STARS
Annual Review

2025/26 School Year

STARS (Support Team for Abbots Ripton School) is a registered charity (1149390) and the PTA (Parent Teacher Association) who support and raise funds for Abbots Ripton C of E School.

We organise and run fundraising and community-engagement events, to supplement school budgets and unite the school community.

This year we ran over 15 events and initiatives, raising over £10,000.

During 2025/26, STARS helped fund books, educational equipment, fans for every classroom, a spirituality bench, Easter eggs and Christmas gifts. We also subsidised activities and trips for the children, including Picasso class swimming lessons.

COMMITTEE 2025/26

Chair: Emma Wadsworth (Trustee)
Vice-Chair: James Stevens (Trustee)
Secretary: Steph Wilcox (Trustee)
Treasurer: Vacant

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT 2025/26

This has been my first year as Chair of STARS and I have thoroughly enjoyed taking on the role. Having previously been involved with the committee in other capacities, it has been a privilege to continue supporting our school community in this new role.

I am incredibly proud of what STARS has achieved this year. Together we have delivered a wide range of events and initiatives that have brought our school community together while raising over £10,000 to support the children of Abbots Ripton. From much-loved events such as the Summer Fair, Christmas activities and school discos, to new initiatives including Yes Day and our first Book Sale, each event has helped make a positive difference.

Some of the highlights for me have been seeing families enjoy the new additions to our Summer Fair, including the mobile farm, tractor and larger disco bouncy castle, all of which were hugely popular. It was also fantastic to launch our first Yes Day, giving pupils the chance to choose some of the school's pre-approved rules they could break for the day. Seeing how much the children enjoyed these experiences reminded us why we work so hard throughout the year.

The funds raised have enabled us to provide additional resources, equipment and experiences for the children, including books, educational equipment, classroom resources and support towards school trips and activities. Seeing the direct impact these contributions have on the children makes all the hard work worthwhile.

None of this would have been possible without the support of our fantastic volunteers, committee members, Trustees, parents, carers and local supporters. Whether you helped organise an event, donated prizes, baked cakes, sold refreshments or attended our events, every contribution has played an important part in our success. Thank you.

I would also like to thank the staff and leadership team at Abbots Ripton for their continued support and enthusiasm. The strong relationship between the school and STARS enables us to work together to create opportunities and experiences that benefit all pupils.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT 2025/26 cont.

Like many PTAs, recruiting new volunteers remains one of our greatest challenges. We are always keen to welcome new faces, and even helping at a single event during the year can make a significant difference.

Finally, I would like to thank the STARS committee for their commitment, encouragement and hard work throughout the year. A special thank you goes to James Stevens for his many years of support and dedication to STARS, and to Katie Holmes for her hard work as Treasurer before stepping down in July. I would also like to thank our previous Treasurers for their contribution and support throughout the year. It has been a pleasure working alongside such a fantastic team.

Looking Ahead

We are already looking forward to another exciting year for STARS. We have a mixture of returning favourites and new ideas planned, starting with our School Disco on 6 November 2026, followed by a range of festive activities including the Elf Workshop, Breakfast with Santa, Elfridges and our annual Christmas Raffle.

As we look ahead to 2026/27, we are excited to build on this year's success and introduce some new events alongside our established favourites. We are always looking for new ways to engage our school community whilst continuing to raise valuable funds for the children.

One of our key aims for the coming year is to secure more donations and sponsorship for our events, particularly gifts for our seasonal shops, raffle prizes, refreshments and event supplies. By reducing event costs in this way, we can maximise the funds available and invest even more back into resources, opportunities and experiences for the children.

I look forward to building on this year's success and continuing to support our school and its children in the year ahead.

Emma Wadsworth
Chairperson, STARS

STARS INITIATIVES REVIEW

STARS initiatives focus on either FUNDRAISING for the school, or COMMUNITY EVENTS where our goal is to unite the school community. The following initiatives were successfully delivered by STARS during the 2025/26 school year.

WELCOME PICNIC

Children and their families were welcomed to school with a BYO picnic on the school field. New starters also received a welcome gift which was a book.

CAMPFIRE COOKOUT

Families enjoyed a fun night of food & drinks under the stars around a fire pit with sparklers and s'mores.

ELF WORKSHOP

Our Elf Workshop is a popular event where children can write a letter to Santa, decorate a cookie and make reindeer food, before listening to a story by an Elf and receiving a gift.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Children enjoyed a festive breakfast with a surprise very special guest - Santa!

ELFRIDGES SHOP

Held in the cabin, children were able to select and purchase gifts for the whole family, ranging from £1 - £5 per item.

MOTHER'S DAY SHOP

Held in the cabin, children were able to select and purchase gifts ranging from £1 - £5 per item.

SUMMER FAIR

Our biggest fundraising event of the year, featuring games, stalls, food, a mobile farm, tractor and bouncy castle for the whole community to enjoy.

FATHER'S DAY SHOP

Held in the cabin, children were able to select and purchase gifts ranging from £1 - £5 per item.

SCHOOL DISCO

Held in the Village Hall, the children got dressed to impress and danced the night away to their favourite tunes!

TUCKSHOPS

Held after school in the playground, pupils could purchase an after-school snack, choosing from a range of treats.

KRISPY KREME DOUGHNUT SALE

Using a charity discount scheme, we purchased Krispy Kreme doughnuts and sold them after school. The fundraiser was well supported by families.

YES DAY!

A brand-new initiative for 2025/26, giving pupils the chance to choose to break certain pre-approved rules for the day.

SCHOOL LOTTERY

As a passive income source for STARS, the school community can opt into a lottery, where they can win money, prizes and jackpots, or donate these to school.

SPORTS DAY

We offered cold drinks to families during Sports Day in exchange for a voluntary donation.

BOOK SALE AND TUCK SHOP

Our first book sale was a great success, with donated books raising funds whilst encouraging a love of reading. The event was supported by our regular tuck shop.

PRELOVED UNIFORM

Offering good quality second-hand uniform items for a small donation.

STARS
SUPPORT TEAM ABBOTS RIPTON SCHOOL
PTA

*Profits exclude platform processing fees

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT

EVERYONE IN THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY IS INVITED TO BE PART OF STARS



You can help support STARS by:

- ATTENDING & TAKING PART IN EVENTS
- VOLUNTEERING YOUR TIME OR EXPERTISE
- ATTENDING STARS MEETINGS TO HAVE YOUR SAY
- PARTICIPATING IN THE SCHOOL LOTTERY

STARS FACEBOOK GROUP

Join STARS on Facebook. We have a closed group for parents and carers of children attending the school, where we share information about our events. Please note that the group is run by parents and is not the school's main channel for official information. Official updates are shared through school newsletters, flyers and the school website.

Visit www.facebook.com/groups/1489422241352109/

SCHOOL LOTTERY

Join our School Lottery! It's a quick, easy & cost-effective way for us to raise funds for our school. Tickets cost just £1 and all proceeds received by STARS support our school with a local cash prize every week & the chance to win the jackpot of £25,000!

- Visit www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/abbots-ripton-primary-school
- Click on the red 'Buy Tickets' button
- Then follow the prompts

CONTACT

STARS can be contacted by email at abbotsriptonschool@gmail.com

Financial Overview 2025/26

Thanks to the incredible support of our school community, STARS raised **£10,081.54** during the 2025/26 school year.

Income Source	Amount
Events and Fundraising Activities	£9,780.54
School Lottery	£301.00
Total Raised	**£10,081.54**

During the year, STARS contributed **£5,046.36** towards projects, resources and experiences that directly benefited children. During the year this included books, educational equipment, classroom fans, a spirituality bench, Easter eggs, Christmas gifts and support for swimming lessons.

In addition, STARS has committed:
£400 towards Young Voices transport costs.
We have also committed to making a further contribution towards air-conditioning improvements and the refurbishment of the school maze.

Thank you to everyone who supported our fundraising activities this year. Every pound raised helps us create opportunities and improvements for the children at Abbots Ripton School.