welcome the children back. They have settled quickly into school life, embraced their new routines and have already begun exploring exciting new topics across the curriculum. There is a real sense of enthusiasm throughout the school, and our staff have been working hard to create engaging learning experiences that inspire and motivate every child. Thank you so much to those parents who managed to attend their 'Meet the Teacher' sessions. If you couldn't make it then don't worry as we will email out the slide show and add it onto the school website.

Throughout the year, children will have opportunities to take part in educational visits, enrichment activities and experiences with special visitors, all designed to enhance their learning and create lasting memories.

We understand that the cost of school trips and additional activities can sometimes place pressure on family budgets. If you ever find yourself concerned about meeting these costs, please do get in touch with us. Any conversations will be handled discreetly and sensitively, and we will always do our best to ensure that all children can access the opportunities available to them. We will continue to provide as much advance notice as possible of upcoming events to help families plan ahead.

We would also like to remind everyone about safe and considerate parking at the beginning and end of the school day. Where possible, we encourage families to 'park and walk'. If you do need to drive, please avoid stopping, parking or turning near the school entrance, as this can create hazards for pedestrians and increase congestion. We kindly ask that you respect local residents by not blocking driveways and remember that disabled parking bays are reserved for permit holders only.

As always, we value the strong partnership between home and school and look forward to working together throughout the year. If you have any questions, concerns or simply wish to discuss anything regarding your child, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are always happy to help.

With best wishes,
Tracy Gannon

Allergy Awareness

A reminder that we are a nut-free school and that we also have children with other dietary requirements, including coeliac disease. While we enjoy celebrating special occasions such as birthdays, if you wish to send food items into school to share, please ensure they are shop-bought and arrive in their original packaging. This allows us to check the ingredients and ensure they are safe for all children.

Star Of the Week!

Just a reminder that if your child is chosen as 'Star of the Week' we will message through the Arbor App and also send you an email on a Wednesday afternoon to invite you to join our assembly on Friday. 'Star of the Week' is held at 9am on a morning.

At lunchtime the 'star' children join together at the special lunchtime party table.

Thank you to our wonderful catering staff for organising this special event each week.



School Academic Performance 2025-26

We are incredibly proud of our outcomes this year, which reflect the hard work, determination and commitment of both our children and staff. At the end of **Key Stage 2 (Year 6)**, our results were significantly above national averages in every area, with **100% of pupils achieving** the **expected** standard in **Reading** and **Maths**, **97%** in **SPaG**, and an impressive **87% achieving** the **expected** standard in **Reading, Writing and Maths combined**, compared to the national average of 63%.

Our younger pupils have also achieved exceptionally well, demonstrating a strong start to their learning journey. Our **Reception children** achieved excellent outcomes, with **77% reaching a Good Level of Development**, significantly above the national average of 68.5%. This strong foundation continued into Key Stage 1, where **87%** of our **Year 1 pupils** met the **expected** standard in the **Phonics Screening Check**, surpassing the national average of 80%. These outstanding results reflect the high-quality teaching, nurturing environment and commitment of our staff, children and families in ensuring every child develops the knowledge, skills and confidence needed for future success.

These outstanding achievements are a testament to the dedication of our whole school community and demonstrate our commitment to ensuring every child reaches their full potential. We would like to thank our pupils, staff and families for their continued support in making these successes possible.

Key Stage 2 Results

Subject	Age-Related Expectations (ARE)	Greater Depth (GD)
Reading	100% (National Average: 75%)	43% (National Average: 33%)
Writing	87% (National Average: 72%)	13% (National Average: 13%)
Maths	100% (National Average:74%)	57% (National Average:26%)
EGaPs	97% (National Average 73%)	60% (National Average: 30%)
Combined R,W,M	87% (National Average: 63%)	7% (National Average: 8.6%)

Year 5 Trip to Eyam

Year 5 fully immersed themselves into the new topic of Eyam and The Plague. They started their journey at the Plague Cottages where they learnt about how the plague arrived in Eyam and the first victim. Then they learnt about the rules that were imposed during that time along with the meaning behind the nursery rhyme 'Ring a Roses'.

We then visited The Riley Graves and The Boundary Stone and learnt about their significance and followed this with a visit to the museum where they got the opportunity to make their own posies to ward off the disease. Finally they visited the church to view the Plague Window and Death Register.

The Vicar was incredibly impressed with the knowledge the children have and felt they could lead the talk themselves!!



WE'RE EXCITED TO SUPPORT MACMILLAN!
COME & JOIN US FOR A

COFFEE MORNING

Enjoy a cuppa, some cake, and great company,
all while supporting an important cause.

FRIDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER | 9AM – 10AM



CAKES & BUNS!

We'd love for you to join us! Any donations of
cakes or buns would be greatly appreciated!

COMMUNITY EVENT!

This is a wonderful opportunity to gather. Please
feel free to invite family, friends, and neighbours.

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME!

To show their support, children can come
to school wearing something **GREEN!**



We will have a
COLLECTION BUCKET OUTSIDE
for anyone wishing to donate.

FUNDRAISING FOR MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Phone settings for young children

**Set up new devices
and apps together**

**Talk about what's
private vs. public**

**Choose privacy
settings and explain
why**

**Review permissions
for games and apps**



**Set screen
time routines
together**

**Talk about
what they're
doing online**



**Encourage
breaks and
outdoor play**

**Keep the
conversation
going**

Illnesses

We are aware that there are many genuine and necessary reasons for children to miss school occasionally, particularly in the case of illness and medical absences. However, if your child has a runny nose, sore throat, tickly cough or similar then they should come to school, having been given an over the counter medicine if necessary e.g. Calpol. If you feel they will require a top-up through the day, then please complete a medicine permission slip at the main office. Children can still attend school as long as they do not have a temperature.

If your child is feeling really unwell and struggling to make it through the day, we will contact you to say that they need to go home.

If your child has vomited or has an upset tummy, then they must remain off school for 48 hours after the last bout of illness.

Do I need to keep my child off school?



Chicken Pox Until all spots have crusted over	Conjunctivitis No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Diarrhoea & Vomiting 48 hours from last episode	Glandular Fever No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Hand, foot & mouth No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Impetigo Until lesions are crusted & healed or 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
Measles or German Measles 4 days from onset of rash	Mumps 5 days from onset of swelling	Scabies Until after first treatment	Scarlet Fever 24 hours after commencing antibiotics	Slapped Cheek No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Whooping Cough 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
Flu Until recovered	Head Lice No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Threadworms No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Tonsillitis No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed		

Please be aware that if your child is frequently absent due to illness, we may ask for medical evidence to help us better understand and support their needs in school. In some cases, we might also request information from your child's GP to ensure we're providing the right care and guidance.



Music Tuition



Just a reminder that as a school we offer private music tuition with our specialist music teachers. Children will have the opportunity to learn brass instrument such as the trumpet, learn guitar/ukulele or even the drums! Please speak to the school office should you be interested. Lessons take place on a Friday.

Homework

We encourage children to read daily, learn tables and spellings weekly and complete any topic based extended research with your support if possible. We subscribe to Purple Mash and TT Rockstars and we'd like to encourage regular practice of these. If you have any queries or questions about homework please contact class teachers. Reading books may be changed at any time and there are some super websites to support that teachers will promote in school and let you know about. Please make reading a priority. Please try to develop inference skills by asking a question that requires them to give a reason or explain an answer. New vocabulary comes with regular reading so please read with your child in all year groups.

On Thursday 22nd October, all creative homework will be on display in the hall. You will be able to look at this with your child after school. We always have the most amazing creations! Please do ensure your creations are in by **Tuesday 20th October**.

Year 6 School Application to Secondary School

If you have a child in Year 6, you are able to apply for their secondary school place via Derbyshire County Council. This should be carried out online. You can *apply online* now until the deadline of midnight on **31st October 2026**. If you've applied online you can usually view your offer at the beginning of March via email.

Please note that secondary schools are currently undertaking open evenings so please keep an eye out for these via their websites. We have already notified you about some of these via email. We do recommend that you attend these open evenings and look around the schools to get a feeling of what they are like. Visit your catchment school, even if this isn't your preferred choice.

Open evenings for Year 5 and 6 pupils

Tuesday 22nd September 5:30pm - 7:00pm
Presentation in the Hall at 5:30pm and 6:30pm



Whittington Green School

Monday 28th September 5:00pm - 7:00pm



PARKSIDE
COMMUNITY SCHOOL



Tuesday 15th September 4:45pm - 7:00pm
Presentation in the Hall at 5:00pm and 6:00pm



Wednesday 30th September
5:00pm - 7:00pm



BROOKFIELD
COMMUNITY
SCHOOL
COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE

Tuesday 22nd September 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Presentation in the Hall at 6:45pm for Abercrombie

Outnumbered

A team of eight Y6 went to Outwood Academy Newbold to represent the school in 'Outnumbered' Maths Competition. Sadly, all the other schools that were due to take part had withdrawn from the event which meant that they won by default; however, they still demonstrated their mathematical prowess by completing all the maths challenges set and really impressed both the Head of Maths and their parents in the process.



Year 6 Eden Camp

Year 6 pupils enjoyed a fascinating visit to Eden Camp as part of their World War II topic. Throughout the day, they explored a range of exhibits and learned more about what life was like during the war, bringing their classroom learning to life.

The children were a credit to the school, demonstrating excellent behaviour, enthusiasm, and respect throughout the visit. They had an enjoyable day, gaining valuable knowledge and experiences, although they returned feeling rather tired after a busy and action-packed day! Well done, Year 6.





Free School Meals

Free School Meals Are Expanding – Don't Miss Out!

All children in households on Universal Credits, regardless of income, will be eligible.

TARGETED free school meals



Your family gets Universal Credits.

Your family's yearly income is **£7,400 or less** excluding benefits.



Free School Meals.



Funded Holiday Activities and Food.



EXPANDED free school meals

Your family gets Universal Credits.



Free School Meals.

UNIVERSAL INFANT free school meals

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 they automatically qualify for Free School Meals.

However, parents on qualifying benefits should still register.

It's easy, confidential, and claiming your free school meals can bring extra funding to our school. Please take a few minutes to check whether your family is eligible and whether you need to re-apply for the 2026/27 school year. Your child's entitlement might not automatically continue under the new rules.

1. Check 2. Apply 3. Share

1. Scan the QR Code with your mobile phone.
2. Scroll down and click 'Apply for free school meals.'
3. Take a screen shot if you are eligible and email it to: office@abercrombie.derbyshire.sch.uk



BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

WHOLE SCHOOL PANTOMIME TRIP!
Thursday 10th December 2026

ALL children (Rec through to Year 6) at Abercrombie Primary School, have the opportunity to attend this years Pantomime of Beauty and the Beast at the Pomegranate (or 1435) in Chesterfield. The performance will take place on **Thursday 10th December 2026**.

The cost of this trip is £18.00 and full payment is required by Friday 4th December.

The payment is set up as a reducing balance on Arbor, allowing you to make small weekly payments, should they wish to.

Children who do not go to the Pantomime will still be required to attend school as normal on this day.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Gannon



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Joined Up Care
Derbyshire



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Abercrombie Primary School, Higher Albert Street, Chesterfield, S41 7QE
Email: headteacher@abercrombie.derbyshire.sch.uk Tel: 01246-232425
Headteacher: Mrs T. Gannon Deputy Head: Mrs K Dobson