

ABBHEY COLLEGE

Abbey Road, Ramsey

Headteacher—Mr Christoforou



01487 812 352 office@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk @AbbeycollegeAC www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk

Headteacher's Message



Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, Ms Farrag led a series of assemblies on the possibility of modifying the school day, in order to further increase our extra-curricular offer from next year. As you may be aware, the

Government have asked schools to extend the school day to increase after-school provision. However, the vast majority of our students take buses home; which is the case for many rural schools. For example, some students have 40 minute bus rides and then a walk thereafter along quiet village lanes. Hence, for safety reasons, we feel it's not reasonable to ask students to stay very late, especially in the winter months, and then take a bus home. However, we do support the need for additional enrichment and this should be an entitlement for all.

Ms Farrag has proposed that we actually shorten the day by reducing Form Time, allowing the school day to finish earlier, without impacting on learning time. This will allow us to provide enrichment whilst we still have daylight. In addition, and similar to many other schools in Cambridgeshire, she also proposed a split-lunch model which will mean calmer lunches and shorter lunch queues. Students are discussing this next week in Form Time to decide how best this might work, so they can still get to see their peers.

By way of a summary:

- An earlier end to the school day would allow after school activities to begin earlier: training and fixtures by sports teams (we finish later than most local secondary schools according to our PE staff, which raises issues with the starting times of fixtures); after-school trips, which could depart earlier without disrupting learning; after-school classes; staff meetings;

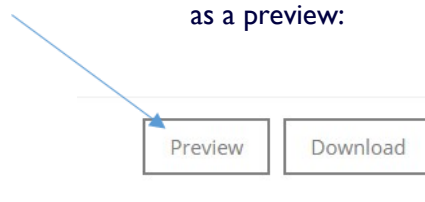
staff training etc. Furthermore, during the winter months, students will be able to make their way home slightly earlier when there is more light;

- A shorter lunchtime would improve the situation on wet lunchtimes when pupils not involved in clubs and activities have to stand on our corridors after they have had their lunch.

A letter has been sent to all parents and we encourage you to feedback via the online survey.

We have listened to you!

We have listened to our parents who have asked for the weekly update to be interactive. It is now available as a preview:



By clicking on the 'preview' button, you can view the update without having to download it, and when you click on the web links (like the one below linked to our blog) it takes you straight to that internet page.

What do you think? (You are still able to download it as a pdf!) Moreover, do you have any thoughts on any of the letters sent out? Do you have any questions you want to ask?

Please write any comments/thoughts on our communication blog: <http://abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/index.php/2015-06-01-09-58-16/communication-blog>

Furthermore, please follow us on Twitter: @abbeycollegeAC. Everyday we are updating it with good news stories and pictures!



You'll love this GREAT news from the Sports Department



The year 7's battled tremendously against a very strong St Ivo side and Harry Holmans brace ensured a 2-1 victory. A great effort from the team!

Abbey College year 9 also had a hard fought final against Sawtry and Ketan Gardiner's extra time winner endured a 2-1 victory.

Year 11's have overcome 4 years without a single victory to work their way to the final with excellent guidance from Mr Rai and William Ellis. They were extremely unfortunate to lose in the cruellest of ways in a penalty shootout. Massive credit is due for their dedication and effort.

Mr Suckling
Head of Physical Education

The district football finals were hosted at St Ivo outdoor centre and Abbey College had 3 age groups represented (a first for over 10 years).

This week's Top Vivos! Well done!

- Archie Cole
- Elise Bayless-Williams
- Tasmin Brown

The full Top 10 Vivo's can be found on our Blog:

<http://abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/index.php/2015-06-01-09-58-16/communication-blog>

Parent Surgery

Thank you to the parents/carers who attended the Surgery on the 18th April. In order to continue to improve our communication with parents and carers, we will be holding our next Parents Consultation Surgery on Monday 23rd May 2016 from 3.15pm to 6.15pm.

If you wish to make an appointment please email Mrs Johnson (jane.johnson@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk) by Friday 6th May. If you could please indicate on your response a brief description of what you would like to discuss, as this will help if information is required.

Key Dates

Monday 2nd May	Bank Holiday Monday
Monday 9th May	Year 10 Parents' Evening
Monday 16th May	GCSE Religious Studies & GCSE Ethics exam
Monday 16th May	GCE Engineering exam

