### Attendance

We are looking forward to a positive year ahead of good attendance here at Abbey Mead. Last year, we finished with the 3rd highest attendance percentage of any primary school in the city. This is something we wish to build on to ensure our children do not miss out on their learning.

Regular attendance at school supports children in both their learning and character development.
Children must attend school each day to make the most of their educational experiences.

Sadly, holidays during term time continue to impact the learning and progress of a number of pupils. As per our policy, holidays will continue to be declined. We ask that all absence is reported to the school office each morning so to ensure children are safe and their location is known.

### Holidays abroad

We remind parents that any holidays should be arranged and taken outside of school time. There are 13 weeks of holiday a year where parents can travel abroad. We must put our children's education first!

## **Welcome Back**

Welcome back to a brand new school year here at Abbey Mead! It has been wonderful to see children back over the past couple of days and hear the classrooms and corridors filled with laughter and chatter once more.

The return to school brings new hope and excitement for the school year ahead. Our children have looked incredibly smart in their school uniforms this week and have been ready to learn with a positive attitude; showing incredible resilience and readiness—a credit to their families!

We would like to welcome a number of new staff who join our fabulous team this year. Mrs Fojdar will be teaching in Year 2 and Mr Brown will be teaching in Year 5. In addition, we welcome a number of new teaching assistants who will be supporting children across the school. Please be sure to say hello if you see any of them around school.

We are excited to launch our curriculum for the year. Our topics will allow us to explore our fascinating world; understanding how our history connects us. Children will have opportunities to be geographers, historians, scientists, artists, musicians and athletes as they progress through our tailored curriculum choices. You will be able to read more about this in the coming days as you receive our Autumn term curriculum newsletters.

We hope you are looking forward to lots of new and exciting things to come and are just as enthusiastic as us for what this academic year has in store. As usual, we look forward to working together and encourage home school links as a positive learning platform for your children. Please do not hesitate to speak to us in the mornings on the gates or come in to school if you need support or have any queries.

In the coming weeks, we look forward to welcoming all parents into school for an introductory session to your child's year group. The introductory sessions will take place on:

Foundation Stage 1— Wednesday 13th September @ 10.50 am & 2.50 pm

Foundation Stage 2— Tuesday 12th September @2.45 pm

Year 1— Thursday 21st September @ 2.45 pm

Year 2 — Tuesday 19th September @ 2.45 pm

Year 3 - Monday 11th September @ 2.45 pm

Year 4—Monday 18th September @ 2.45 pm

Year 5— Thursday 14th September @ 2.45 pm

Year 6— Wednesday 20th September @ 2.45 pm

### **School Dinners**

Our daily menu will be available to view on Bromcom so please make sure you have registered for this. All Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are entitled to free school dinners as part of the Universal Infant Free School Meals. This will save parents £10 per week if your child has lunches at school. This also applies for families who receive pupil premium funding.

If you would like to apply or to find out more about free school meals/ Pupil Premium, please call the school office 0116 266 1809

We are aware that last year, due to supply issues, daily menus had to change due to a lack of ingredients. We have discussed this with our caterers and are hopeful menu changes will be minimal!

## **School Developments**

It has been a busy summer of site works, Nursery has been recarpeted, the community wing has been upgraded and the development of a specialist base has been constructed in the EYFS to further support pupils with additional learning needs.



### **School Communication**

Over the past year, our electronic communication has grown significantly with our parents. We will continue to use a range of methods to ensure we get information out to parents as quickly as possible. In order to ensure information is accessible, we will continue to send updates to parents through our Twitter account (if you are unaware, Twitter has now changed to the name X) (@AbbeyMead\_TMET) and through our Bromcom app.

If you have not yet registered for Bromcom, please email <u>office@abbey-tmet.uk</u> for a registration code. We regularly send messages and upload photos of what children have been doing in school, so don't miss out!

### **Upcoming Dates**

- Year Group Curriculum letters sent home— Friday 8th September
- Jeans for Genes Day (£1 donation)-Friday 22nd September
- Parents' Evenings Discussions—Tuesday 10th October & Wednesday 11th October—Further details
  will be sent home in the coming weeks
- School closes for half-term break Thursday 12th October
- School closed for INSET Day—Friday 13th October
- School opens for Autumn term—Monday 23rd October

# **Drop off and collection arrangements**

We would like to remind our parents to be courteous and attentive when parking cars and dropping off at the beginning and end of each day. To assist with reducing congestion, we have retained the use of our Loughborough Road entrance for the drop off and collection of Year 5 and 6 pupils.

We ask that parents follow parking restrictions in the area and avoid blocking access to driveways.

We ask that Year 5 and 6 parents arrive at the correct times in our Loughborough Road entrance so to allow sufficient parking and collection space. Year 5 parents should arrive in time to collect their children at 3:20 pm; with Year 6 parents arriving at 3:30 pm. We ask that Year 6 parents do not arrive at 3:20 pm in cars as this then reduces spaces for Year 5 parents and causes additional congestion.

To also assist with reducing congestion and promoting the safe collection of children on Bruin Street, we ask that parents wait patiently at the gates. Year 3 children are released at 3:20 pm and Year 4 children at 3:30 pm. We ask that parents arrive in time to collect their children and avoid arriving early in order to assist with the safe dismissal of children.

Our crossing patrol is present daily on Ross Walk to further support children and families in crossing the road safely.

We thank you for your continued support with keeping collection and drop offs as calm and safe as possible. Staff are present daily to answer any questions that you might have.

DROP OFF POINT

Be sure to pop along to say hello on the gates.



**Abbey News** 

# ANNOUNCEMENT

SNACK SHACK IS BACK!!!



From next week, 5th September, we will be selling healthy breaktime snacks again.

Don't forget to bring your 20p, 40p or 60p!!

Tuesdays - Year 6
Wednesdays - Year 5
Thursdays - Year 4
Fridays - Year 3