

Abacus Primary School



6/6/25



We hope that you all had a wonderful break. I can't believe that we have reached the final half term of this academic year, although the weather has not felt very summery this week. Due to the weather on Thursday, school photos had to be taken inside this year and were more of the traditional style.

On Thursday evening, we met our Parents and family members of the children who will begin their Abacus journey in September. This evening our Year Two children will be taking part in their sleepover. This is our biggest sleepover yet with 54 children taking part.

Our large hall lighting was updated over the half term break, this will add ambience to our performances, thank you so much to the FAPS committee for funding this for our school.

We are hopeful that the weather will be on our side for the Key Stage Sports mornings next week. The order of events and information about these sessions are on the following pages. If you have any questions, please speak to class teachers.

The calendar is very busy between now and the end of term, so please keep up to date by reading the weekly newsletters and checking the school calendar on our website (copy and paste the link) https:

www.abacusprimaryschool.co.uk/school-calendar



After half term, we will be on:

WEEK 2





We are so excited that our Sports Days will be taking place next week . Fingers crossed that the weather stays nice and we can all enjoy the two events. Both mornings will begin at 9.30am.

Tuesday will be the turn of Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. Parents are invited to stay on after the races to enjoy a picnic lunch outside with your children. School meals can still be ordered and collected to eat as part of the picnic.

On Thursday, children in Foundation, Years 1 and 2 will be taking part in events and then we invite parents to stay and enjoy a picnic lunch on the field. School meals can still be ordered and collected to eat as part of the picnic.

To ensure that these events run smoothly and to make it fair for all our children and family members please can you all abide by the following:

- Two family members may attend for each family—please make it fair for everyone by adhering to this.
- Gates will be locked from 9.30am until the end of the event. Access after this time will be via the school office.
- Following the races, children can be collected from classroom doors.
- Children will return to their classrooms after the picnic lunch, approximately 1.15pm on Tuesday and 1pm on Thursday, depending upon when the last race finishes.
- Unfortunately siblings in other key stages will not be allowed to join you for the picnic lunch. So KS2 children will not be able to join in with KS1 parents on Tuesday and vice versa for KS1 children on Thursday.
- Please ensure children have a water bottle, hat and that sun cream is applied **before** children attend school.
- Please ensure that any babies/toddlers are supervised to ensure there are no accidents when the races are taking place.
- There will be a section allocated for parents/spectators, please stay in these areas, staff will take care of the children and support them should they get a little upset.
- Toilet facilities should be used in the new build block only and not the staff toilets within the school building.
- Please can we ask that you take all litter home with you.
- Ice creams will be available during the midday break (in the area where Frozen Friday takes place). £1.50 per item (cash only)



KS2 Sports Day

Tuesday 10th June 2025

9.30am

Order of Events



House Parades



Obstacle Race

Hurdles Race

Egg and Spoon Race

Skipping Race

Sprint Race

Long Distance Race Yr 5/6 (5 laps) Year 3/4 (4 laps)

Race order: Year 6, Year 5, Year 4, Year 3

Followed by picnic lunches on the field.



KS1 Sports Day

Thursday 12th June 2025

9.30am

Order of Events



House Parades



Obstacle Race (Yr 1 and 2)

Hurdles Race

Egg & Spoon Race

Quoits Race (F only)

Skiping (Yr2 only)

Sprint Race

Long Distance Race Yr 1/2 (3 laps), FS (1 lap)

Race order: Year 2, Year 1 then Foundation

Followed by picnic lunches on the field.



We are really excited (and so were the children when we spoke about this in our whole school assembly today) that our mobile swimming pool is arriving this weekend. It will take a week to set up and lessons will begin from Monday 16/6/25.

There is an expectation that all children should be able to swim 25m before they leave Primary School.

The school has made a significant contribution to the hire of this facility , we will be asking for a payment for children to swim.

• **A charge of £18.00 will be added to ParentPay accounts. Your payment is your permission for your child to swim. This needs to be paid by Wednesday 11th June 2025 to enable us to start organising the timetable.**

• **Non payment indicates that you do not wish for your child to swim.**

• All children will have one lesson a week.

• Children will swim in groups of a maximum of 12 children in the pool at one time. Non swimmers will be in a smaller group of 6

• Once we have spoken with the swimming coordinator we will let you know the days and times that your child will swim.

• Older children (Years 3,4,5 and 6) will be able to use the changing rooms to change. Younger children (Foundation, Years 1 & 2) will change in the classroom.

• The pool comes with a lifeguard and a swimming instructor.

IMPORTANT

- **Hats must be worn**
- **No Jewellery (including earrings)**
- **1 piece swimwear or shorts above the knee**
- **Goggles allowed but children are encouraged to try without.**
- **No nose clips or ear plugs (unless medically advised)**







School Menu

Abacus Primary School Summer Menu – With effect from 10th March 2025 (amended 21/05/2025)

Week 1	Red Band	Green Band	Yellow Band (DF)(GF)(EF)(SF)	Purple Band	Dessert
Monday	Ham & Pineapple Pizza Spaghetti Hoops GF, DF, EF, SF	Cheese & Tomato Pizza Spaghetti Hoops GF, DF, EF, SF	Jacket Potato with Filling	Cheese & Cucumber Wrap & Crisps EF, SF	Rice Krispy Cake or Fresh Fruit GF, EF, SF
Tuesday	Sausage Pasta GF, DF, EF, SF	Vegetable Tortilla EF, SF	Jacket Potato with Filling	Ham Bagel & Crisps SF	Choc Ice or Fresh Fruit GF, EF
Wednesday	Chicken Pie, Mash & Vegetables EF, SF	Cheese & Red Pepper Slice EF, SF	Jacket Potato with Filling	Cold Tomato Pasta GF, DF, EF, SF	Apple Crumble & Custard or Fresh Fruit EF
Thursday	Chilli Con Carne & Tortilla Chips GF, DF, EF, SF	Quorn Con Carne & Tortilla Chips GF, DF, EF, SF	Jacket Potato with Filling	Chicken Nugget Wrap DF, EF, SF	Flapjack or Fresh Fruit DF, EF, SF, GF
Friday	Jumbo Fish Finger, Chips, Peas or Beans GF, DF, EF, SF	Vegetable Finger, Chips, Peas or Beans DF, EF, SF	Jacket Potato with Filling	BLT Sandwich & Crisps GF, DF, SF	Cookie or Fresh Fruit GF, DF, EF, SF
Week 2	Red Band	Green Band	Yellow Band	Purple Band	Dessert
Monday	All Day Breakfast, Sausage, Bacon, Hash Brown, Beans & Mushrooms GF, DF, EF, SF	Vegetarian All Day Breakfast, Veg Sausage, Hash Brown, Beans & Mushrooms DF, EF, SF	Jacket Potato with Filling	Ham & Cucumber Pitta Bread & Crisps EF, SF	Pancakes & Syrup or Fresh Fruit DF, SF
Tuesday	Southern Fried Chicken, Wedges, Beans or Spaghetti Hoops GF, DF, EF, SF	Vegetable Nuggets, Wedges, Beans or Spaghetti Hoops DF, EF, SF	Jacket Potato with Filling	Cheese Bagel & Crisps DF, SF	Sponge & Custard or Fresh Fruit GF, EF, SF
Wednesday	Cottage Pie & Green Beans GF, EF, SF	Vegetable Quiche, New Potatoes & Green Beans SF	Jacket Potato with Filling	Tuna & Mayonnaise Baguette & Crisps GF, DF, SF	Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit GF, SF, EF
Thursday	Cheese Burger, Lattice Fries & Beans GF, DF, EF	Halloumi Burger, Lattice Fries & Beans GF, EF, SF	Jacket Potato with Filling	Cold Tomato Pasta GF, EF, SF	Brownie or Fresh Fruit DF, EF, SF
Friday	Jumbo Fish Finger, Chips, Peas or Beans GF, DF, EF, SF	Macaroni Cheese EF	Jacket Potato with Filling	Egg Mayonnaise Sandwich & Crisps GF, DF, SF	Shortbread Biscuit or Fresh Fruit DF, EF, SF

Week 3	Red Band	Green Band	Yellow Band	Purple Band	Dessert
Monday	Sausage Baguette, Spaghetti Hoops GF, DF, EF, SF	Vegetarian Sausage Baguette, Spaghetti Hoops DF, EF, SF	Jacket Potato with Filling	Cheese & Cucumber Sandwich & Crisps GF, DF, SF	Jam Tart & Custard or Fresh Fruit DF, EF, SF
Tuesday	Pasta Bolognese & Garlic Bread GF, DF, EF, SF	Quorn Bolognese & Garlic Bread GF, DF, SF	Jacket Potato with Filling	Tuna Mayonnaise Pitta Bread & Crisps GF, SF	Doughnut or Fresh Fruit GF, EF, SF, DF
Wednesday	Chicken Tikka Masala, Rice & Naan Bread GF, EF, SF	Vegetable Noodles DF, EF	Jacket Potato with Filling	Cold Tomato Pasta GF, DF, EF, SF	Smoothie Tub or Fresh Fruit GF, DF, EF, SF
Thursday	Pepperoni Pizza Whirl GF, DF, EF, SF	Cheese & Tomato Pizza Whirl, Beans GF, DF, EF, SF	Jacket Potato with Filling	Cheese Roll & Crisps GF, DF, EF, SF	Meringue with Berry Compote or Fresh Fruit GF, SF
Friday	Jumbo Fish Finger, Chips, Peas or Beans GF, DF, EF, SF	Vegetable Burrito, Chips, Peas or Beans DF, EF	Jacket Potato with Filling	Bacon Sandwich GF, DF, SF	Cookies or Fresh Fruit GF, DF, EF, SF

All meals are served with salad

(GF) Gluten Free

(DF) Dairy Free

(EF) Egg Free

(SF) Soya Free

Jacket Potato fillings are: Tuna Mayonnaise, Cheese or Beans

There have been a few additions and amendments to our menu for allergies due to changes with suppliers.

LET'S CELEBRATE!



Well done to James, Cooper, Samuel, Jack, Layla, Mae, Teddy and Donald for all that they have achieved outside of school.

UPCOMING FAPS EVENTS

**FOR SAVE THE DATE PURPOSES ONLY, DETAILS
WILL BE GIVEN NEARER THE TIME**

Summer Bounce— If you would be happy to have a Temme English sign to advertise this event please contact FAPS.

**FATHER'S DAY
GIFTS**

**JUN
3-7**

**JUN
10/12**

**SPORTS DAY
REFRESHMENTS**

**SUMMER BOUNCE
3:30-6PM**

**JUN
27**

**SEPT
26**

FUN WALK

**BIG SURPRISE
EVENT (EVE)**

**OCT
23**

**NOV
28**

**SKITTLEMAN
BINGO (EVE)**

**WE ALWAYS NEED MORE HELP.
IF YOU CAN HELP SUPPORT ANY OF THE ABOVE PLEASE CONTACT
FAPS@ABACUS.ESSEX.SCH.UK**



Pink



Blue



Red



Orange



Yellow



Turquoise



Lilac

Friday 13th June

Dress in bright colours and donate a prize for our...

Be as
creative as
you can



Best
collection
wins a class
prize

We are asking all children to donate prizes of their class colour

Green



Black



White



Teal



Purple



Gold



Silver



We're excited to invite your school communities to **Roar and Score**—a free, family-friendly event full of football fun, hosted as part of **Basildon Borough Council's Summer of Sport** and in celebration of the **Women's Euros**!

Date: Saturday, 5 July 2025

Time: 13:30 – 16:30

Location: Northlands Park, Basildon, SS13 1SD

What's in store:

- Mini football tournaments
- Football-themed games and activities for the whole family
- Info on local football opportunities and how to get involved
- A brilliant afternoon of sport, community spirit, and celebration!

Whether you're a football fanatic or just looking for a fun day out, this event is open to **everyone**—students, families, friends, and neighbours. It's a great way to get active, connect with the community, and cheer on the Lionesses!

Please feel free to share this invitation with your school community—we'd love to see as many of you there as possible.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about EMOJIS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

GENERATIONAL MISCOMMUNICATION

An emoji like 👍 (thumbs up emoji) might seem friendly to adults, but teens often interpret it as sarcastic or passive-aggressive. These differing interpretations can create confusion or unintended tension in cross-generational conversations.

SHIELDING BULLYING OR PEER PRESSURE

When embedded in emojis, mean-spirited jokes or exclusionary language can fly under the radar. Terms like 'mid' or 'delulu' may seem harmless, but they can be used to undermine peers in subtle ways.

RAPIDLY SHIFTING MEANINGS

Emoji meanings can change overnight. A person standing emoji (🧑) once signified awkwardness but might now be repurposed for something entirely different. This ever-changing lexicon can leave adults in the dark and young people vulnerable to misunderstanding or misuse.

Emojis are more than playful expressions — they form a fast-evolving digital language that many adults struggle to decode. For young people, this 'secret code' is central to how they communicate identity, humour and emotions. With over 5 billion emojis sent daily on Facebook Messenger alone, understanding these symbols is key to engaging meaningfully with digital youth.

MASKING DISTRESS OR HARM

Some emojis are used to discreetly signal troubling behaviours. For instance, 🍂 (falling leaves emoji) or 💊 (pill emoji) might suggest drug use, while 🌵 (wilted flower emoji) could hint at emotional struggles. Such usage can obscure serious issues, making them harder for trusted adults to detect.

NORMALISING RISKY BEHAVIOURS

Emojis can make harmful actions seem light-hearted or fashionable. Strings like 🔥🍷 (fire + 'woozy' face + pill emojis) may appear humorous but can reference partying, intoxication or dangerous challenges, which might otherwise raise red flags.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LEARN THE LINGO

Stay updated with emoji trends and definitions using resources like emojipedia.org or Urban Dictionary. Knowing current meanings builds confidence when engaging with young people and helps spot potential concerns early.

ASK, DON'T ASSUME

Approach unfamiliar emojis with curiosity rather than suspicion. A light-hearted "What does 🧃 (juice box emoji) mean these days?" can open conversation and show that you respect their knowledge.

CREATE SAFE SPACES FOR DISCUSSION

Encourage casual chats about emojis, online slang, memes, or social media trends. Showing interest without judgement reassures young people that they can talk about their digital world openly and safely.

PRIORITISE TRUST OVER SURVEILLANCE

While parental controls and monitoring tools can be useful, emotional safety matters most. Be someone children and young people feel they can come to — not just someone who's watching them.

EMOJI CHEAT SHEET - The following slang terms and emojis are some common examples — please be aware this isn't an exhaustive list.

COMMON EMOJIS:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 🤡 (Clown face) Foolishness or clowning around | 🥰 (Pleading face) Over-affectionate or 'simping' |
| 😬 (Cold face) Cool, stylish or ruthless | 👁️ (Eyes) Watching drama unfold |
| 😍 (Hot face) Intense attraction or excitement | 🐐 (Goat) Greatest of all time (G.O.A.T.) |
| 😐 (Moai) Stone-faced, unbothered | 💅 (Nails) Confidence, sassiness, or indifference |
| 👑 (Crown) 'Slaying', as in doing great | 🚩 (Triangular flag) Red flag; a warning sign about someone's behaviour |

POTENTIALLY CONCERNING EMOJIS

- | | |
|--|---|
| 🍌 (Ear of corn) Slang for pornography (avoids censorship algorithms) | 🌵 (Wilted flower) Often used to convey emotional struggle or sadness |
| ❄️ (Snowflake, snowman, snow cloud) Can symbolise cocaine | 🐍 (Snake) Can represent betrayal or being 'two-faced' |
| 🗝️ (Key, lying face) Related to cocaine use | 🔫 (Water pistol) Sometimes used to reference violence or self-harm |
| 🍃 (Falling leaves, herb, maple leaf) Can symbolise cannabis | ⚠️ (Warning) Used to emphasise drama, threats or emotional turmoil |
| 💊 (Pill) May reference drug use or prescription misuse | 🍜 (Steaming bowl) Refers to nudes ('noods' is an abbreviation of noodles) |

Meet Our Expert

Keith Broni is a globally renowned emoji expert and the Editor in Chief of emojipedia.org, the world's number one emoji resource. He has an MSc in Business Psychology from University College London and an MBA from Quantic School of Business and Technology.



The National College