



Welcome Back

Welcome back to the start of a new school year. We hope you have all had a restful summer and enjoyed some family time. We started yesterday as if we'd never been away and hit the ground running, whilst some schools don't start back until next week. Please check the links below to calendars and school dates, so you know when we have closure days this year and remember that this letter comes to you **EVERY FRIDAY**, so please make an effort to look when we email you, click the links in text messages or on Twitter or go straight to the Web. Please check page 2 for reminders of meetings NEXT WEEK!

House Point Cup Weekly Winners

Every Week we present how many House Points were won by each House. House Points are awarded for excellent Citizenship. These are collected all year with Weekly, Termly and Annual Winners



Last year all Houses together collected an amazing 44,157 points.

Golden Book

Every Week (except for class assembly weeks) children will appear here from each class, celebrating the fact that they were mentioned in assembly for their work, effort, positive behaviour.

Keep watching this space every week to see the names of those chosen.

Sometimes children in the youngest classes take a few weeks before they start appearing on the newsletter, because of induction, but keep an eye on Tapestry.



Exciting Development for Oliver and Chloe The Covid 19 Rock Snake

As you may recall, back in May 2020 Oliver and his mum created a rock snake (in St Andrews Ridge) and named it **Chloe the Covid 19 Rock Snake** - it's purpose was simply just something fun, to make people smile and something people could get involved with during the lockdowns.

In July 2020 they decided to bring Chloe to a close after a huge 1258 rocks had been added to her. Claire spoke to the local Parish council and one of the parks on The Ridge was chosen as a permanent home for Chloe.

On Saturday last week, Oliver assisted with the official reveal of Chloe and she will now be there in the Standen Way play park in St Andrew's Ridge for years and years to come.

To add to the excitement Oliver's handprints along with the original snake head have been cemented into a section alongside Chloe too. A plaque written by Oliver explaining the purpose of Chloe, will also be added below his handprints in due course.

Well done to Oliver and Claire for this exciting project at the time, and well done for achieving a lasting memory of the community coming together at that time.

Nursery News

Mrs Wright reports back on the fun had in Nursery every week here. Keep your eyes peeled for hints about next week as well as celebrating the exciting things they have been doing.



Curriculum Evenings for Parents

Please remember that the Curriculum Evenings for parents are next week. At these meetings you will meet your child's new teachers, find out about the curriculum in your child's class and be given important information about how the class/year group will work this year. Meetings are for parents only and they take place in the classrooms as follows:



- Tues 6th September - Yr3=6pm & Yr2=7pm
- Weds 7th September - Rec=6pm & Yr1=7pm
- Thurs 8th September - Yr5=6pm & Yr4=7pm

School Dates and Calendar

These are available on our website and remain unchanged from July. If you haven't seen them yet, please click the links below:

- [General Dates Page on our AMCPs Website](#)
- [School Term Dates for 2022-2023 AND 2023-2024](#)
- [School Calendar of Events](#)

For the School Calendar of Events, if the link above doesn't work, go to the [dates page](#) and click on the label **Diary Dates 2022-2023** and this will also take you to a direct download.

ParentPay information

If you are new to the school, you will receive UpToDate information including a letter and login details, next week. Please watch out for this coming your way. There is always a difficulty with some IT at the start of every school year, especially when some systems don't allow new information to be added until the first day of September. We are fast tracking all the work needed to make sure you get the information you need next week.

FOAMS

FOAMS stands for Friends Of Abbey Meads School



It is our PTA. If you think you can help - even in a small way - please come along and say hello. First meeting is Tuesday 7th September at 7pm. Don't worry if you have a class with the Curriculum Meetings, just let us know if you would like to find out more, either through the office or by emailing foams@abbeymeads.swindon.sch.uk.

If you are free and join us it would be great to see new faces next week. Just come to the Main Entrance.

Changes to a few things this year

Keep watching for the exclamation mark - it usually is important information rather than a report on school events.

Reading Record Booklets - These are now only issued to children in Reception to Year 3. Children in Years 4 to 6 are being allocated access to a Reading Record APP.

More at the Curriculum Evenings!

Swimming in Year 3 - under normal circumstances we swim throughout Year 3 - this year we are trying to improve swimming outcomes and reduce our carbon footprint, but holding swimming lessons in an intensive way - EVERY DAY for a month in the summer. More information will follow, but children in Year 3 will not be doing their swimming lessons until the summer.

In Assembly today we had a reminder of all the things we do at AMCPs to make our school a happy and successful place. This included our desire to **Pay Forward, Be Kind** and have an 'I CAN' attitude to learning where errors are simply **Marvellous Mistakes** that help us become better at anything we try.

Smile

It's wonderful to see
What just a smile can do
You smile at me,
I smile at you
And then one smile
Makes two

Abbey Meads School
Do All the Good You Can

At Abbey Meads School we ...
Do all the Good we can,
By all the Means we can,
In all the Ways we can,
In all the Places we can,
At all the Times we can,
To all the People we can,
As long as we ever can.

PAY IT FORWARD!



USEFUL INFORMATION TO KNOW

Curriculum Briefings are held once a year for each year group usually at the beginning of the first term. Parents are encouraged to attend an evening meeting where teachers for that year group will go through all you need to know. The meeting usually lasts about half an hour, and you have the opportunity to ask questions too.

Parent, Child, Teacher Consultations (Parents Evening) are held twice a year where parents can make appointments through the school's online booking system to see their child's teacher.

Parent Forum are a chance to hear first-hand from the Headteacher what is happening in and around the school. They last about half an hour and you have an opportunity to ask questions too.

Newsletters are emailed out every Friday to the email address you have provided on the emergency contact form. This will have all up to date information. The newsletters are also on the website:

www.abbeymeads.swindon.sch.uk

Topic Webs provide information about what and how your child will be learning for the upcoming term. These are on the website under the curriculum tab.

Class Assemblies are held once a year for each year group. Parents and Carers are invited along to watch. They start at 9am or 9.45am and last up to 25 minutes.

Family Learning Events are held a couple of times a year each with a different theme after school has finished for the day. They are advertised around the school nearer the time.

Book Looks are held several times a year between 3-4pm. This is the chance for you to come into your child's classroom and they can show you their work.

ParentPay is the school Online payments System where you can order lunches, pay for school trips and book your parents consultation times. You will be given a letter with instructions on how to set this up.

Contact Details – Please ensure we have your most up to date mobile numbers and email addresses. We contact parents this way so it is important that we have the correct information.

If you have any questions, please come and speak to the school office (open from 7am-4.30pm Mon-Thu and 7am-4pm Fri) or call on 01793 723239 or email admin@abbeymeads.swindon.sch.uk



USEFUL PTA DATES

FOAMS – PTA (Friends Of Abbey Meads School)

organise events to help fund the school for things the school budget can't stretch to. They hold 6 meetings a year (dates below) usually in the community meeting room opposite the school office. Everybody is welcome to come along.

Meeting Dates

Monday 6th September 2022 7pm

Monday 8th November 2022 7pm

Monday 10th January 2023 7pm

Monday 7th March 2023 7pm

Monday 2nd May 2023 7pm

Monday 11th July 2023 7pm



School Discos are held 6 times a year at the end of each term (dates below). They cost £3 and are run by FOAMS PTA.

Reception & KS1 (Year 1 & Year 2) – 5.00pm – 6.00pm

Drink & biscuit are included in the price.

KS2 (Year 3,4,5,& 6) – 6.15pm – 7.30pm

Drink & biscuit are included in the price and children can bring extra money if they want to buy fizzy drinks, chocolate and sweets.

Reception and KS1 children enter through the school hall once paid entrance fee.

KS2 children enter through the Community Room from outside (not through the reception area). KS2 children will be held in the Community Room until KS1/FS2 children have left safely.

Children from both discos are collected through the school hall. All children will need to be picked up by an adult. Masks and mobile phones are **NOT** permitted at these events.

Disco Dates

Thursday 6th October '22

Thursday 15th December '22

Thursday 9th February '23

Thursday 30th March '23

Thursday 25th May '23

Thursday 20th July '23

If children wear coats to the disco – please take your child's coat away again and bring it back when you collect. This avoids coats being lost or being a trip hazard in the hall.

ALL children must be collected from ALL discos – if not collected by an adult - children will not be allowed to attend.