

## House Point Cup

The Winning House for 2023-2024 is **SILBURY**

Congratulations to Silbury, on winning the House Point Cup Overall for 2023-2024. The last time Silbury won was 2019! Well done to everyone in the school on winning such an amazing number of House Points.

Silbury	12,132pts
Avebury	12,130pts
Kennet	12,128pts
Ridgeway	12,126pts



Well done to all!

## Reader(s) of the Year

The Annual Reader of the Year Awards were presented in Assembly on Monday this week. This year's winners were Sienna (KS1) and Jared (KS2) pictured here.

Local author and friend of the school Neil Griffiths came to present the awards and give the children a signed copy of one of his books. He also treated us to a storytelling of 'The Little Mouse, the Red Ripe Strawberry, and the Big Hungry Bear' - ably assisted by Mrs Cunningham, Miss Hewitt and Mr Shore. The whole school were in fits of laughter.

There were 15 nominations for the awards this year and each had the chance to visit Bert's Books in Old Town, with Mr Buckley and Mrs Cunningham this week, to choose a book for themselves as well.



Thank you to Bert's Books for letting us come and enjoy your amazing bookshop!



Ash	- Nathan K
Oak	- Hadiya N
1Elm	- Didi K
1Holly	- Evan J
2Beech	- Rhiannon B
2Hazel	- Sienna E
3Alder	- Phoebe K
3Birch	- Imogen C
4Chestnut	- Sophia H
4Hornbeam	- Shiran Y
5Rowan	- Viktoriia B
5Sycamore	- Mohid A
6Juniper	- Heidi K & Jared P
6Willow	- Mikala J

## Football Success

Ashton Carson and Louie Inglis both play for Lydiard Millicent Juniors FC. At their annual end of season presentation awards, Louie and Ashton were joint winners of the 'Supporters' Player of the Year award. Louie for his strong defence and Ashton after playing in goal for the first time this season!



## Nursery News

We hope you all have a lovely Summer Holiday and look forward to seeing you all again either in our Nursery or across in the Reception Classes in September.

We had our Teddy Bears Picnic this week for our newest children and we hope they will enjoy coming to our school in September too.



See you all in September!

## Kindness Café - The last one of 2023-2024

At AMCPs we always try to focus on best behaviour first and children regularly collect house points for being kind citizens; over 2000 a week!

When children are spotted doing 'the right thing', such as just being kind or helpful, being thoughtful of others, sticking to the rules and continuously Paying Forward - they have the chance to be rewarded by being invited to the Kindness Café.

The Café runs once a term and children share hot chocolate and cookies with Mr Buckley and Mrs Cunningham. We are very proud of the following:



Ash	- Sam and Lillian
Oak	- Ava and Tobi
1Elm	- Irhaa and Stanley
1Holly	- Chloe and Freddie
2Beech	- Gordon and Sachi
2Hazel	- Loki and Jackson
3Alder	- Jonathan and Maisie
3Birch	- Ruby and Robin
4Chestnut	- Edie and Mason
4Hornbeam	- Jenson and Charlie
5Rowan	- Oliver W and Sophie
5Sycamore	- Andrew and Mohid
6Juniper	- Alex and Evie W
6Willow	- Keydie and Toby

Special mention to Imogen who has been away both times she has been nominated!



*We are so proud of you all.*

*Thank you for Being Kind and Paying Forward!*

*Thank you to the ladies in the kitchen for making cookies and hot chocolate for the Café.*

## Blue Kite Games

On Monday this week we took a team of athletes to the inaugural Blue Kite Games. Twenty-eight children from Years 5 & 6 took part against children from 11 other schools in sprints, hurdles, 600m, bean bag shuttle and skipping races as well as Nerf throwing and long jumping. The Games culminated in spectacular mixed relays. Every school won medals of one kind or another across the event including Golds to AMCPs for Aisla, Samuel O, Ella, Molly and Archie, Silver for Charlie, Beatriz and Bronze for Samuel K.

The relay team also picked up Silver for Heidi, Aisla, Samuel O and Samuel K.

The team were magnificent in their sporting behaviour and were a credit to their families and their school. We were particularly proud of them, including some of their friends who were not in the team but came to support! The team finished 4<sup>th</sup> overall - an excellent result!

Mr Buckley would like to thank the staff at AMCPs, who really pulled together and helped run the event, particularly Mrs Farmer and Miss Harland for helping him organise these first ever Blue Kite Games.

As one Headteacher in the town put it,

"thanks to the staff at Abbey Meads, as it couldn't have run without them."



## Good Luck We will Miss You!

We wish Mrs Healy, Mrs Woods, Mr Reade and Mrs Godwin the very best of luck and send them with our love to their next adventure, chapter in their lives. They have all been with the school such a long time, it is going to be hard to come back in September without them.

We hope you stay in touch and look forward to seeing you again in the future.

We also say thank you and farewell to Mrs Elder, Mrs Roberts, Mr Martin and Miss McIntosh, who have all been with us on either short-term contracts or from an agency covering until the end of the year.

As we are now able to fill all vacancies from our existing staff, we will be sending these teaching assistants off with our best wishes and who knows... our paths may cross again?



## Attendance Awards 2023-2024

We continue to monitor pupil's attendance, with boundaries set as follows for the certificates given today!

**Bronze Award=96%+, Silver Award=97%+, Gold Award=98%+**

Class	Bronze	Silver	Gold	96%+
Ash	2	2	4	40%
Oak	1	1	4	29%
1Elm	3	0	15	60%
1Holly	4	3	9	53%
2Beech	2	2	12	53%
2Hazel	1	6	9	53%
3Alder	0	1	13	44%
3Birch	1	2	17	63%
4Chestnut	3	5	7	57%
4Hornbeam	0	7	15	69%
5Rowan	2	4	16	69%
5Sycamore	3	4	13	63%
6Juniper	1	2	13	50%
6Willow	0	5	14	59%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>55%</b>

Look at the comparison from last year!

Overall 53% achieved 96-100% in 2023-2023

2022-2023	Bronze	Silver	Gold
Elm	2	3	7
Holly	2	4	3
1Beech	2	1	9
1Hazel	4	4	7
2Alder	4	6	7
2Birch	4	4	12
3Chestnut	2	4	9
3Hornbeam	2	3	19
4Rowan	4	2	14
4Sycamore	8	3	9
5Juniper	2	3	9
5Willow	3	3	8

This year, 55% of children managed to attend school for between 96%-100% of the time.

There is another increase this year, in the number of children achieving 96%-100%.

We also increased the number achieving Gold from 147 to 161 children, another excellent outcome. (it was 80 in 2022)

**Congratulations 3Birch on the greatest number of Golds, and 5Rowan on achieving the highest percentage of children over 96%**

The government has published yet more new guidance on how schools will be held to account if attendance does not improve, but also outlining prosecution of parents as a real alternative for local authorities.

There is no longer a code for holiday absence. Children are now either authorised for an exceptional circumstance or they are unauthorised.

**Send them in... we will send them home if needed!**

We need to get our children in school to increase their chances of achieving their best possible outcomes.

See below for the impact of missing a few days! Whilst 90% sounds high, it equals 3/4 of a year lost over the child's time at Primary School.

Annual attendance at 95% means a child would miss more than a third of a year, over their time at AMCPS.

Annual attendance at 90% means a child would miss almost three quarters of a year from their primary school years!

We know to continue improving is always harder the better we get... but feel sure that 2024-2025 will at least consolidate this very good position and continue to show improved data and thank you for your help.

As a whole school we are below 96% and would hope even more children will help us get there next year!

Don't forget to get designing for our 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday Logo competition that takes place in Term 1 next year.

More information next term - but a taster here to get you going...

See newsletters 38-40 for full image



On September 3rd 2024, Abbey Meads Primary School will celebrate its 25th birthday. As part of a year of celebration, we would like YOU to design a logo for the school to help celebrate this exciting milestone. Everyone who sends in an entry will be representing their house and have a chance of winning the Art and Design House Cup Competition, which will be held at the end of term one. All you need to do is design your logo and return it to your teacher by Friday, October 5th. Not only could you win the cup, but the winning design will be printed and displayed in school, as well as being put on school correspondence for the next year. Grab your pens, find your creativity and get designing today.

### Looking for somewhere to visit – Sophia suggests here:

Last weekend Sophia went on a trip to [Twigs Community Garden](#), which was lovely.

Sophia completed a quiz trail, had some yummy cakes and learned all about bees and how they make their honey.

It's a truly wonderful garden, run by volunteers and she would recommend it very much as an educational, fun day out.



## Year 6 Dazzle us with their amazing talents

Year 6 performed the most amazing end of year musical on Monday and Tuesday this week. Star Warts was just the best way to end a fun packed year. The singing and dancing was of the highest order and the acting ability of our children was outstanding, as they delivered joke after joke with perfect timing.

Mr Buckley was rolling in the aisles (*Star Wars and Dad Jokes – perfect!*)

It is clear that the children have bright futures ahead of them... it is "written in the stars!"

Mr Buckley sends an enormous thank you to the staff in Year 6, who have worked so hard to make this last year in Primary School such a special and successful one for these children. Anyone can turn up for work, but for our staff it is much more than that, always going far further than the extra mile.



## Good Luck Year 6

The show this week was just the tip of the iceberg with regard to the potential of our current group of Year 6 leavers. They have grown so much over their time in Primary School and we are very proud to say they are more than ready for the next stage in both education and life itself!

Remember to follow our mottos into adult life...

### **Be Kind Be Kind Be Kind & Always Pay Forward**

You have a 100% success rate at getting through difficult days. Remember, from the song today...  
*"you're gonna make mistakes, but from each you will learn, for every wrong turn, there's experience earned"*

Stay positive, aim high and if you have them...  
follow your dreams!



Thank you all for telling us about your memories at school over the last seven years and for sharing your slideshow of all the things you have done in Primary School.

*Special thanks go to Isla and Evie for writing this amazing poem / prayer*

Good Luck in Year 7, we will miss you!

Thank you for our incredible time at Abbey Meads,  
thank you for helping us progress in our learning abilities,  
we appreciate the amount of time and effort you have provided to help us,  
we appreciate all that you have done to ensure that we have had the best time possible,  
thank you for all the memories we have made over the years,  
thank you for building our confidence and preparing us for years to come,  
now our time at Abbey Meads is coming to an end, we would like to thank the teachers for everything beyond what we have said.  
Amen.

Isla E-J and Evie E