



ABBOTSHOLME

AN EDUCATION FOR LIFE

Weekly Newsletter ~ *keeping you 'in touch'*

Tuesday 3 December 2019



News

Prep School

Years 1 and 2 attended a Multiskills event in Burton on Friday. They performed with lots of energy and enthusiasm and enjoyed all the events. Well done to all those involved!



Senior School

Senior Maths Challenge 2019

This year the Sixth Form Maths team comprised of Edward, Darcy, Charlie and Hedy.

As usual we were up against large schools with 200+ in their Sixth Forms, from across the West Midlands. The event has three rounds of questions which are against the clock and tackled in pairs, so not only do they have to answer difficult problems, but tactics also comes into play.

The team atmosphere and tension in the room makes it an exciting and enjoyable competition. Our students really did us proud and came 4th out of 15 schools, narrowly missing out on 3rd place. They were delighted with their result and it was hugs all round!



Design & Technology

In our design lab, Clemens has been working to help establish a network with the 3D printers we have. In his spare time with Mr Featherstone we thought of some kit that we would be able to make that would help us to be more creative and solve some of the problems in this area.

Here at Abbotsholme we are all learning together and in support of his interests we have a number of projects that he is working to master.



Clemens is a very bright lad and uses tools and techniques in his spare time at home in Germany where his parents support him in his pursuits of learning and crafting. He is very proficient in the use of 3D printers and technology in general.

We have just built a steam bending box for steam bending timbers and application on furniture or where ever else this technique of bending wood can be applied. The technique makes the wood become very compliant and allows it to be bent and hold the shapes with limited bending back after drying out.

Electric Car Race Team

At the beginning of November we made contact with PJS sports cars who deal in Lotus. Their main business for a number of years has been the restoration of classic lotus cars and they have in the past sold new cars. With lotus being brought by a large Chinese company things are starting to happen on a global scale for the once small manufacturer based in Norfolk. PJS motor sports now sell new cars and we made contact with them as Paul Shipley the owner is also Isabella's dad, who is an very active member of the team.

Paul came in, did an excellent presentation on the history and what is happening next for lotus, some of the technology and about how he can help us with our new race car.

Paul then stayed to work with the team for the afternoon and as an extra special treat he brought us all lotus merchandise in the form of t-shirts, pin badges and posters with some excellent literature to display and for others to read.

All in all a fantastic afternoon which we are all incredibly grateful for.



Congratulations go to Year 8 on their superb welcome and participation in the IDEALS Christmas party that we ran for residents of Barrowhill and St Mary's Mount nursing homes.

Thank you too to maintenance, John, Steph and Rachael for helping us to set things up.



Year 12 students are delivering today the minibus full of food they have worked hard to gather for the Trussell Trust Food Bank in Stoke. Their hope is that many families will have a slightly easier time over Christmas as a result of the very generous donations and all their hard work.



IDEALS is a programme of activities which take place during period 7 on most days which aims to deliver our 'Education for Life' and to honour the beliefs which underpin our membership of Round Square.

In IDEALS at ABBOTSHOLME, we've done...

British Sign Language **blogging** **beekeeping** **route planning** **sonology** **henna tattoo** **chocolate art** **team building** **interview practice** **foraging** **debating** **Chinese calligraphy** **leadership** **waltzing** **baking** **chatting with the older generation** **food hygiene certification** **building a mountain bike trail** **learning about political systems** **making Christmas cards for charity** **origami stars** **conservation gardening** **food bank collecting** **first aid** **vlogging** **current affairs** **Duke of Edinburgh preparation** **sustainability** **string baubles** **recycling** **personal finance** **singing carols with the older generation** **curriculum vitae** **creating pop art** **problem solving** **podcasting** **TED talking** **outdoor cooking** **shopping** **chapel talking** **food bank visiting and delivering.**



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Year 8 **English** students have had a 'takeaway' homework this half-term, allowing them to respond in creative ways to their choice of task. We've had quizzes galore, Facebook profiles and a minecraft world created, dvd boxes designed.... and a cake of the Globe consumed! Thanks Charlie!



On Monday 2 December, **Art, Performing Arts, Photography & Business Studies** students travelled to Warner Bros Studios, Leavesden the home of Harry Potter. Students were given the opportunity to visit iconic sets used by the stars in the making of the blockbuster movies. The tour starts in the Grand Hall where many a festive feast was shared by Harry, his peers and professors. We then moved onto the Gryffindor Boy's Dormitory, a few further steps and you found yourself in Dumbledore's office. You then made your way through Professor Shape's classroom and the Weasley's kitchen before entering the Forbidden Forest and experiencing Diagon Alley first hand.

I believe this trip will give students real-life examples to illustrate topics being taught in the classroom and will help improve application of knowledge to different business scenarios, eventually improving not only understanding and progress but overall performance in their upcoming GCSE examinations.



Boarding Barnfield Christmas Shopping Trip to Birmingham

On Saturday Barnfield house went to Birmingham for a Christmas shopping trip, we arrived at around 10.30 am. We had booked into Wagamama's for an early lunch at 11.30am to miss the rush. We had a bit of time before lunch to have a quick look around the Frankfurt Christmas Market which is the largest authentic German Christmas market out of Germany or Austria. There were a considerable number of stalls offering a range of traditional goods and a selection of tempting food and drink. After a

delicious meal in Wagamama's we had more time to look around the market as well as doing some Christmas shopping in the Bullring; many of the retailers were continuing their Black Friday sales! Having exhausted the markets, Bullring and Grand Central we headed back to school for a takeaway pizza supper and an early night.



As per Cedarholme Christmas tradition, for the last few weeks of term those boarders on the nice list have the chance to sleep over in the Christmas Grotto. The boys can sign up on the door, and then enjoy an evening of Christmas movies and snacks in bed. Mrs Diamond accepts no responsibility for lack of sleep caused by festive excitement!



Last weekend some of the boarders had a trip to Swadlincote Snow Sports Centre to go tubing and tobogganing, they had a great time. This was followed by the usual shopping trips to Derby and Uttoxeter to stock up on Christmas gifts. Sunday afternoon was spent dog walking around our school grounds and making Christmas decorations in preparation for the boarders Christmas party.



Notices

Reading for Pleasure

It is that time of year when you will be scratching your head trying to think of Christmas presents for your family and friends.... may we suggest a good book?

Reading can:

- increase vocabulary and improve communications skills
- improve focus and concentration
- improve imagination
- reduce stress
- improve memory
- lead to academic success

- increase our capacity for empathy
- be entertaining

There are lots of things you can do to support and encourage your child to gain all of these benefits through reading little and often at home.

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/advice-for-parents/reading-at-home/helping-struggling-readers/top-tips-for-helping-struggling-readers-at-home/>

Please also be aware that your child's school iPad has access to a wide range of audio books. These are great to enable children to embrace the stories if they struggle with reading for themselves, and great for those long journeys to visit family.



The icon to look for is:

There are lots of useful websites which can help you to identify an appropriate book.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/bookfinder/>
<https://www.whichbook.net/>
<https://www.goodreads.com/>
<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/>
<https://www.lovereading4kids.co.uk/>
<http://schools.peters.co.uk/>

Don't forget we have the school library with a good stock of favourites and lots of new titles. We will try to make sure that year 7-9 students have a good book on the go over Christmas. Joining the public library opens up an even wider world of possibilities and supports a local amenity.

Your child can earn valuable points for their school House (Wainwright or Palmer) through reading a range of different genres. Ask them about their Reading Challenge sheet.

It would be wonderful to think that every child had a book in their stocking this Christmas!

APA News

Ho, Ho, Ho!

Don't miss out on some special Pre-Xmas Fayre Magic at 4.30pm on Friday 6 December

Everyone welcome to meet our VIP Guests & enjoy the Prep Carols followed straight after with more Festive Fun at the APA Xmas Fayre!

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*Come & enjoy our very own
Prep-School Carol Singers*

**OPENING 2019 APA XMAS
FAYRE
WITH SURPRISE VIP GUESTS IN
ATTENDANCE**

WHEN: 4.30PM, FRIDAY 6TH DEC
WHERE: AT THE BELL BY THE SNELL

**DON'T MISS OUT ON THE FESTIVE FUN - EVERYONE
WELCOME!**

ABBOTSHOLME
PARENTS ASSOCIATION

**CHRISTMAS FAYRE
IN THE SNELL BUILDING**

**EVERYONE WELCOME
FREE ENTRY**

Carol Singing, Santa's
Grotto, Refreshments, Stalls
& Games, Collection of
school turkeys!

**FRIDAY 6TH DECEMBER
FROM 5PM**

ABBOTSHOLME PARENTS
ASSOCIATION (APA)
BRINGING TOGETHER PARENTS, STAFF
& CHILDREN



XMAS FAYRE GRAND RAFFLE!



Prizes include:

- Pub, Grub & Designer shop vouchers
- Children's Quality Rucksacks & Teddies
- Cosmetics & Beauty Bags
- Luxury Scarves & Underwear
- Abbotsholme Meat Reared Hamper
-& lots more!!






Tickets on sale at school drop-off
& pick-up this week, at Showcase,
Prep School Play & The Xmas
Fayre this Friday from 5pm.



**PRIZES
WORTH
OVER £500!**



£5 per strip or £20 for 5!

Proceeds to APA & Alzheimer's Research UK

ABBOTSHOLME PARENTS ASSOCIATION—APA
Bringon together parents, staff & children



The APA have lots of nearly new uniform available
for sale. Please contact Michelle Taylor,
07731 952762 or michelletaylorsadxb@gmail.com

**Abbotsholme Parents Association
warmly invite all parents & family
members to:**

APA Family Café at 4.30-5.00pm

Every Friday in the Dining Room

For a catch up, cup of tea or
coffee & slice of cake!



Christmas Showcase

**Wednesday 4th December &
Thursday 5th December
at 7.00pm
in the Theatre**

**You are invited for pre-show
refreshments in the dining room
before the performance**