



Abbey Court **MATTERS**

Spring Term 3 2024 Issue 382 Circulation 1112



MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNORS



Chloe Knight
Parent Governor

Allow me to introduce myself: I am Chloe, the newly appointed parent governor at Abbey Court School. It is truly a pleasure to work with the exceptional pupils, staff, and governors who contribute to making Abbey Court an outstanding school. The unwavering support from everyone involved is truly commendable.

With the holiday season and the new year now behind us, I am eager to continue working towards further positive progress in the upcoming year.

As I write this, it is Blue Monday, a day that reminds us that life is not always as simple and easy as it once was. However, I can personally attest that seeking help and reaching out is nothing to be ashamed of.

Let us now turn our attention to what 2024 may bring. Hopefully, we will witness more successful events that raise funds for the school's charity, as well as enjoyable farm family days and much more.

I look forward to the opportunity to see all of you.

136

123

89

Trust Lottery Draw

150

100

239



The Christmas bonus prize of £100 went to Donna Tye



The Trust Lottery Christmas Draw of the 2023/24 Academic Year took place on Wednesday 20th December 2023. The first prize of £40 went to Donna Smith; the second prize of £20 to Karen Joy; and the third prize of £10 went to Marilyn Pawley.

The Fifth Trust Lottery Draw of the 2023/24 Academic Year took place on Friday 26th January 2024. The first prize of £40 went to Ann Howie; the second prize of £20 to Neil Howie; and the third prize of £10 went to Chloe Knight.

Many congratulations to all of the lucky winners!

Theme Day

On Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th of January, all key stages actively participated in a theme day focused on Multi-Cultural Learning.

The primary focus of Key Stage 1 was 'Myself and My Culture'. Students explored their own identities and that of a specific culture. Throughout the day, they examined various aspects such as their cuisine, music preferences, and geographical origins.



The main theme for Key Stage 2 was 'Clothes, food, and music related to different religions'. Pupils dedicated half of the day to studying Christianity and the other half to Buddhism. By the end of the day, they analysed and compared the music, clothing, and some of the foods related to both religions to determine their similarities and differences.



The study of Urdu language and culture from Pakistan and India was explored by pupils in Key Stage 3. As part of their learning, they engaged in activities such as making pakoras, and acquiring knowledge of common Urdu words used in daily life, such as 'ہیلو' which translates to 'Hello'.

In Key Stage 4, the pupils explored the topic of 'Differences in Religions'. They studied various religions and then collectively decided to concentrate on one religion for the afternoon. In class, they worked on creating their own interpretation of a religious place, such as a mosque or church, paying close attention to all the distinct characteristics and elements.



The cooking session in Further Education was conducted by Raminder, the school's EAL assistant. During the session, the participants were taught how to prepare Bombay potatoes and Mango Lassi. The main focus of the session was to explore the food and culture associated with these dishes.



Everyone had a great time, as you can see by the photos!

WE'RE GOING ON A BEAR HUNT



Throughout this term, P2 have been delving into the exploration of our senses. One particular exploration involved our sense of touch, where we utilised our feet to explore different materials/ textures whilst engaging with the story of, 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. As we progressed through the story, we had the opportunity to experience various materials on our feet, allowing us to empathise with the characters' sensations during their journey. Among the materials, squelchy mud emerged as our favourite, whilst the coldness of the snow was not as well received!



In Class P6, we have been learning about Africa and have had the opportunity to explore some of its wildlife and habitats through various activities. One of the activities involved role play and drama, where the pupils acted out some of the different animals found in parts of Africa, such as zebras, leopards, antelopes, and ostriches. We also sorted animals based on their habitats and had discussions about which animals live on a farm in England and which ones can be found in the wild. Additionally, we got creative and made our own zebras and giraffes using paper plates, card, and paint, which we then used to create bunting for our classroom. We also used natural resources and colouring pencils to make lions and, for our final creations, we used paint, felt, and tissue paper to make cheetahs and elephants.

AQA: Using our senses to explore experiences of people involved in WW2

S3 have really enjoyed some sensory led learning about the different experiences that people had during World War Two, especially children.

We pretended to be children in the war, and discussed how it must have felt to be evacuated to the countryside to be kept safe. We packed our suitcases ready to say goodbye and be evacuated and board the train.



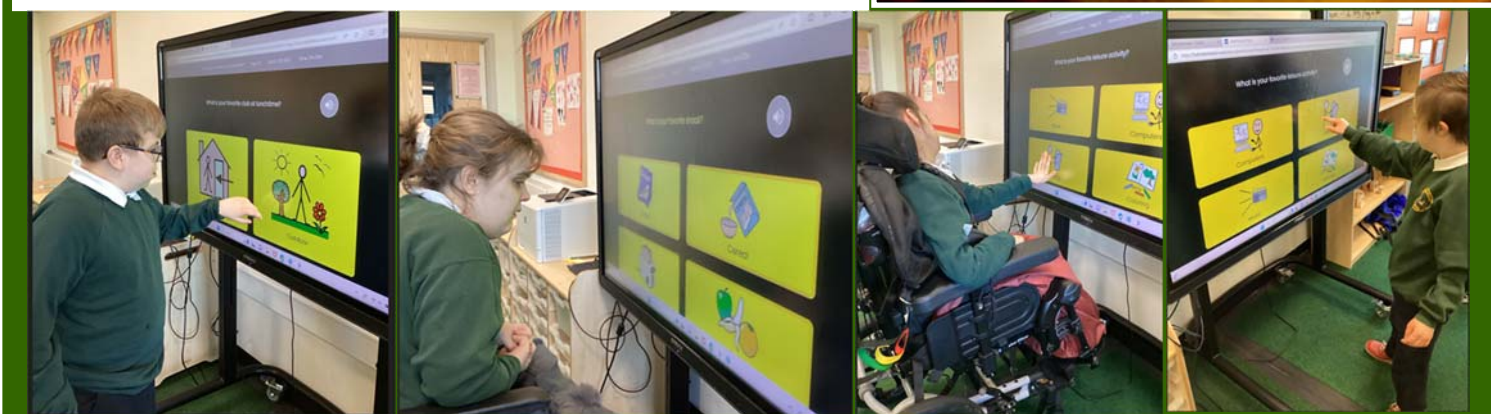
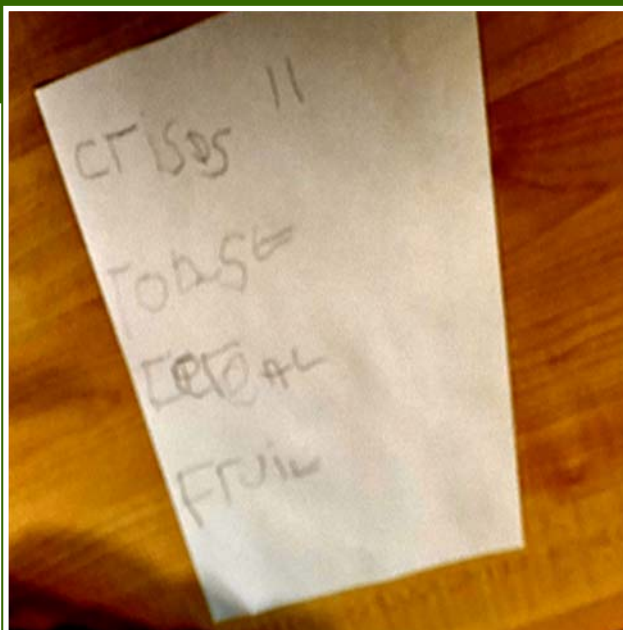
We wore tin helmets and explored the use of a gas mask.



We listened to wartime music which we really enjoyed. We are very proud of our work as it has helped us achieve an AQA award.

HAVING A SAY!

During Spring Term 1, pupils in S7 have actively participated in decision-making and offering their opinions for our pupil voice representatives to discuss in their meetings. The main focus this term has been on break and lunchtimes. To gather feedback, S7 pupils have used a program called 'Help Kidz Learn' in class. This program has enabled everyone to share their preferences on various topics, including their preferred snack, leisure activities, and whether they prefer indoor or outdoor play during lunchtimes. The results have been compiled into a tally chart for convenient data analysis. Congratulations, S7!



Suffragettes



The pupils in S10 have been learning about 'The Suffragettes' and their fight for women's voting rights, during their History lessons. In Drama, the girls portrayed the Suffragettes while the boys played the roles of men who opposed women's suffrage. During a dramatic protest, the Suffragettes handcuffed themselves and marched around the Drama studio, while the men urged them to stop. Eventually, a vote was taken and everyone agreed that women should have equal voting rights. S10 also reflected on the importance of Pupil Voice Meetings in school, where both male and female pupils' opinions are valued, regardless of gender.



Australia Day



In our assembly this term, S2 focused on Australia Day. We investigated the historical events that led to Australia gaining independence from the British Empire, which is the reason behind the celebration of this day. We used maps, designed a flag, studied the boats used during that time, and even acquired the skill of playing the didgeridoo! It was a delightful experience as we fully engaged in Australian customs and had a great time learning about Australia Day.

An Immersive Shopping Experience

In anticipation of our visit to the nearby supermarket, we have been familiarising ourselves with the Immersion Room. During this process, we have immersed ourselves in the simulated environment of a supermarket. We followed a shopping list, locating the corresponding items on the 'shelves', placing them in our 'basket', and finally using the self-service 'checkout'. After completing our purchases, we proceeded towards the exit, ensuring our safety amidst the bustling traffic. Our interactive session has been thoroughly enjoyable and helped us to develop essential life skills.



Heroes and Heroines

The topic for P8 this term has been 'Heroes and Heroines'. During our French lessons, we have been exploring different jobs that we think makes people heroic and learning the French vocabulary for these.



Our class elephant, Nelly, was not feeling very well so we role played being vets (vétérinaires) to help make her better.

P8 enjoyed wearing the police officer's hat (policier) and listening to the siren noise it made.



We have also role-played being nurses (infirmier) putting bandages on our peers to help make them feel better.



We role played being firefighters (Pompier) and had to put out the fire (feu) using our water (eau) sprays.



FARM NEWS

Throughout this term, there has been a significant amount of learning taking place on the farm. The weather has been favourable, allowing for regular visits to the farm and diligent work to ensure the safety, health, and exercise of the animals.

In S10, the pupils have been focusing on eggs and incubation, while P2 has been learning about the diet of pigs. In FE, efforts have been made to maintain clean carriers for animal transportation. P11 has been actively involved in placing apple slices on trees, filling bird feeders, and hanging homemade fat ball feeders around the farm to provide nourishment for wild birds. S3 even had the opportunity to enjoy their snack on the farm benches in the sunshine. It has been a bustling hub of activity, learning and fun down at the farm this term!



Our prize winning ducks and chickens performed exceptionally well in 'The Virtual Poultry Competition', securing some fantastic placements.



Susan, our Red Sussex hen, came in **SECOND** place in her breed category.



Sergeant York was placed **THIRD** in his breed category.



Donald, our drake Cayuga duck, was placed **THIRD** in his breed category.



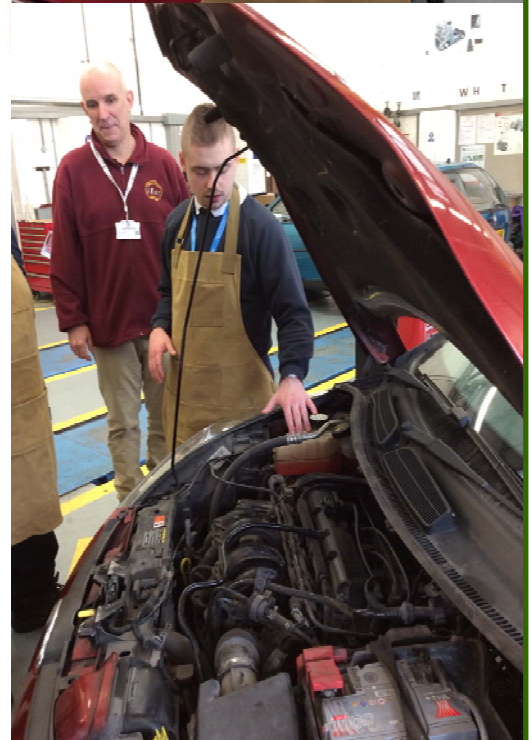
BUG HOTEL



One pupil has been working really hard on the farm creating a sensory bug hotel. He carefully selected and used various materials to construct the hotel, earning an AQA award in the process. His enthusiasm was evident as he thoroughly enjoyed exploring the large sticks and extracting the hay from the bag. However, he expressed a dislike for the straw and chose to discard it. Overall, his communication and work on the farm was exceptional. Well done!

MID KENT COLLEGE - CAR MECHANICS

'Car Mechanics' is one of three college taster courses that our FE students will be undertaking this year, with the other two being 'Hairdressing' and 'Public Services'. For each course, different students will attend, based upon their personal interests. The students work alongside trained professionals and are supported at all times by our Abbey Court staff. This is a fantastic opportunity for our young people to be included in a mainstream college environment, and it is giving them the skills needed for when they leave us at the age of 19, with the hope of them moving onto a specialist college setting for their further education. Please read on for one student's thoughts on his college experience so far...



At college I work on cars. I wear an apron, gloves,

goggles and boots.

I fix the cars. I clean the tyres, I pump the

tyres up and I change the wheel if it's broken. I look

under the car at the petrol tank and I look at the

engine. I like going to college it makes me feel excited,

it's so awesome and I'm good at it.

WELCOME

WE WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND A
WARM WELCOME TO AND
INTRODUCE SOME NEW STAFF
MEMBERS TO THE ABBEY
COURT TEAM.



Chris Riley has joined Abbey Court as a teacher in S9. Chris has been teaching for over a decade, originally training in primary education but spending the last 6 years teaching secondary learners with SEND. Chris enjoys playing the guitar and singing, and he enjoyed coming along to sing at last term's 'Carols at the Farm' event. He also has a 5-year-old son who makes sure that his knowledge of dinosaur names and Bluey characters is kept up to date.!

Good
Bye!

We are sorry to say goodbye to Susan A, Teaching Assistant at the Secondary site. We would like to thank her for her contribution to Abbey Court and to wish her all the best for the future.



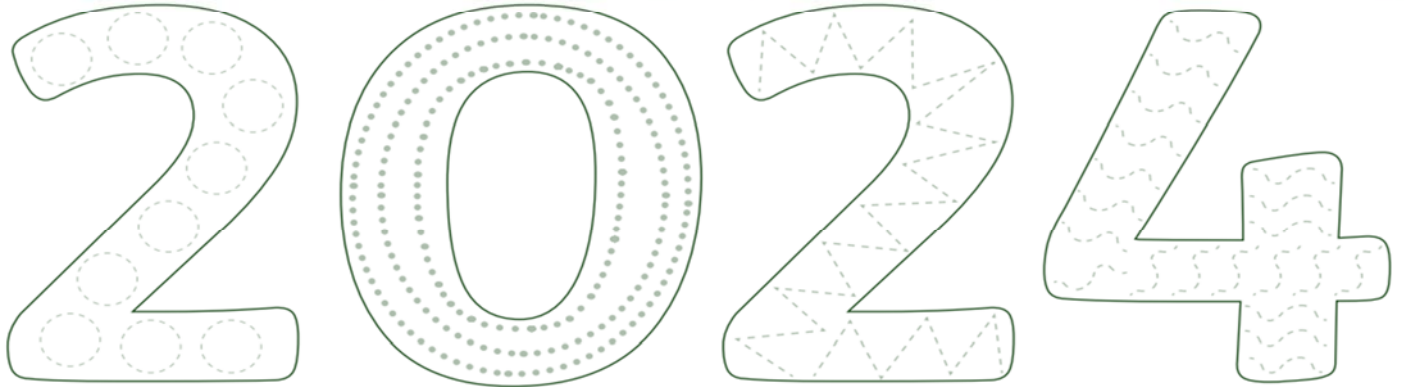
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



FEBRUARY TERM DATES	FEBRUARY EVENTS	MARCH TERM DATES	MARCH EVENTS
<p>TERM 3 FINISH: FRIDAY 09.02.2024</p> <p>TERM 4 START: 19.02.2024</p>	<p>THURSDAY 22.02.2024</p> <p>PARENT VOICE MEETING - USING YOUR SKILLS TO SUPPORT LEARNING</p>	<p>TERM 4 FINISH: THURSDAY 28.03.2024</p>	<p>MONDAY 04.03.2024</p> <p>SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY PARENT WORKSHOP - AAC</p> <p>WEDNESDAY 06.03.2024</p> <p>KEY STAGE'S 2&3 MOTHER'S DAY LUNCH</p> <p>THURSDAY 28.03.2024</p> <p>SPRING ASSEMBLY KEY STAGE 1 & SECONDARY</p>

SIBLINGS PAGE

2024 Pattern Tracing Activity



I Spy with My Little Eye



I Spy with My Little Eye Checklist

Tick the box when you find the matching picture.

<input type="checkbox"/>	zebra	<input type="checkbox"/>	peg	<input type="checkbox"/>	bin	<input type="checkbox"/>	grasshopper
<input type="checkbox"/>	guitar	<input type="checkbox"/>	easter egg	<input type="checkbox"/>	earring	<input type="checkbox"/>	corn
<input type="checkbox"/>	pumpkin	<input type="checkbox"/>	onion rings	<input type="checkbox"/>	spider	<input type="checkbox"/>	stamp
<input type="checkbox"/>	juice	<input type="checkbox"/>	football	<input type="checkbox"/>	bird	<input type="checkbox"/>	lunchbox
<input type="checkbox"/>	river	<input type="checkbox"/>	japanese flag	<input type="checkbox"/>	glue stick	<input type="checkbox"/>	piece of fish
<input type="checkbox"/>	playing card	<input type="checkbox"/>	fire engine	<input type="checkbox"/>	rain	<input type="checkbox"/>	umbrella
<input type="checkbox"/>	salad	<input type="checkbox"/>	fish	<input type="checkbox"/>	firework	<input type="checkbox"/>	hot chocolate
<input type="checkbox"/>	target	<input type="checkbox"/>	frog	<input type="checkbox"/>	paintbrush	<input type="checkbox"/>	invitation
<input type="checkbox"/>	oyster	<input type="checkbox"/>	caravan	<input type="checkbox"/>	belt	<input type="checkbox"/>	sunflower
<input type="checkbox"/>	coke	<input type="checkbox"/>	sandwich	<input type="checkbox"/>	panda	<input type="checkbox"/>	cat
<input type="checkbox"/>	salt	<input type="checkbox"/>	camp fire	<input type="checkbox"/>	easter cake	<input type="checkbox"/>	apple