



13th September

School news Update

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.

Welcome to our new children

All the children have made a brilliant start to the new academic year. We would like to welcome Sophie and Elizabeth to Monet class as well as our new Reception children below who have joined our school family.

Deon
Eva
Jack
Eryk

Henry
Makenna
Eliza

Oscar
Esme
Harnoor

Charlotte
Mabel
Lyra

They have had a great first few days and we look forward to getting to know you and your families over the coming weeks.

Picasso Grafham Residential

An amazing time was had by all! We were so proud of all the children for trying new sports and really enjoying the experience. Mrs Jackson will upload more photographs to the class page over the next week so that the children can share these with their families too. My thanks to Mrs Jackson and Mrs Hawthorne for giving their time to give the children this great experience.



Curriculum Maps

Every half term each class teacher writes and sends home a Curriculum Map which gives you an overview of what your child is learning during the half term. This half term's map were sent out today and we hope that you find it useful.

We also sent the start of term class information PowerPoint which outlines key information including staff members, routines and expectations for each class. Again, we hope that this information is useful too.

Young Voices 2025 – Kandinsky and Picasso classes

We are delighted to announce that we will be taking part in the Young Voices concert at the O2 on the 3rd February 2025. A letter with more information has been sent home today to parents/carers. Please complete the google form by **Friday 27th September** at the very latest.



Screening for Diabetes study

We are delighted to have been given the opportunity to offer all children here at school an early screening test for type 1 diabetes. This testing programme hopes to identify diabetes in children early in order for treatment to be started sooner. All information is in the letters which have been emailed today as well as details of how to register. The screening will take place at school on Tuesday 22nd October but if interested please do sign up before 15th October.

Vision Screening for Van Gogh



Every year the Schools Healthy Child Programme come into school to offer a Vision Screening service for the Reception children. Letters with more information have been sent home with your child today. You only need to return the form if you **DO NOT** wish your child to take part. Please can any opt out forms be returned to the school by Friday 20th September so we can share details with the team. Please note that the date for the visit is Tuesday 11th February 2025 but forms are required this term.

Admissions Information

Reception 2025

Do you have or know someone who has a child due to start school in September 2024? The booking portal for a place in our Reception Class in September 2025 is now open. Please help us to promote our school! We are holding open sessions for prospective parents for Reception intake 2025 on the following dates:

Thursday 3rd October - 1:30pm or 2.00pm

Wednesday 6th November - 1:30pm or 2.00pm

Thursday 5th December - 1:30pm or 2.00pm

Please contact the school for more information. Booking is required.

Supporting learning



As a school, we invest a portion of our budget in order to give children access to 2 really good online learning tools **Mathletics** and **TTRockstars**; Mathletics is a brilliant website as it mirrors exactly what we teach in school including the same images, mathematical language etc. Teachers will set units of learning each week in line with class content and we ask that children spend time completing these. It is a fantastic way to reinforce and consolidate learning. We anticipate this taking Monet class about 10-15 minutes per week, Kandinsky class about 15-20 minutes and Picasso class about 20-30 minutes.

Learning times tables and the inverse division facts are a core strand of primary school mathematics as so much maths relies on knowledge and quick recall of these facts. Please do support your child (Years 2 to 6) to engage with TTRockstars for at least 10 minutes a week – although the more they do, the quicker they'll get!!!



EBooks

We are aware that those children in school who should begin reading their e-books this week currently can not access them. Please bear with us as we have been informed that there is a technical issue with our account. We will let parents know as soon as the system is back up and running.

Uniform

We have noticed that some children are not yet wearing the correct school uniform. Please could we politely ask that parents check our [uniform policy](#) to ensure that children are wearing the correct uniform. This includes ensuring appropriate black school shoes and a school jumper and/or cardigan and black or grey skirts/trousers – rather than leggings. Summer dresses are still appropriate too until you think your child might be too cold!

A reminder that long hair should also be tied back and the only allowable jewellery is small stud earrings. Children should also not be wearing visible temporary tattoos or nail varnish.

In relation to PE kit, please could we ask that children wear their black jogging bottoms over shorts and not 'skins' to keep them warm. We need to see their joints (knees) during dance and gymnastic activities.

Please always make sure that your child has a warm coat as we will try to be outside at playtimes as much as possible. It is also advisable to send a change of footwear (wellies or old trainers) in a named plastic bag for when the field is wet.

Our thanks for your support with this.

Support from the Family Worker Team

We have lots of information from our Education Inclusion Family Advisor, Katie, which has been uploaded to the school website for you along with What's On information at the Huntingdon Child and Family Centre. There are courses and support groups for a variety of subjects – do have a look and see if you would find any of these useful. Click [here](#) to view.

Summer Reading Challenge

If your child took part in the summer reading challenge, we would really like to celebrate them! If your child received a certificate and/or medal, please do send it in to school over the next week. If they are yet to receive their certificate/medal, please email and let us know that they took part. Many thanks



STARS AGM

The AGM for STARS (Support Team for Abbots Ripton School) will be held at 7:30pm on Wednesday 26th September here at school. This will be an opportunity to review the great work that has been done over the last year as well as to look forward to the year ahead. All parents are welcome to this meeting so please do come along!

Welcome picnic



Parents of our Reception children received an invite to a welcome picnic straight after school next Friday (20th). Please do remember that the rest of the school is also invited in order to welcome our new families. Please bring along a picnic and a blanket or chairs as we hope to sit outside!



Diary Dates Autumn 2024/Spring 2025

All new dates added since the previous newsletter are in bold italic

Date	Event
20 th September	STARS Welcome picnic for Reception families - 3:20pm
26 th September	Phonic Workshop for Parents of Van Gogh class ~ 9:00am in school
26 th September	STARS AGM ~ 7:30pm
27 th September	MacMillan Coffee Morning – Cake Sale in school. More details to follow.
3rd October	<i>Harvest Service in St Andrew's Church 9:30am ~ all welcome</i>
3 rd October	Open Session to view for Reception intake 2025 ~ 1:30pm – 2.30pm
9 th October	Reading/Spelling Workshop for Parents of Monet class ~ 2:45pm in school
15 th October	Parent Consultations ~ 3:30pm – 7:30pm
16 th October	Parent Consultations ~ 3:30pm – 5:30pm
22nd October	<i>Screening for Diabetes</i>
28th October – 1st November	<i>HALF TERM</i>
5 th November	Flu Vaccinations for all children. Opt out details will follow.
6 th November	Open Session to view for Reception intake 2025 ~ 1:30pm – 2.30pm.
11 th – 15 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
15 th November	Children in Need Day
15 th November	Van Gogh Nursery Rhyme session – parent invited 3:00pm
5 th December	Open Session to view for Reception intake 2025 ~ 1:30pm – 2:30pm
6 th December	Whole School Christmas Decorating Morning. Parents invited.
16 th December	Reception/KS1 Nativity Performance ~ 2:15pm
17 th December	Reception/KS1 Nativity Performance ~ 9:30am and 2:15pm
18 th December	Whole School Christmas Lunch including Christmas Jumper day
20 th December	Christmas Christingle Service ~ 9:30am in the church
20 th December	End of term
21 st Dec 2024 to 5 th Jan 2025	Christmas Holiday
6 th January 2025	Training day – school closed
7 th January 2025	Spring Term Opens
3rd February 2025	<i>Young Voices 2025 at the O2</i>
11th February 2025	<i>Vision screening for Van Gogh Class</i>
12th February 2025	<i>Van Gogh and Monet trip to the theatre to see The Gruffalo</i>
17 th February –21 st February 2025	Half-Term
4 th April 2025	Spring term Closes
22 nd April 2025	Training day – school closed
23 rd April 2025	Summer Term Opens
5 th May 2025	May Day Bank Holiday – school closed
26 th May –30 th May 2025	Half-Term
2 nd June 2025	Training day – school closed
23 rd July 2025	Summer Term Closes