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Abbey Hill
@ North Shore

Website: <https://abbeyhill.horizonstrust.org.uk>

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Message from the Principal



Welcome to the Summer 2023 edition of the Abbey Hill Academy newsletter.

Although this newsletter is just a snapshot of what takes place at Abbey Hill throughout the term, I am sure that like me, you will be impressed with the wide range of activities that take place and the enthusiasm with which our students engage with them. These activities are an integral part of our young people's education and are just as important as the work carried out in the classroom.

One aspect of Abbey Hill life that I think we really should celebrate is that of the work done to prepare students for life after school. We really want to encourage our students to be as independent as possible whilst providing them with the support that they require. Students are encouraged to take responsibility for various aspects of their life as this will help them with their future lives and work. Students receive a variety of educational opportunities to help them with everyday tasks such as keeping healthy, planning and preparing meals, and being safe online.

There are many simple activities that you can carry out with students over the holidays to help reinforce these skills and it will also hopefully help you at home as well. A few examples are provided below:

- Help with some shopping, discuss healthy alternatives as well as different pricing options for different items.
- Help prepare a meal and then also help with the cleaning up (good luck).
- If you are going on a journey, no matter how small, involve students in planning this using maps or timetables.
- Discuss different jobs with them, involve family and friends who may be able to provide information about their workplace .
- As you are going around your daily routines or trips out, highlight different things that you see or encounter.
- Spend 5 minutes watching the news, discuss different events and help your child develop and express their own opinions.
- Discuss online use and social media with students. Ask them questions about it, including how they stay safe as it will help you understand what is happening in their online world and make you aware of any issues you may need to get involved in.

We will all have different memories about our summer holidays when we were growing up, it can be a time of fun, adventure, boredom and lazy days. These are all part of childhood and during assemblies, we have been highlighting the importance of summer safety, be it the dangers of being near water or the hazards of sunlight. Please discuss this at home as it will help provide them with regular reminders about being safe.

I would finally like to thank you all for your help, support and generosity throughout this academic year. Your input really makes Abbey Hill Academy a place where amazing students do amazing things.

I hope you all have a fantastic summer and I look forward to seeing all our students return on Tuesday 5th September.



Science

Written by:
Vicky Barton

Over the last term we have had year 7 and 8 students studying plants. This has provided them with hand on practical experience of working in the poly tunnel or sensory garden. Year 9 students have been learning about speed and motion and have impressed how they were able to take measurements to calculate their own speed. Our year 10 students have been studying the periodic table and enjoyed carrying out a range of chemical reactions. A particular favourite was investigating and changing the properties of slime. Students have also enjoyed using chromatography to investigate who stole the money from the science department. Our year 11 classes have enjoyed learning about space. As part of this work they made some fantastic models of the solar system. Well done everyone on a great year in science,





Written by: Melissa Fisher

Health Streets consultation project

(with Stockton Borough Council)



A group of students from 10JH and 11LT spent the morning with a team of representatives from Stockton Borough Council and a researcher from Newcastle University to get their views on local areas and how safe they felt the streets were. With a focus on the Hardwick ward in particular, but also exploring wider local areas, students were asked where they went out and about, if they felt safe in their local areas and also ideas on how things could be improved.

The students were fantastic and gave some great ideas on what they would like to see and also how safety could be improved i.e more street lights or wardens patrolling around when it gets dark. They represented Abbey Hill very well and also got glowing reviews from the external professionals who were very impressed overall.



6ST

Written by:
James Stainsby



6St have been focusing on the topic of Fantasy this half term. We have really enjoyed exploring with colour and different textures. We worked as a team to complete each piece and our students rightly took great pride in what they produced. We decided to call the dragon, Simon. He is now on display in our classroom along with all our wonderful artwork.



PSHE – Careers and Enterprise

Written by:
Lynsey Thornton

We have had a super busy term in careers and enterprise. As a team we strive to provide our young people with as many experiences as we can to support in their preparation for adulthood.

Watch this space for details of our upcoming summer fete which will be organised and run by our budding entrepreneurs, all profits returning to the tutor groups themselves.

A day in the life of a student at Stockton Riverside college

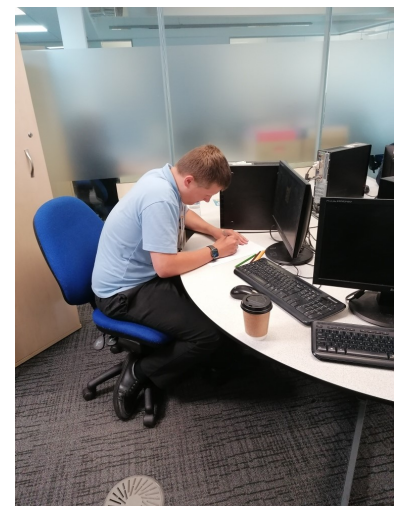


Year 10 students along with other local schools were invited to attend a taster day at the college. Students were invited to select and experience two subject areas of their choice whilst on site.



Supported by SRC staff students had a 1 hour session, tasty lunch in the canteen, a photo opportunity in the photo booth with props, followed by a second 1 hour session. Students ended the day completing an evaluation form and entering into a prize draw for an Amazon voucher, sadly we didn't have any lucky winners from Abbey.

Students thoroughly enjoyed the experience and for some it has broadened their horizons and understanding of selected courses, supporting in their next steps decision making.





PSHE – Careers and Enterprise

Written by:
Lynsey Thornton

Tees Valley Combined Enterprise Week.

Thanks to our local authority students had a whole week of scheduled activities and workshops led by local employers and colleges.



Altrad set students the challenge of creating a moving vehicle made only from recycled goods. Strict rules were in place, vehicles had to be a set size, have 4 moveable wheels and be able to travel along a ramp.



The competition soon heated up!

All vehicles were raced in school before the winning cars were showcased at the Arc Stockton alongside other schools.



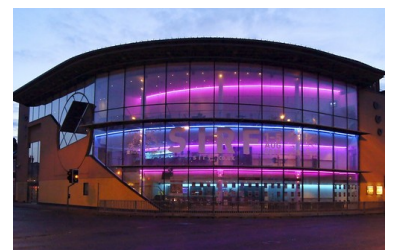
Unfortunately we didn't have the winning vehicle this time, next year!

Cleveland fire brigade held interactive workshops, students had the opportunity to learn about the work of a firefighter and ask valuable questions. Students were encouraged to create a home safety plan.



NYBEP provided workshops to encourage and raise aspirations for the future ahead.

The Arc Stockton raised awareness of possibilities held locally with a particular focus on the entertainment and leisure sector.





PSHE — Careers and Enterprise

Written by:
Lynsey Thornton

Horizons Trust



LT Scrann Menu

Munch ya way through lunch!

A selection of take away
lunchtime meals and snacks.

LT Scrann 'munch ya way through lunch!'

Students within year 11 were given the fabulous opportunity to set up and run their own takeaway bistro serving up delicious toasted sandwiches and jacket potatoes to the staff team.

Students designed and printed menus, researched and calculated costs, purchased items and worked as a team to make and deliver orders to very satisfied customers.

Mock interviews



Year 10 students had their mock interviews with local employers and training providers. Despite their nerves every student had a successful interview and received positive criticism to support and improve in preparation for the real thing.



Summer Term in 5AB

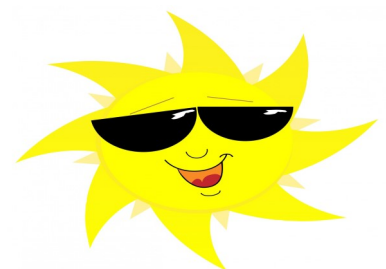
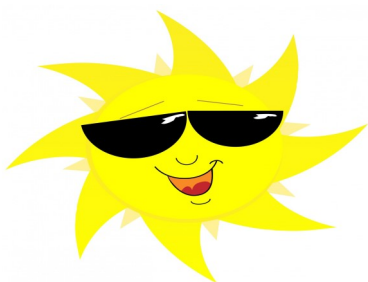
Written by:
Amanda Burns

We have had such a busy but fun and exciting term!

We had a visit from the amazing Bamboozle Theatre group who just inspired us all. It was such a lovely experience to see everyone engaged and happy as they sang songs, created drama and played instruments to tell a beautiful story.

We also had a visit from The Bubble Man. Everyone had a great time! Lots of laughs, silliness and of course the biggest bubbles we have ever seen!

Still lots to look forward to as we enjoy our last few weeks before the summer holidays. Have a wonderful Summer. From all of us in 5AB!





Fundraising

Written by:
Suzanne Florence

Thank you very much for all your generosity and support with fundraising throughout the year. Our latest fundraisers raised £368.26 for the leavers Prom 2023. The Walker Building Playground appeal raised £201.08

Your support and generosity seeks no bounds! We are very grateful for all your support. Wishing you and your family a very happy summer break.

Best wishes
Suzanne

House Points Update Whitby are the summer term winners!



Congratulations to Whitby students on winning the house points competition this term. They received their rewards in the last week before we broke up for summer.

Durham - 8825
Redcar - 9443
Saltburn - 8630
Whitby - 9833

Dates for your diary for Abbey Hill (Stockton)

Last day of summer term:	Thursday 20th July
PD Day:	Monday 4th September
Students return:	Tuesday 5th September
Half term:	Monday 30th October to Friday 3rd November
PD Day:	Monday 6th November
Last day of autumn term:	Tuesday 19th December

Leavers Prom 2023

Written by:
Suzanne Florence

On Friday 30th June 2023 Hollywood came to Abbey Hill Academy. We welcomed our leavers and their guests to a star studded night at the movies with the students as the celebrities!

Students arrived in style with Scarlett arriving in a police car - just amazing!

Lots of wows and cheers as the students arrive for an evening of celebrations!

The evening got under way with photographs on the red carpet and a drinks reception.

How it started... #Prom #AbbeyHill

The students were treated to a trip down memory lane with tears, sadness and laughter filling the Stephenson Building Hall as all the guests watched the montages and reminisced about the years gone by.

We had our very own awards ceremony where the students were nominated for awards and presented with a year book with messages from their Tutor Teams and photographs from their time at Abbey Hill Academy.

The students danced the night away!

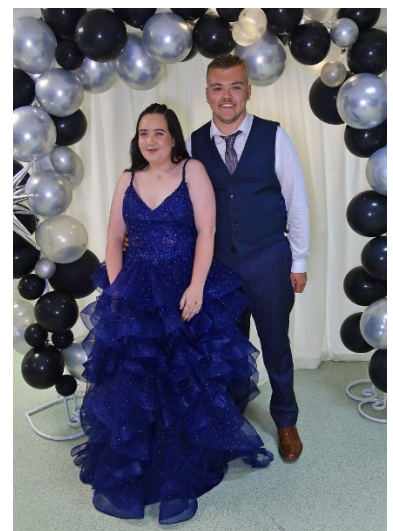
It was a magical evening for all. So lovely to see all the students and their guests enjoying themselves!

I would like to wish all our leavers a very happy future, enjoy your new adventures.

It was a pleasure to work with you all and share this evening with you.

Best wishes to you all

Suzanne





Abbey Hill @ North Shore

Written by:
Rebecca Batey

Visit to The Titanic Exhibition

On Tuesday 16th May we visited the Titanic Exhibition at The Dormans Museum in Middlesbrough. The students enjoyed the interactive exhibition which gave us a deeper understanding in our English topic all about HMS Titanic.



Colour Run at North Shore

We have been working in collaboration with Middlesbrough Football Club and a group of students at North Shore to plan and organise a fund raising event. The event is due to take place on Tuesday 18th July when students and staff will join in a fun run and enjoy being covered in colourful powder paint! We are hoping to raise lots of money for the chosen charity, The Sick Children's Trust. The students have also done a 'guess how many sweets' and 'name the teddy' competition to raise even more money! We can't wait for the event next week!



Visit to Pizza Express

We enjoyed a trip to Pizza Express on Teesside Park as part of our careers education. The students learned lots about jobs in the food, catering and hospitality industries as well as having the opportunity to make their own delicious pizzas!





Abbey Hill @ North Shore

Written by:
Rebecca Batey

Dance Exam Success

Congratulations to our students who achieved their Level 2 BATD Dance Certificates on Friday 7th July. All of our students passed with flying colours after attending their exam at Thornton's Dance Academy in Middlesbrough. A special thank you to Gemma Thompson who works with the students in school each week to deliver high quality dance sessions.

A huge thank you to 'We Can Dance' who are a very kind charity who pay for our professional dance teacher and also the exams. The students are excited to receive their medals and certificates in the coming weeks.



Sharing our Wonderful Work

A huge thank you to our wonderful parents and carers who came into school on Thursday 22nd June to see our wonderful work!

It was a nice opportunity to share how proud we are!

A Warm Welcome

On Tuesday 4th and Thursday 6th July, we welcomed our new students who will be joining Abbey Hill at North Shore in September. Their tutor, Lynsey is delighted with her new class and we cannot wait for them to join our family in September.





Abbey Hill @ North Shore

Written by:
Rebecca Batey

A Visit to Preston Park Museum and Grounds

We had a fabulous afternoon exploring the Victorian street at Preston Park on Friday 7th July. The students learned lots about the Victorians from Emily, who has a PHD in Victorian studies. We dressed up and learned about life in Victorian times which supported our humanities work on the industrial revolution, our art work about printing and also our work on Oliver Twist in English.





Humanities

Written by:
Catherine Jackson

We have had an exciting term in humanities. Year 7 have been studying the Tudors, finding out exciting facts about Henry VIII and his wives. We then looked at Tudor trade and how sailing ships explored the world. As part of this TCG went on a visit to Hartlepool Headland to watch the Tall Ships arriving. Students used binoculars to see the ships on the horizon.



All students in years 7 - 9 took part in International World Ocean Day on June 8th. We studied our local 'blue space' looking at our environment and issues with sea pollution. Due to the hard work of all students, we were awarded with a badge and certificate to say we are Guardians of our Blue. We were one of the first schools in the world to achieve this status. Well done Abbey Hill!



Following on from our World Ocean Day study, year 8 have been looking at the problems of water pollution in our seas and rivers linked to sewage and pollution. Year 9 have been looking at the industrial heritage of the Tees. They have researched the problems of dredging the area for the Freeport and have taken part in amazing discussions relating to toxic sediment.

We will publish some of their work in future newsletters. We have certainly inspired some future environmental guardians.



SMSC

Written by:
Catherine Jackson

SMSC is an important part of our school ethos. It is embedded within our curriculum and throughout our daily life. Students take part in a huge variety of activities and lessons that give them experiences to develop their academic and social lives.

Spiritual - reflecting on their or others beliefs and having a sense of enjoyment and fascination of the world around them.

Moral - interest in investigating and offering reasoned views about moral and ethical issues.

Social - acceptance and engagement with the fundamental British values.

Cultural - understanding and appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own heritage and that of others.

In humanities we strive to add strands of SMSC to each lesson. In year 7, we have studied how the Church in England changed during the rule of Henry VIII. We discussed how faith can play an important part of our and other peoples lives.

Year 8 and 9 study of the environment brought about many debated on the moral and ethical problems of industry and waste. Year 9 were interested in the issues of how the new jobs at the Freeport were important but what impact that would have on animal habitats or those of local fishermen.

We all celebrated the coronation of King Charles. In some classes we explored the democratic government, voting and politics and then compared to a monarchy. Each class voted for their choice of monarch and we held a mock coronation.

Studying the Windrush, year 9 looked at the impact of migration in the 1940's and 1950's. They were keen to celebrate the new music and food brought over from the Caribbean. We looked at the life of TV presenter Floella Benjamin and how she went from Windrush child to British TV personality.





6AC Art

Written by:
Kathryn Palmer



Over the Summer Term, 6AC explored textures and patterns in their Art lessons. Students got creative with clay and moulded their own finger pots and tiles. They explored printing and pattern making and experimented with different glazes and colours. Students have also used mixed media to produce a range of work based around the theme of nature and outdoors.

Online safety tips for parents & carers to KEEP CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE OVER SUMMER

School's out ... for summer! Yes, it's that time of the year again: around six weeks at home for ecstatic youngsters. For many young people, a bumper stint off school means a welcome chance to spend even more time with their games console, phone, tablet or smart TV. So whether your children are likely to be scrolling on Snapchat, nestling in front of Netflix or frying foes on Fortnite, we've put together some top tips to help you keep them safe online this holiday.

THERE'S NO NETWORK LIKE HOME

Teenagers, especially, tend to be delighted to find that a coffee shop, restaurant or shopping centre offers free WiFi. These public networks are much less secure than home WiFi, though, so discourage your child from making online purchases or entering personal details when out and about.



LIGHTS OUT, SCREENS OFF

This is a golden rule: try to limit how much screen time your child has towards end of the day. Staring at the screen of a phone or tablet for too long before bed severely impacts a child's quality of sleep – which can play havoc with their concentration, mood and energy levels the next day.



FOCUS ON FACTS

The internet is phenomenal at spreading gossip. When children of certain ages aren't in daily contact at school, the digital rumour mill can go into overdrive. Remind your child not to believe everything they're told online – especially if the person involved isn't around to provide their side of the story.



KEEP TALKING

It sounds blindingly obvious, but having regular chats with your child about who they're talking to online, what games and apps they're using and what shows they're streaming is a huge benefit. It doesn't have to be every day or even every week, but it can signal potential issues well in advance.



PRIVATE INFO STAYS PRIVATE

It's worth checking your child's social media or gaming profiles occasionally to make sure they aren't inadvertently giving away too much information. Details such as their full name, address or where they go to school could all be used to track them down by individuals with sinister intentions.



LIMIT SOCIAL AUDIENCES

When they're old enough, young people love to broadcast their summer holiday highlights all over social media. The unfortunate truth, however, is that we don't always know who might be viewing this content. Check the settings to ensure that only friends and family can see your child's posts.



DEMONSTRATE GOOD HABITS

Children often learn their digital behaviour from watching the grown-ups around them. So make sure your child observes you being positive and supportive on social media, for example – and, especially, sees that you know when it's time to switch the screen off, even though you're having fun.



WATCH FOR EXCESSIVE GAMING

With no school, children often take every opportunity to fit in 'just one more go' on their favourite game – sometimes at the cost of their daily routine, or having family time. A little extra gaming is to be expected in the holidays, but it could become problematic if it evolves into a recurring habit.



IT'S 'THE GREAT OUTDOORS' FOR A REASON

For most northern hemisphere-dwellers, this time of year is a rare opportunity to enjoy the outside world in pleasant weather. Remind your child how amazing it is to feel the sun on their back and fresh air in their lungs. Disney+ and Minecraft will still be there on drizzly Sundays in October.



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#WakeUpWednesday



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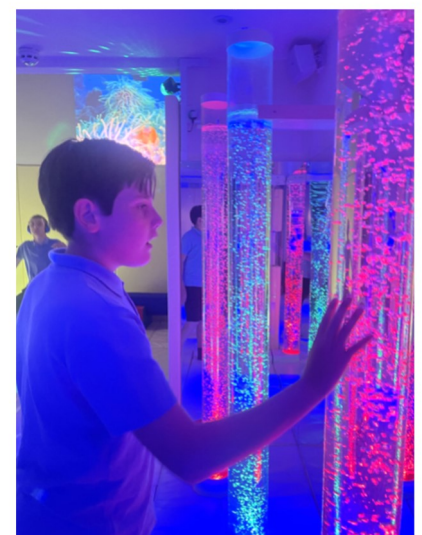
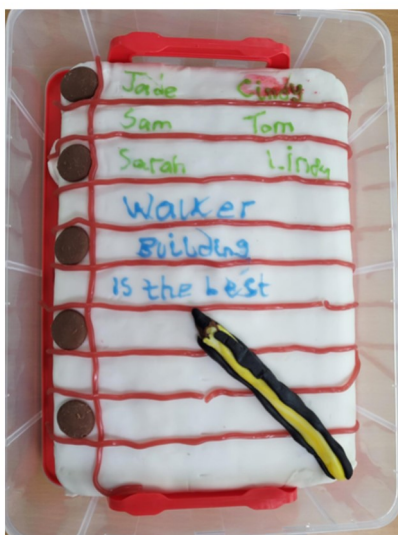
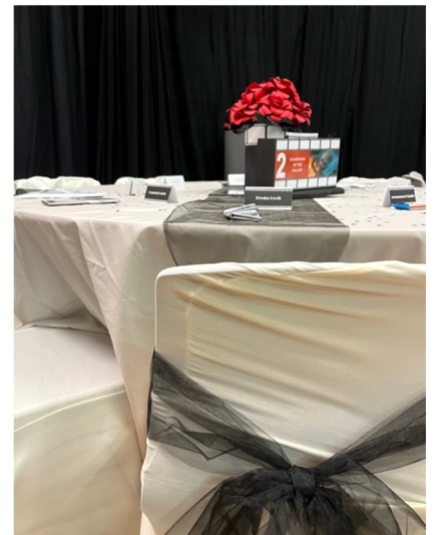


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Snapshots of a summer term





Snapshots of a summer term

