



# 15th March

## Spring Term B 2024 News

**Our church school creates a firm foundation where together, with God's help and with the help of others, we learn for life, achieve our best and grow in faith.**

### Parent Questionnaire

Our **huge thanks** to the 41 parents who completed the questionnaire at our recent parent consultation – parents of our Year 6 children will receive a 'leaver's' questionnaire next term.

I am delighted to share an overview of the results which overall are excellent and we continue to be grateful that our hard work is recognised by parents and that Abbots Ripton continues to be a place where children are happy, feel safe and learn in an environment of high expectations. Once again this year, **every parent** completing the questionnaire would recommend our school to others and that is incredibly pleasing – thank you!

Statement	% of parents who agreed or strongly agreed
1. My child is happy at Abbots Ripton CofE Primary School	100%
2. My child feels safe at Abbots Ripton CofE Primary School.	100%
3. Abbots Ripton CofE Primary School makes sure its pupils are well behaved.	100%
4. My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively. (% shown for parents who responded that their child had been bullied)	66% (See note below)
5. The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year.	100%
6. When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly. (% shown for parents who responded that they had raised a concern)	95% (21 out of 22 parents)
7. The school has high expectations for my child.	95% with 1 response 'I don't know'
8. My child is doing well at Abbots Ripton CofE Primary School.	98%
9. The school lets me know how my child is doing.	98%

10. There is a good range of subjects available to my child at Abbots Ripton CofE Primary.	98%
11. Does your child have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)? If yes My child has SEND, and the school gives them the support they need to succeed.	100%
12. My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school.	100%
13. The school supports my child's wider personal development.	90% with 4 responses 'I don't know'
14. I would recommend this school to another parent.	100%

In our last questionnaire, only 79% of parents felt that their child could take part in clubs and activities and some parents commented that the club offer could be improved. We now have 100% who agree or strongly agree and we are pleased that our efforts to improve provision has been recognised.

Question 4 asks about whether your child has been bullied and whether it has been dealt with appropriately by the school. We had 5 responses which disagreed that bullying had been dealt with. Some of these parents wrote their names on the form and so we have been able to make contact to offer further support but parents have explained that they misunderstood the question – they were disagreeing that their child had been bullied i.e. they had not been! The remain 3 we were not able to contact as they were anonymous and we are hoping that this is the same error. However, if you filled in the questionnaire and you do have an incident of bullying that you feel we haven't dealt with appropriately, please do make contact as it is vital that we address this as quickly as possible for your child – many thanks!

### Comic Relief

Everyone looked great today dressed up for Comic Relief! If you have yet to make a donation then we are suggesting a donation of £1 to join in the fun and the link to our JustGiving page can be found [here](#).



## World Book Day



Again everyone looked amazing last week for World Book day. From Harry Potter and Hermione to Fantastic Mr Fox and The Very Hungry Caterpillar – Well done all!!

## Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who purchased a book at the book fair. We get commission for the sales made and were able to purchase books to the value of just over £90 which was shared between each class – shown in the picture! Thank you so much!!



## KS2 trip to the theatre

### The Boy At The Back of the Class Theatre Review

By Felicity Year 6

The Boy at the Back of the Class written by Onjali Rauf and adapted by Nick Ahad is a beautiful, heart-warming story that follows the journey of a nine year old boy Ahmet (played by Farshid Rokey), who is a Syrian refugee boy only able to speak Kurdish, who has come to England without his family.

In the opening scene there is a graceful, blue silk sheet that the children are holding, this represents Ahmet's journey through the ocean to get to England – it immediately hooks you in. The production uses one main prop to make houses, buses and the school: it is a simple gymnastics frame that you are able to climb on. Although they do have other small props.

Some students- Alexa (Sasha Desouza-Willcock) and her group of friends, Josie (Petra Joan-Athene), Michael (Abdul-Malik Janneh) and Tom (Gordon Millar)- are determined to make friends with Ahmet. Other characters, such as Brendon the bully, (Joe McNamara) do not think he should be there at all.

Alexa narrates most of the first half- it is a two hour play- until Ahmet finds his voice half way through the first half. The acting is more told than shown at some points. Adults play the children so they are often fairly childish but they play the children very well. The costumes are very basic yet effective and portray each character very well. The "queen bee" of the class -Clarissa- has the best bag and the best hair. A point that made me laugh was when she was bragging about her three pairs of Lelly-Kellys!

The messages you get through this play are relayed in child- friendly ways, some of them are: "always be kind to other people no, matter who they are", "it's the inside that counts."

Overall, this re-enactment was incredible. Although it is not suitable for under sevens, it is amazing: from light up imaginary footballs to the shadow of the Queen in the back drop it is everything you want for a great play. There is even singing and dancing in some parts. This play is definitely worth watching.

## Coding Competition



On Tuesday 4 of our amazing Picasso children represented Abbots Ripton in the first Cambridge Rotary Coding Challenge. 13 teams from across Cambridgeshire took part in this challenge using the BBC microbit, coding as a team to program a robot to navigate a maze. The children worked brilliantly together, solving really difficult challenges and their teamwork impressed the judges so much that they were the winners of the Teamwork category. We are very proud of their achievement! My thanks too to Mrs Gibbons for her inspirational leadership of computing in the school.

### A message from The King

We were delighted to hear that one of our pupil's in Kandinsky class decided to make a Get Well card for King Charles – she did this without prompting and showed a genuine empathy for his situation. She is thrilled to have received a thank you from The King; we are incredibly proud of her thoughtfulness and consideration of others.



### Gymnastics Taster Session

Everyone had a taster session on Tuesday and slips were sent home with more information about booking for the after school club starting next week. The email address to register your interest is [admin@amysacro.com](mailto:admin@amysacro.com) It is important that parents express their interest as the club will only run if there is a minimum of 8 children.



### Year 5 Bikeability

Bikeability has been booked for 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> June for our Year 5 children. Permission forms have been sent home today with your child. The deadline for you to return the form is Wednesday next week, 20<sup>th</sup> March.

### Is my child too ill for school?

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school when they're unwell. There are government guidelines for schools about managing specific infectious diseases. These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't. Click [here](#) for more information.

If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school on the first day. Let them know that your child won't be in and give them the reason.

If your child is well enough to go to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, please let their teacher know.

## Cutlery for packed lunches

If you send your child in with something in their packed lunch that they requires cutlery, please can you provide this alongside the packed lunch.

## Van Gogh Morning Mile

If you arrive at 8.30am for your child to join in the Morning Mile, please do stay with them until 8.40am when they can go into the classroom. We do have some children in Rise and Shine who are in Van Gogh but these children are supervised by a member of Rise and Shine staff. Your support with this is appreciated.



*Diary Dates Spring / Summer 2024*

**All new dates are added in bold and italic.**

Date	Event
19 <sup>th</sup> March	Netball Competition 4pm – 6pm
28 <sup>th</sup> March	Easter Service in St. Andrew's Church 9:30am
28 <sup>th</sup> March	End of Term
29 <sup>th</sup> March – 14 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Holidays
15 <sup>th</sup> April	Teacher Training Day – School closed
16 <sup>th</sup> April	Summer Term begins
16 <sup>th</sup> April	Girls Football Competition 10am – 12 noon
30 <sup>th</sup> April	Class Group Photos
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	<b>STARS Pottery Event</b>
6 <sup>th</sup> May	May Bank Holiday – school closed
<b>10<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>STARS School Disco</b>
13 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 SATS week
27 <sup>th</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Half Term
3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Summer Term begins
11 <sup>th</sup> June	Vision Screening
16 <sup>th</sup> July	Whole school trip to Warwick Castle
19 <sup>th</sup> July	End of summer term