

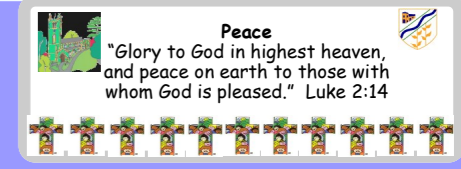
Year 6

What a fantastic start our Year 6 children have had to their final year at primary school! They have embraced new challenges and responsibilities with enthusiasm, showing a wonderful love of learning along the way. This term, we've journeyed back to 1939 with our history topic, 'We'll Meet Again.' The children have delved into how Britain was affected by the Second World War, learning about aerial bombardments, conscription, and the ways families coped with wartime life, including the evacuation of children to rural areas. A standout moment was our visit to Beaumanor Hall, where the children truly stepped into the past. They decoded messages like wartime codebreakers at Bletchley Park, created their own identity cards, collected rations, and experienced the Blitz from the safety of an Anderson shelter. Their enthusiasm and engagement brought history to life in an unforgettable way. In class, our book 'Letters from the Lighthouse' has inspired rich and varied writing. From setting descriptions to diary entries, persuasive leaflets, and non-chronological reports, the children's creativity has been wonderful to see. We ended the term by studying 'The Christmas Truce' and writing our own touching narratives, which showcased our thoughtful reflections and growing confidence as writers. Our science lessons have been just as exciting, with a focus on light and electricity sparking curiosity and discussion. In RE, we explored why God is both loving and holy, while in maths, the children worked hard on the four operations and fractions. Their perseverance and determination have been remarkable, and we couldn't be prouder of their progress. It has been a joy to see the children embrace this term with such passion and positivity. From all of us in Year 6, we wish our families a happy, restful, and safe Christmas holiday. We can't wait to welcome everyone back in the new year for more exciting adventures in learning!



Dear Parents/Carers,

Our fabulous children have made another incredible start to the new academic year, and it is heartwarming to see our school community continue to flourish together. This term, we have been focusing on the Christian values of 'Creation', 'Respect and Reverence' alongside 'Friendship and Fellowship' and 'Peace', which the children have embodied in their actions every day. Daily Collective Worship remains a cherished time for reflection, where children and staff come together to consider their God-given talents and SMARTS, sharing in a peaceful moment as our Bourne Abbey family.



The children have thoroughly immersed themselves into their exciting learning topics and have certainly made the most of our engaging and creative curriculum. This term, our children have already had the opportunity to take part in a wide range of enrichment days, from a visit to Beaumanor Hall, experiencing the Victorian Workhouse in Southwell and being historians at Peterborough Museum! In October the children took part in Bourne Scifest. We were inspired, amazed and enthralled by amazing animals, magnificent magic and spectacular stars! The children were visited by different presenters and workshops organised by the Bourne Scifest committee who fund these activities from generous donations from local businesses, schools and grants.

This term's Character Education focus on 'motivation' has truly inspired us all. Through their learning and beyond, the children have demonstrated perseverance. There have been many magical moments where children have inspired others around them, including the adults! We are so proud of how this trait has impacted our children, and we look forward to seeing the difference 'self-regulation', our next term's focus, will make in their learning journey. This year's Christmas celebrations have been especially magical. Our youngest children wowed us with 'A Bundle of Joy'. Their magnificent retelling of the Christmas story left a HUGE imprint on our hearts, with the children showcasing their confidence and spreading Christmas joy. It was a beautiful reminder of the true meaning of Christmas, as well as the perfect blend of the 'wow factor' and the 'ahh factor'. Children from Year 1 to Year 3 and Year 4 to Year 6, held their own beautiful Christmas Services in our church, Bourne Abbey. Our pupils led the services with confident readings, acting and some amazing singing – we even introduced Father Stephen to some new Christmas songs. Our links with the church are incredibly important to us as a community and we must thank again Father Stephen who was also there to share these special services with us.

Our children continue to shine as 'Agents of Change', making a meaningful impact both locally and globally. From Foodbank donations and cake stalls to litter-picking during holidays and sending pocket money to charities. Our children's dedication to helping others is remarkable.

We encourage you to keep an eye on the school website, where we love to celebrate how our children's light shines in the world. We also extend our deepest thanks to parents and carers for your unwavering support – it empowers your children and makes Bourne Abbey a truly special place to learn and grow.

As we mark the season of Advent, we prepare our hearts for the celebration of Jesus' birth. We hope the good news of Christmas brings love, hope, joy, and peace to our community and the wider world.

Thank you for being part of our journey this year. We wish you a joyful Christmas and look forward to seeing you in 2025!

Warm wishes,
 Mrs Rachael Skidmore, Deputy Headteacher

A Christmas Blessing
 May the joy of the angels,
 the eagerness of the shepherds,
 the perseverance of the wise men,
 the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
 and the peace of the Christ-child
 be yours this Christmas.
 Amen



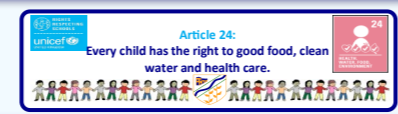
PTFA THANK YOU! Thank you so much to everyone who attended our most amazing Christmas Fayre on the 6th December. Mr Gombault and the Singing Squad set the festive tone and Christmas spirit was truly evident in the number of people joining in the Christmas Carol Sing-A-Long. Storytime with Santa proved to be a huge hit with the children who enjoyed sharing this special time with him. Who knew that Santa's beard is also the home for a very small mouse? The stalls all did a roaring trade, but we must especially mention our marvellous team of Year 6 bakers. There was nothing left on their stalls by the end of the Fayre but we were not surprised in the slightest. Special thanks to the PTFA and all their helpers – staff and pupils alike – without whom this event would not have taken place. We are very pleased to let you know that, even though final totals are still to be established, the event was a roaring success with a substantial amount of money being raised for PTFA funds. And this leaves only one question to be answered; do we really have to wait a whole year to do it all again?



Kids' Club What a lovely time the Kids' Club children have had so far, creating autumn hedgehogs out of model magic and matchsticks to decorative Christmas cards and decorations. Now the evenings are darker we have been exploring and playing outside by torchlight (who knew torches were so exciting!). The Breakfast Club children had the very important job of helping to decorate the Christmas tree in the Key Stage 1 hall before the first advent assembly, which was done with joyous smiles on faces. With the end of Term 2 comes the much-anticipated Kids' Club party where games will be played (some quite competitively) and tasty snacks will be eaten to celebrate this special time of year. From all the staff and children at Breakfast and Kids' Club, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Dates for your Diary
Last day of Term
 Wednesday 18th December
 3.15 p.m.
First day of Term
 Monday 6th January 2025



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 Phone: 01778 422163
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 Email: BAP.enquiries@abbeyacademies.co.uk



Student Council have hit the ground running this year with the delivery and installation of the beautiful bench purchased with a donation from the Bourne Lions – isn't it fab? We have had successful charity days for Children in Need and Christmas Jumper day and are looking forward to a successful year ahead raising money and listening to pupil voice about ways to improve our school.



RECEPTION

What a SUPER term! The Reception children started their learning adventure with our topic 'Superhero Me', using their superhero powers and skills to solve lots of exciting learning missions. Every Superhero needs to start the day with a yummy breakfast, so we tasted different superhero cereals and used lots of amazing adjectives to describe the taste. At our Superhero Graduation



Celebration, the children shed their disguises and came to school dressed as their favourite Superheroes! A particular favourite activity was the Superhero training camp, where we used physical skills to complete lots of challenges. But then, someone else needed our help... It was Supertato!

We listened carefully to the story, retelling and acting it out to help free Supertato from the Evil Pea. Finally, we used our imagination and creative skills to create our own Supertato. Amazing work!

Moving into Term 2, we extended our learning about the world, food and seasons by celebrating the Harvest. We thought of ideas for a prayer to thank God for the Harvest and the Seasons. We shared the story, 'Pumpkin Soup' by Helen Cooper before reading and writing our own recipe and making our own delicious soup! We went on an autumn walk around school to find beautiful autumn leaves and spent a very busy morning building hedgehog houses to help look after local wildlife. We were so excited to use real hammers and screwdrivers with Mr Pateman!

The highlight of this term was undoubtedly the Reception Nativity celebrating the birth of Jesus, 'A Bundle of Joy' The children were amazing actors, super singers and dazzling dancers. The Reception Team would like to wish everyone a safe, happy and peaceful Christmas.



What a fantastic term we've had here at Abbey Ark!

The children have settled in wonderfully, making new friends, getting to know one another, and adjusting to their routines. Our 'Awesome Autumn' topic has been a highlight throughout the term, with the children exploring the changing seasons, creating beautiful autumn-inspired artwork, and immersing themselves in some autumnal stories; 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt', being a firm favourite! The lead-up to Christmas has been full of excitement! Learning about the meaning behind Christmas, writing and posting our letters to Santa and practising our impressive singing talents which we showcased to our families at our Christmas Stay & Play.

We wish everyone a joyful Christmas break and look forward to welcoming everyone back in January as we kick off our new topic, 'Wonderful Winter!'



Year One

What an amazing start to the year we have had! The children have all settled into Year 1 brilliantly and have shown they all have the 'WOW Factor' in so many ways.

Our term's topic 'Once Upon a Time...' started with a fairytale day that saw the children

dressed as their favourite characters from all of the most exciting fairy tales. We combined our English learning with Design and Technology as we made gingerbread people and then had the opportunity to taste our marvellous creations too. The children wrote an amazing set of instructions of how to bake their own gingerbread people. How 'word smart' of them!

A real highlight of our term was visiting the South Holland Centre to watch 'Snow White' the pantomime. It was fantastic for the children to experience live theatre, and they loved joining in by shouting out to the performers and singing along with different parts of the performance. What a brilliant 'fabulous finale' to our topic!

We cannot wait to see the children's excitement for our next adventure 'Treasured Toys and Epic Explorers...' Have a lovely Christmas break and we look forward to seeing you all again in January. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of Year One!



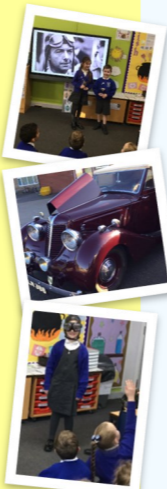
Year 2

What an incredible start we have had in Year 2! We have most definitely had an exciting beginning to our topic

'Danger... Dungeons and Dragons!'. One day, the children arrived at school to find that a mysterious, colourful egg had appeared in each classroom! They predicted what they thought the animal could be and in English, we wrote a set of instructions detailing how we could care for the egg until it hatched. We drew on our science knowledge about how to care for animals and to our surprise, out hatched a beautiful, baby dragon! Meanwhile in history, we began to learn about the Norman invasion. The children loved exploring a range of historical sources, such as the Bayeux Tapestry, to discover details about the Battle of Hastings, William the Conqueror and when castles were first built. We were amazed to find out that this took place in 1066, the furthest point from the present day that we have studied so far! It brought our history learning to life when we designed and made our own castles at school. We demonstrated our creative thinking by recreating the features of a castle using a range of materials, such as the portcullis, battlements, a drawbridge and a moat. Some children even chose to make their own family castle as part of our 'take care' homework palette of choice. These are proudly displayed in our classrooms!

During Term 2, we learnt about a famous historical person in our locality - Raymond Mays! We were lucky to receive a visit from a Raymond Mays car that is 85 years old! The children had the best time investigating the car and asking lots of questions before heading back to our classrooms to learn more about him. Mr Moody, who had met Raymond Mays when he was a boy, brought in some artefacts such as trophies, a signed book, goggles and a hat. Some of us even got to try them on! In our Design and Technology lessons, we then had the opportunity to design, construct and evaluate our very own 3D model cars! We showed excellent problem-solving skills and resilience when fixing the axles and wheels to our cars.

We can't quite believe how quickly this term has flown by but we have been so impressed with the children's enthusiasm and commitment to their learning. All of the Year 2 team would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and we look forward to welcoming you back in the New Year.



Year 3

What an amazing start to Key Stage 2 we've had! This year has been packed with exciting lessons that have captured our imaginations and kept us all on the edge of our seats.

In Term 1, we embarked on a journey across the seven continents, exploring the fascinating diversity of climate zones and the ways they shape cultures and ecosystems around the world. We honked like geese to collect intriguing facts about tropical rainforests, arid deserts, and icy tundras, marvelling at how life adapts to these extreme conditions. Our environmental hero, Sir David Attenborough, inspired us to tackle the pressing issue of plastic pollution, challenging us to think deeply about safeguarding our planet's unique climates. Through persuasive writing, we honed techniques like the rule of three, emotive language, and engaging sentence starters to make our voices heard.

Term 2 transported us back thousands of years to Ancient Egypt, where we cautiously entered the cursed tomb of Pharaoh Rameses. To lift the curse, we stepped into various roles from the Egyptian hierarchy - servants, pyramid builders, and craftspeople among them. A true highlight was where we dressed in costumes, handled authentic artefacts, and explored the aromas of ancient herbs and spices. The pinnacle of fun? Mummifying tomatoes to grasp the grisly art of mummification! Our giggles echoed throughout the school as we practiced this unforgettable process.

It's safe to say that we've given it our all this term and are ready for a well-earned break.

Wishing you a joyful Christmas and a restful holiday season from Year 3.



Year 4

What a fantastic Autumn Term Year 4 have had! We have loved travelling back in time to immerse ourselves in our Veni, Vidi, Vici topic, to explore the enquiry

question: 'Which of the Roman achievements had the most significant impact on Britain?' To our surprise we have found that the Romans were not so rotten! We have learnt all about the importance of the Roman army in developing the empire and have studied the skill of Roman road designers to create roads that still exist today. We have discovered that the Romans are responsible for many amazing inventions such as, cement, place names, central heating and even influencing the architecture of our buildings.

Our exciting visit to Peterborough Museum was a huge success. Like true archaeologists, the children will be able to handle real Roman artefacts to discover what life was like for those who lived during this period of time, they spent time shopping in Roman Durobrivae and even met a Roman 'Medica' and learnt all about the peculiar often gruesome methods of healing the sick. We have certainly taken a journey through time: the rise of the Roman Empire, the devastation and rediscovery of Pompeii and of course most recently, learning about Roman food. Our challenge was to research and develop a Roman recipe - Paupers Pottage. As food technicians, we learnt about the origins of our ingredients, tasted and chose the flavours we most liked, practised preparing and chopping our vegetables and finally tasted and evaluated our stew. A delicious experience for most! Of course, the children should be so proud of their achievements in our year group assembly 'Veni, Vidi, Vici'. The performance saw the children work incredibly hard to learn lines and stage directions and they sported some awesome costumes- well done everyone!

We are very excited about what is in store for next term, our topic of 'Home is where the heart is' is set to be a rollercoaster of explorers, lost protagonists, and heart-warming moments. We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and we will see you in the New Year.



Year 5

The Vile Victorians has been a fantastic first topic for us and we have covered so much: the lives of the rich and poor, the Industrial Revolution, the workhouse, plus school life. All of this was truly brought to life with our Victorian experience day in school and our visit to Southwell Workhouse. The children's wonderful costumes and classroom experience have really helped them understand what life may have been like for Victorian children. How times have changed! We also looked at the Victorian inventor Brunel and designed and constructed bascule bridges as part of our learning in Design Technology. We applied our scientific understanding of gears, levers and pulleys to use a mechanism to lift and lower our bridges which was even more impressive! We investigated the life of William Morris, a famous Victorian artist, and undertook some printing based on his style of repeated patterns and nature. This has been an action-packed term with many exciting activities happening to support our classroom learning. We can't wait for next term! We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy and restful Christmas break. We look forward to seeing you in the New Year!

