



Date: 18-01-2024

Issue: 18

Principal: Mr G Aldred

Attendance

This week's attendance figures show that we have had another good week of attendance here at Abbey Mead. The table below shows attendance Monday to Thursday

Class	Average(%)
1FI	92.67
1PP	94.63
1SH	96.98
2EB	100.00
2NF	90.50
2SP	97.50
3AA	95.00
3IB	98.33
3SR	97.58
4JA/GH	98.33
4KO	91.60
4KR	97.08
5CC/CH	96.67
5HF	97.92
5MB	100.00
6NK	97.08
6RT/SC	100.00
6ZE	97.08
FMC/CR	94.58
FOL	99.17
FZM	96.67

Well done to 2EB, 5MB and 6RT/SC for achieving 100% attendance this week.



Dinner Menu Feedback

Towards the end of the Autumn term, we asked parents for feedback on several aspects of school life. A number of parents made reference to our school dinner menus and had queries and suggestions around these.

Since this, we have met with our caterers (Chartwells) and discussed upcoming changes to our menus for the second spring term.

We will continue to offer two hot meal options daily; consisting of: an Indian Vegetarian Dish and an English Vegetarian Dish. Alongside these, children have access to salad and desserts daily.

Each of our meal options has been designed by a dietician to ensure that they are both nutritious and delicious. In addition, children are served portions which are appropriate to the age and size of the children. Understandably, juniors require larger portion sizes to provide them with the energy they need for daily activities.

You said, we did:

- Through discussions with Chartwells, we will be broadening the range of Indian dishes across the three-week menu cycle. New dishes will include: Roasted cauliflower, sweet potato and chickpea masala; Bombay potatoes, Saag Aloo curry, Dhal Makhani.
- We have reviewed the English options and spoken with children about changes they would like to see whilst not losing favourites like cheese and mixed pepper flan; macaroni cheese; cheese and tomato pizza, and jacket potatoes. New dishes will include: Vegetable burritos and Vegetarian Lasagne.
- Fish fingers will remain on the menu twice over the three-week menu cycle as requested by parents.

To further promote healthy relationships with food, all junior children have weekly access to our snack shack which offers children an opportunity to purchase healthy snacks in school.

During our Spring term parents' evening, there will be a further opportunity for parents to try our school dinners so they know a little more about what their children will be eating during the day. Patsy and her team are always keen to hear the views of parents' and children and will work with Chartwells to amend recipes and options wherever possible.

Through feedback, several parents also raised queries around potential meat options being included on the menu. Whilst we would love to accommodate these requests, this is unfortunately not possible due to challenges around cultural and religious requirements; alongside the storage of meat dishes (beef/pork), purely vegetarian food; and the use of no eggs. We will however continue to consider the best possible meat substitutes which are a firm favourite with the children, offering high levels of protein and low saturated fats.

Should you have any suggestions or questions, please do come, and speak with us.

Food Hygiene Rating

We are delighted to share that our kitchen was recently inspected for hygiene and we were awarded a rating of 5.

Well done to Patsy and her team!





Nursery

We are pleased to say that we are now taking names for the Nursery class next year.

We are beginning to plan our provision for September and the number of teachers we will need in the Nursery. This will be determined by the number of children signed up. We ask that anyone who wishes to secure a place for their child does so no later than 31st March. If we are over subscribed, places will be given on a first come, first serve basis.

Do not risk missing out and sign up today by contacting the school office.

Your child would be eligible for a place if they were born between:

1st September 2020—31st August 2021



Online Safety—How can I make my connected home more secure?

There are things you can do to help make your connected home safer for your child:

- 1. Do your research:** Research different products online and read reviews. This is a great way to find out more about a product including age restrictions and credibility, as well as hearing directly from other parents. Product manuals will also give you information about the privacy of the device and its use.
- 2. Set up parental controls:** Make use of the parental controls available on your home broadband and any internet enabled device in your home. Enable the 'SafeSearch' function on your connected device and search engines to limit the material your child can access online.
- 3. Update your privacy settings:** When you buy a connected device or toy, change the default password. Use a strong password that cannot easily be guessed and do not share this with others. Set your Bluetooth-enabled devices to 'undiscoverable' so your child doesn't share data or pair with an unknown device.
- 4. Review and/or delete the data saved on devices:** Some connected devices or toys work by listening to your child's voice commands, so these devices usually record and keep these audio files to work properly. Refer to the manual and find out how to review and/or delete audio files. If there's a microphone on your child's connected device, you can turn on the 'mute' button. This will stop the device from recording and storing audio files.
- 5. Talk to your child:** Include connected devices in your online safety conversations, reinforcing the message that if your child sees or hears anything that makes them feel worried, they can speak to you or another adult they trust. Read further information on starting the conversation about online safety.



Upcoming Dates

- Chinese Themed Lunch—**Friday 9th February**
- Class Photographs—**Tuesday 13th February**
- Pancake Day Themed Lunch—**Friday 16th February**
- School closes for February half term—**Friday 16th February**
- School re-opens—**Monday 26th February**

Moments Matter, Attendance Counts!

As many parents will know, I am passionate about promoting great attendance for each and every child!

A great education is a key factor in helping our children live fulfilled and happy lives. Having grown up in Leicester myself, I understand the difference that a quality education can make to life chances.

Whilst we achieve some of the best Yr6 SATs results in the city, education goes beyond academics. Developing children's character alongside their social and emotional development is one of the things I am most proud of here at Abbey Mead.

I am further pleased to announce that out of 74 primary schools in Leicester, Abbey Mead currently has the highest attendance and lowest levels of Persistent Absence. Persistent Absence is defined as pupils with an attendance percentage below 90%. Sadly, most children in this category are due to term time holidays. Statistically, these children are less likely to achieve academically in comparison to their peers.

Attendance measure	Percentage	Ranking ①
Overall attendance	96.7%	You are ranked 1 out of 74 schools
Overall absence	3.3%	You are ranked 1 out of 74 schools
Persistently absent	5.7%	You are ranked 1 out of 74 schools

Extended leave for term-time holidays can be a detrimental factor that prevents children achieving their potential so please continue to arrange these outside of school time. There are only 39 school weeks a year, meaning families have 13 weeks to choose from to travel abroad.

If you are currently struggling to get your children in to school, please arrange a meeting to see how we can support you.

Children only get one chance for an education so let's make it count.

Mr Aldred



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This week @ Abbey

You reposted

Miss Ingham @MissIngham_AMPA · Jan 15

Year 1 have been learning how to cross the road safely this afternoon. We learnt we have to stop, look and listen.

@AbbeyMead_TMET



10 307

You reposted

Mr Alkhlaif @AlkhlaifMr · Jan 15

3AA super spellers wearing their wonderful Roman clothes! Well done! great team!

#spelling
@AbbeyMead_TMET



9 179

Mrs Barratt (Miss Thompson) @MrsBarratt_AMPA · Jan 15

2EB have been investigating money in #maths they recapped their knowledge of the names and values of different coins and notes, practiced ordering coins and notes as well as practiced counting coins

@AbbeyMead_TMET @AbbeyMead_Maths #abbeymaths #concrete #fluency



2 225

Abbey Mead Primary Academy @AbbeyMead_TMET · Jan 16

FZM have been using their creativity character muscles to create a sea creature with shells! Can you guess what sea creatures we have made?



4 237

Miss Rigby @MissRigby9 · Jan 16

Some more photos of our fantastic workshop. Thank you @fabscience, the children had a great day

@AbbeyMead_TMET



5 147

Miss Cogan @MissCogan_AMPA · 11h

This week each of our reception classes are visiting our local library and getting their very own library card. FCR/MC had a fab time looking at all the amazing books

#earlyreading #lovebooks @AbbeyMead_TMET



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