

House Point Cup Weekly Winners

The House Points earned this week were...

Ridgeway	254pts
Kennet	245pts
Avebury	249pts
Silbury	234pts



Well done to all!

Nursery News

This week we have enjoyed learning the story of Goldilocks and the three bears. We couldn't believe it when Goldilocks came rushing into our classroom, as she was running away from the bears.

We asked her lots of questions and then enjoyed eating baby bear's porridge for our snack 😊



Golden Book

Congratulations to the following children for being mentioned in the Golden Book Assembly today for their excellent attitudes and approach.

Jayden and Edward (Ash)
Sara and Tommy (Oak)
Kian and Victoria (1Elm)
Marley and Poppy (1Holly)
Grayson and Shayoori (2Beech)
Harley and Sienna (2Hazel)
Alice and Teo (3Alder)
Freya and Caden (3Birch)
Alex and Davit (4Chestnut)
Jenson and Florence (4Hornbeam)
Sophie and Charlotte (5Rowan)
Mohid and Riley (5Sycamore)
Heidi and Isla EJ (6Juniper)
Sam L, Ava H and Skyler (6Willow)



Well done to all of you!

Explorer Dome visits Year 5

Space came to Abbey Meads on Thursday as Year 5 had the best experience in the Explorer Dome. The children were fascinated and amazed by the projected images: the sun, the solar system, constellations, black holes and supernovas. They were inundated with facts and responded with enthusiasm and a great deal of knowledge and were impressed with the children's input and questions; they were a credit to Abbey Meads. The school day continued with learning about day and night, the moon, seasons, as well as carrying out a shadow experiment.



Year 1 Phonics Meeting for Parents

Thank you to those who attended the phonics meeting for parents this week. The teachers did an excellent job at informing the parents about the government Phonics Check taken by all Year 1 children in June. There were also some excellent questions and interaction from those who came to the meeting. Thank you! We have run a workshop in Year 4 at 3.15pm and one for Year 1 at 6pm and both returned less than 25% parent attendance.

Having tried so many ways, over the years, to encourage parents to engage with the school about their child's learning, we'd be interested to hear ideas from you on how to achieve this.

Phonics
ee ur ow
wh y au



Parent Governors

We have the opportunity to replace some parent governors who have now passed to other roles within the governing body. The number of parents on the Local Governing Body far exceeds the number of staff, but not those with the actual position of Parent Elected Governor. An election only happens if there are more applicants than positions - we have 2 free. We are keen for our Governing Body to represent the incredible diversity with which we are blessed, so please don't think this role isn't for you... it is!

If you would be interested in this role, please let us know and Mr Buckley will get in touch with you. You can find out a little more before committing!



More Martial Arts successes

Congratulations to Kavin on earning his Black Belt in Karate last term. This is his First Dan and we expect him to continue through the gradings. What an amazing achievement!

Well done Vinnie, who excelled at a local PMA Rookie Rumble event, and won 4 medals, 3 Silver and 1 Bronze.



GET INTO TEACHING

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Professional Development

APPLY NOW FOR SEPT 2024

Get all the information you need to start your new career in teaching

TO BOOK:

Want to become a primary school teacher?

JOIN OUR ONLINE INFORMATION EVENT

WHEN:
Monday 5th February
6:00-7:00PM

Ambition Institute The Blue Kite Academy Trust



UPCOMING PARENTING PROGRAMMES

(open to all parents but schools must book a place)

Happy Homes – held @ Catherine Wayte starts 30th January 2024

Family Links – held @ Abbey Meads starts 7th March 2024

LIGHTHOUSE

UPCOMING PARENT SESSIONS

(open to all parents – parents can just attend – no need to book)

Eating Well - held @ William Morris
18/01/24 9am

Eating Well - held @ Abbey Meads
25/01/24 9am

'Happy Homes' and 'Family Links' are courses that take a number of weeks to complete. The school needs to book you on these - please see Mrs Cunningham - you can catch her on the gate or call in to school.

'Eating Well' are one off sessions and you can just turn up!

Wilderness Next Week

Good luck to our Year 4 children who embark upon their residential trip to The Wilderness Centre next week.

Mr Buckley starts the week with 4Chestnut and Mrs Cunningham ends the week with 4Hornbeam

There is a cross over on Wednesday, when Miss Hewitt and Mrs Wright will be the Senior Leaders at school.



IMPORTANT NOTES

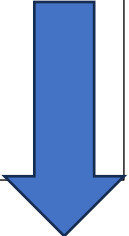
Monday Clubs start again next week (we know... apart from those which have already started!) Please remember to collect on time at 4pm

Gates are locking sooner and sooner....but actually just on time. Please start your journey earlier. Remember next term the gates start locking at 8.35am and you will have to take time signing your child in late if you arrive after this time. It will take much longer to sign them in late than arrive a few minutes earlier. We hope this advance warning helps you prepare your morning routines in readiness.



Thank you from The Gambia

Just look at some of the things bought for the schools in The Gambia from the money raised at **The Amble** last Year. Thank you all so much! These pictures were sent by Neil Griffiths who has visited the schools to deliver the resources and help unload so many boxes of equipment!



The Headteachers from the schools are so grateful for your kindness and generosity, and this was just a small proportion of what we supplied.

Have you saved the date for The Amble 2024? It makes such a difference in the lives of young children in The Gambia. 23rd March 2024—11am
See next page and BOOKING DETAILS SOON!

BOOKING DETAILS COMING VERY SOON!



PROJECT GAMBIA

The Blue Kite
Academy Trust

The Abbey Meads Amble 2024

SAVE THE DATE!

5K Walk-Jog-Run-Crawl

When: 23rd March 2024 **Time:** 10am Registrations
11am Start



Come and join us for what is affectionately known as **The Ambler**. One person's sprint is another person's amble. Come and walk, jog, run or even crawl around our specially designed 5K route around Abbey Meads and Seven Fields.

Whether a 20-minute dash or a scenic stroll, 5km is 5km (3.1 miles)! Amble, scramble or ramble your way around and we will celebrate 'finish lines' not 'finish times' ... *unless you want to try for one of the fastest age group times!*

Entry Fee Details to follow

There will be a medal for all finishers and a Fun Day to follow, with bouncy castles, BBQ, cakes and other refreshments available. All money raised will be going to schools run by Project Gambia Charity. <https://www.projectgambia200.com/>

We sponsor children through a full year of education, in these charity run schools.

To provide uniform, food and education for one child it costs just £60.00 a year.

We hope each class will sponsor a child, if we raise sufficient funds.

(£2.00 from each AMCPs pupil would provide a full year's education for 15 infant children through [Project Gambia](https://www.projectgambia200.com/))

**BOOKING DETAILS
COMING VERY SOON!**

Find out more about the charity,
by visiting this link:

<https://www.projectgambia200.com/>



Repeat from last week..... Dates and Events taken as an extract from our Website Dates Page. Originally shared with parents July 2023.

15th	6.15pm	Local Governing Body Meeting	Governors
18th	Morning	Science Dome coming for Year 5 pupils as part of their curriculum. School time in the school hall.	Yr5 children
16th	6.15pm	Phonics Meeting for Parents - Year 1 (about the Phonics Screening Check 2024)	Year 1 Parents
16th	7pm	FOAMS Meeting - all welcome	Parents
22nd-24th	3 days/2 nights	Y4 Chestnut Residential Trip - The Wilderness Centre - with Mr Buckley	Children
24th-26th	3 days/2 nights	Y4 Hornbeam Residential Trip - The Wilderness Centre - with Mrs Cunningham	Children
February 2024			
2nd	9am	Year 4 Class Assembly	Year 4 Parents
6th	3-4pm	Book Look - parents look at work with children - 3-4pm	Families
8th	5-6pm & 6.15-7.30pm	FOAMS Discos - Rec-Yr2 between 5-6pm and Year 3 to Year 6 between 6.15-7.30pm	Children
9th	LAST DAY of term 3 - Finish at 1.30pm (4.30pm Sunshine Club)		
End of Term 3 Break			
19th	7.30am & 8.30am	First Day of Term 4 - Sunshine Breakfast Club at 7.30am and School at 8.30am	
22nd	School Day	Scout and Girl Guiding Founders Day - Uniforms welcome in school	Children
March 2024			
5th	6pm	Year 6 SATS Meeting - Yr6 Parents	Year 6 Parents
5th	7pm	FOAMS Meeting - all welcome	Parents
7th	All day	World Book Day Non- Uniform OPTIONAL Dressing Up!	Children
8th	9am	Year 3 Class Assembly	Year 3 Parents
11th	6.15pm	Local Governing Body	Governors
15th	All day	Comic Relief - Red Nose Day - any activities etc will be announced nearer the date!	Children and Staff
21st	5-6pm & 6.15-7.30pm	FOAMS Discos - Rec-Yr2 between 5-6pm and Year 3 to Year 6 between 6.15-7.30pm	Children
22nd	9am	Year 2 Class Assembly	Year 2 Parents
Sat. 23rd	11am	Abbey Meads Amble 5K Walk/Jog/Run/Crawl - save the date - poster in this newsletter - more details VERY SOON!	Parents/Family/Friends
25-27th	School Day	Curriculum Enrichment Week 2 - Focus = Science and Technology (including Science & Technology House Cup Competition)	
26th	3.15pm-4.30pm	Kitchen Sink Science Family Learning Event - families stay after school and enjoy Science Activities	
27th	3pm	Last Day of Term 4 (Easter) (Sunshine Club at 6pm)	
28th	Teacher Training Day 3- School Closed to children		
April 2024			
15th	7.30am and 8.30am	First Day of Term 5 - Sunshine Breakfast Club at 7.30pm and 8.30am for School	
16th	3.30-6.30pm	Parent, Child, Teacher Consultations - please note 'Parent Evening' timings have changed and we will be consulting on how to allocate face to face and virtual appointments so we can improve our system based on feedback from parents. Surveys on their way soon. Please respond!	
18th	3.30-6.30pm		
22nd	6.30pm	Parent Update - Updates for Parents from Mr. Buckley	Parents only