

Abbot Beyne School  
Everyone a Learner. Everyone Learning.

# Student Newsletter

Friday 22nd November 2024



# Key Stage 3 Update



## Top Positive Points: 11th - 17th November

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
1st Jack F	1st Tyler S	1st = Rayan K Zoe M Anastasija S Harry W
2nd Lexi R	2nd = Kawnain M Ashley R	2nd = Safa N Bola A
3rd Joseph G		

Well done to all

## Year 9 Snowdonia Residential



Year 9 students will have the opportunity to attend an outdoor pursuits residential in

Snowdonia at the end of April 2025. Information has been sent out to all parents and the trip is on ParentPay now. If you like being outdoors and doing things like rock climbing, gorge scrambling and mountaineering then please pay your deposit by Friday 13th December.



## Cold weather arrives at Evershed

A blast of arctic air gave us a decent covering of snow on the ground on Tuesday. As the weather turns increasingly cold, please make sure you have a coat, warm hat and gloves. Remember you are allowed to wear a plain black jumper under your blazer - but no hoodies are allowed.  
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**What Parents & Carers Need to Know about THE DANGERS OF VAPING**

Data collected for ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) shows an increase in 11 to 17-year-olds experimenting with vaping: from 7.7% in 2022 to 11.6% in 2023. It's concerning that these age-restricted products are getting into the hands of under 18s as most contain nicotine, which can be detrimental to brain development and cause long-term addiction. Some schools have reported students having their focus in lessons affected by nicotine cravings; vaping in school toilets; and even trying vapes found in their local park. Raising awareness of the risks among young people could help to prevent these problems from escalating and reduce the number of young vapers.

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

- NICOTINE ADDICTION**
  - Since they were initially developed to help people stop smoking, the vast majority of vape liquids contain nicotine. Not only is this a highly addictive stimulant, but it can also have detrimental effects on brain development in the under-18s. Nicotine can decrease the ability to pay attention, weaken impulse control, affect mood and increase the likelihood of substance addiction as an adult.
- POTENTIAL TOXICITY**
  - Many vape liquids have been found to contain heavy metals such as lead, tin, nickel and (in some cases) mercury - all of which are toxic. These metals often take the form of tiny shards inside a device's liquid tank, which are then inhaled into the body. Some medical reports have suggested these metals are particularly prevalent in illegally imported vapes, which don't comply with UK regulations.
- UNCLEAR LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCES**
  - The liquids in vapes also contain solvents, which can create carcinogens at the point of evaporation. Vapes were only introduced in the UK in 2016 - and, because of the relatively short timeframe involved, there is insufficient medical evidence to assess the long-term harm and regular inhalation of these chemical fluids might have on the human body.
- ATTRACTIVE PACKAGING**
  - The packaging of many disposable vapes is very appealing to young people, frequently echoing the colours and flavours of the sweets or fizzy drinks they're used to buying. There's a relative lack of regulation around the packaging, which is often depicted positively on social media - which can lead young people to develop favourable views of vaping and overlook the possible harms.
- ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS**
  - In the UK alone, around 15 million disposable vapes go to landfill every week. Due to such significant numbers of these products not being recycled, their components - a lithium battery and a chemical liquid - pose a toxic risk to the environment, the ecosystem and wildlife. Vapes are also predominantly made of plastic and metal materials that, of course, do not naturally decompose.

**WHAT IS VAPING?**

Vapes contain a liquid (vape juice/e-liquid) that is heated by a battery and evaporates, creating a chemical vapour which the user inhales. They can be disposable (once the liquid or battery runs out, the vape is thrown away) or rechargeable (the user replaces the liquid and recharges the battery on demand). Most vape liquids contain nicotine and other chemicals.

**LACK OF AWARENESS**

A proportion of young people tend to view vapes as harmless, mostly because of the product's appearance and the perception (often strengthened on social media) that "vaping is cool" and so, to many young people, young people don't fully appreciate the concept of addiction; that they aren't adequately aware of the risk of becoming hooked on nicotine before trying a vape.

**WIDER HEALTH CONCERNS**

Studies are already showing a link between vaping and oral health problems such as tooth decay and gum disease. This is because nicotine reduces the amount of saliva in the mouth, while increasing bacteria - resulting in bad breath and a build-up of plaque. There are also concerns that, in some users, vaping could lead to the development of asthma, a persistent cough and breathing difficulties.

**UNREGULATED VAPING PRODUCTS**

The number of retailers selling vapes to under-18s is a worry, as the chance of these products being unregulated (and therefore containing illegal chemicals and high levels of nicotine) is high. A related concern is that the products are unlikely to have been tested and safety checks aren't presenting a possible fire risk if the liquid and battery come into contact.

**SCARCE INFORMATION**

The lack of information about the ingredients and potentially harmful chemicals in a vape is troubling. Some vape fluids (unregulated in the UK) contain traces of nuts, which can cause an allergic reaction or anaphylactic shock. To date, medical warnings aren't regulated on vape packaging - with only medical disclaimers being found on the websites of the various brands.

**VAGUE INGREDIENTS LISTS**

Early research has suggested that the chemicals used to produce a vape's flavouring and nicotine (often a liquid called diacetyl) can irritate the throat, lungs and heart. These ingredients aren't identified on the packaging, instead being listed as "unnatural", "natural" and "artificial flavourings". Such vague listings mean that consumers aren't aware of the liquid's content so can't identify potential risks.



# Key Stage 4 Update

## Positive Points Update

Year 10 positive points so far - 16049

Year 11 positive points so far - 13642

Well done

# Vaping

Our school has a zero tolerance policy on vapes and smoking. They should not be used or bought into school. Any student found vaping, in possession of a vape or suspected of vaping will be sanctioned. We will always continue to offer support and guidance to students who may vape, if you have any concerns about anyone vaping then please get in touch and we can help support them.

18% of 11-17 year olds have tried vaping – which is around 980,000 children. 47% of these have tried vaping more than once or twice, suggesting more regular use. In 2024, 72% of 11-17 year olds report they were exposed to some form of vape promotion, the main sources being in shops (55%) and online (29%).

# SAY NO TO VAPING



## Attendance

Attending school on a regular basis is the key to your child doing well at school and will set them up with good habits for later life.



## Saturday Club

Year 11 students remember that Saturday club has started where you can get extra support with coursework or subject specific work.

## Toilet Visits

Please make sure you go the toilet at break and lunchtime, so that you don't have to go during lesson time. Students who arrange to meet up in the toilets during lessons will be sanctioned

### What Parents & Carers Need to Know about THE DANGERS OF VAPING

Data collected for ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) shows an increase in 11 to 17-year-olds experimenting with vaping; from 7.7% in 2022 to 11.8% in 2023. It's concerning that these age-restricted products are getting into the hands of under 18s as most contain nicotine, which can be detrimental to brain development and cause long-term addiction. Some schools have reported students having their focus in lessons affected by nicotine cravings; vaping in school toilets and even trying vapes found in their local park. Raising awareness of the risks among young people could help to prevent these problems from escalating and reduce the number of young vapers.

**WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**

- NICOTINE ADDICTION**: Since they were initially developed to help people stop smoking, the vast majority of e-liquids contain nicotine. Not only is this a highly addictive stimulant, but it can also have detrimental effects on brain development in the under-25s. Nicotine can decrease the ability to pay attention, weaken impulse control, affect mood and increase the likelihood of substance addiction as an adult.
- WHAT IS VAPING?**: Vapes contain a liquid (vape juice/e-liquid) that is heated by a battery and evaporates, creating a chemical vapour which the user inhales. They can be disposable (once the liquid or battery runs out, the vape is thrown away) or rechargeable (the user replaces the liquid and recharges the battery on demand). Most vape liquids contain nicotine and other chemicals.
- LACK OF AWARENESS**: A proportion of young people tend to view vapes as harmless, mainly because of the products' appearance and the perception (often strengthened on social media) that "vaping is cool" and on trend. In many instances, young people don't fully appreciate the concept of addiction; that is, they aren't adequately aware of the risk of becoming hooked on nicotine before trying a vape.
- POTENTIAL TOXICITY**: Many vape liquids have been found to contain "heavy metals" such as lead, tin, nickel and (in some cases) mercury – all of which are toxic. These metals often take the form of tiny shards inside a device's liquid tank, which are then inhaled into the body. Some media reports have suggested these metals are particularly prevalent in illegally imported vapes which don't comply with UK regulations.
- UNCLEAR LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCES**: The liquids in vapes also contain solvents, which can create carcinogens at the point of evaporation. Vapes were only introduced into the UK in 2009 – and, because of the relatively short timeframe involved, there is insufficient medical evidence to assess the long-term harms that regular exposure to these chemical fluids might have on the human body.
- ATTRACTIVE PACKAGING**: The packaging of many disposable vapes is very appealing to young people, frequently featuring the colours and flavours of the sweets or fizzy drinks they're used to buying. There's a relative lack of regulation around vape marketing, and vaping is often depicted positively in social media – which can lead young people to develop favourable views of vaping and overlook the possible harms.
- ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS**: In the UK alone, around 1.3 million disposable vapes go to landfill every week. Due to such significant numbers of these products not being recycled, their components – a lithium battery and a chemical liquid – pose a toxic risk to the environment, the ecosystem and wildlife. Vapes are also predominantly made of plastic and metal, materials that, of course, do not naturally decompose.
- WIDER HEALTH CONCERNS**: Studies are already showing a link between vaping and oral health problems such as tooth decay and gum disease. This is because vaping reduces the amount of saliva in the mouth, while increasing bacteria – resulting in bad breath and a build-up of plaque. Users are also concerned that, in some cases, vaping could lead to the development of asthma, or persistent cough and breathing difficulties.
- UNREGULATED VAPING PRODUCTS**: The number of retailers willing to sell vapes to under-18s is a worry, as the chance of these products being unregulated (and therefore containing illegal chemicals and higher levels of nicotine) is high. A related concern is that the mechanisms inside unregulated products are unlikely to have been tested and safety checked – presenting a possible fire risk if the liquid and battery come into contact.
- SCARCE INFORMATION**: The lack of information about the ingredients and potentially harmful chemicals in a vape is troubling. Some vapes (unregulated in the UK) contain traces of nuts, which can cause an allergic reaction or anaphylactic shock. To date, medical warnings aren't required on vape packaging – with only medical advice on being found on the websites of the various brands.
- VAGUE INGREDIENTS LISTS**: Early research has suggested that the chemicals used to produce some strawberry and banana flavour e-liquids can kill cells in the blood vessels and heart. These ingredients aren't identified on the packaging, instead being listed as "natural flavour" and "artificial flavourings". Such vague listings mean that consumers aren't aware of the liquid's content so can't identify potential risks.

### 6 SIGNS THAT YOUR CHILD MAY BE VAPING

- Increased secrecy
- Disappearing money
- Unwillingness to stay home
- Increased thirst
- Desire for spicy or salty foods
- Increased irritability or mood changes

Beaumont



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# Sixth Form Applications



## SIXTH FORM APPLICATIONS

Tours of the school & meet the Head of Sixth Form

- ✓ Wednesday 27th November - 4.00pm
- ✓ Tuesday 3rd December - 4.30pm

To book on please email:  
[office@abbotbeyneschool.co.uk](mailto:office@abbotbeyneschool.co.uk)

If you are unable to make either of the above dates and would like a tour. Please email the office as above.



Tours of the school and meet the Head of Sixth Form

- Wednesday 27th November - 4.00pm
- Tuesday 3rd December - 4.30pm

To book on the tour please email:  
[office@abbotbeyneschool.co.uk](mailto:office@abbotbeyneschool.co.uk)

If you are unable to make either of the above dates and would like a tour then please email  
[office@abbotbeyneschool.co.uk](mailto:office@abbotbeyneschool.co.uk)



## Post 16 Sixth Form at Abbot Beyne School

It can be difficult to cope with everything going on at once in our lives but support is available to you in school or from other services.

Shout – 24/7 text service -

<https://giveusashout.org/>

Young Minds -

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/>

The Mix -

<https://www.themix.org.uk/>



### Upcoming Events

**Thursday 5th December** - Year 11 Certificate Evening

**Friday 13th December** - Christmas Jumper Day

**Friday 20th December** - Last day of term



### Awards and Recognition

**Sixth Form Students of the Week**



**Communications** - Lorraine E and Amber C

**Enterprise** - Theo T and Jack H

**Innovation** - Jack H

**Performance** - Shayyan S and Katie H

**Social Studies** - Archie H and Macey D

<https://www.chch.ox.ac.uk/tower-poetry/enter-tower-poetry-competition>

This looks great on your UCAS and the chance to win a great prize, click the link to find out more!



### Work Experience

You should be actively searching for a work experience placement. EVERYONE needs to go out on work experience.

Ask your form tutors, subject teachers, Miss Smith and Mrs Pollitt for ideas.

Once you have a placement, please complete the form on Grofar (you should have been sent a link).

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Why go anywhere else?  
abbotbeynesixthform





Mr Randall enjoyed meeting the Year 5 students who got to experience an Art lesson at Abbot Beyne School. He was very impressed by the work they produced and how well they settled in.

**A huge congratulations** to all of our BTEC TECH and BTEC National Sport students who have been taking the lead in warm-ups and short skills sessions over the past few weeks. Your dedication and professionalism have been exceptional and it is wonderful to see the confidence and skill you bring to each session.

**Keep up the fantastic work—you're setting a brilliant example**

## Sports to watch in November

- ★ 21: Basketball - EuroBasket 2025 Qualifier: Great Britain v Greece
- ★ 21-23: Formula 1 - Las Vegas Grand Prix
- ★ 21-24: Golf - Group Tour Championship, Naples, Florida
- ★ 23 Nov to 1 Dec: Snooker - UK Championship, York Barbican
- ★ 24: Basketball - EuroBasket 2025 Qualifier: Greece v Great Britain
- ★ 29 Nov to 1 Dec: Formula 1 - Qatar Grand Prix, Losail



## STUDENT OF THE WEEK Performance

- ★ ISLA M
- ★ TYLER S
- ★ MEHDI R
- ★ OLIVER H
- ★ LILY L
- ★ EVIE W
- ★ KATIE H-E

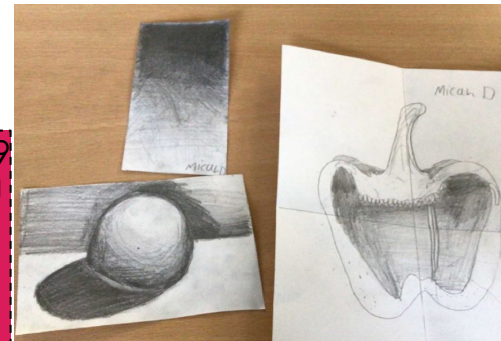
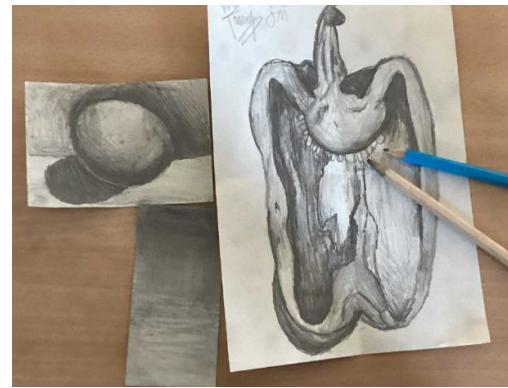


### Know IT All Ninja

Best performers -

- Zena B
- Tiago L
- Lily L
- Onur B

**WELL DONE**



Year 7 have been making excellent progress in their Art lessons, developing their pencil tone skills. Miss Brassington is very impressed with the work her classes are producing. Here are few examples from Micah D, Tauseef M & Jack F- well done.

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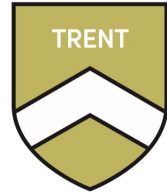


Miss Brassington's Year 9 Art group have produced a clay piece for their Hundertwasser project. Here are some of the great examples of the work from 9H/Ar4.

**Year 11 photography students** working hard during lunchtime to add in an an extra photoshoot for their current project "Illuminate". **Well done Daria B & Vanessa K for helping. out.**







The House Humanities Quizzes start next week

Can your form group earn the highest scores across the week?

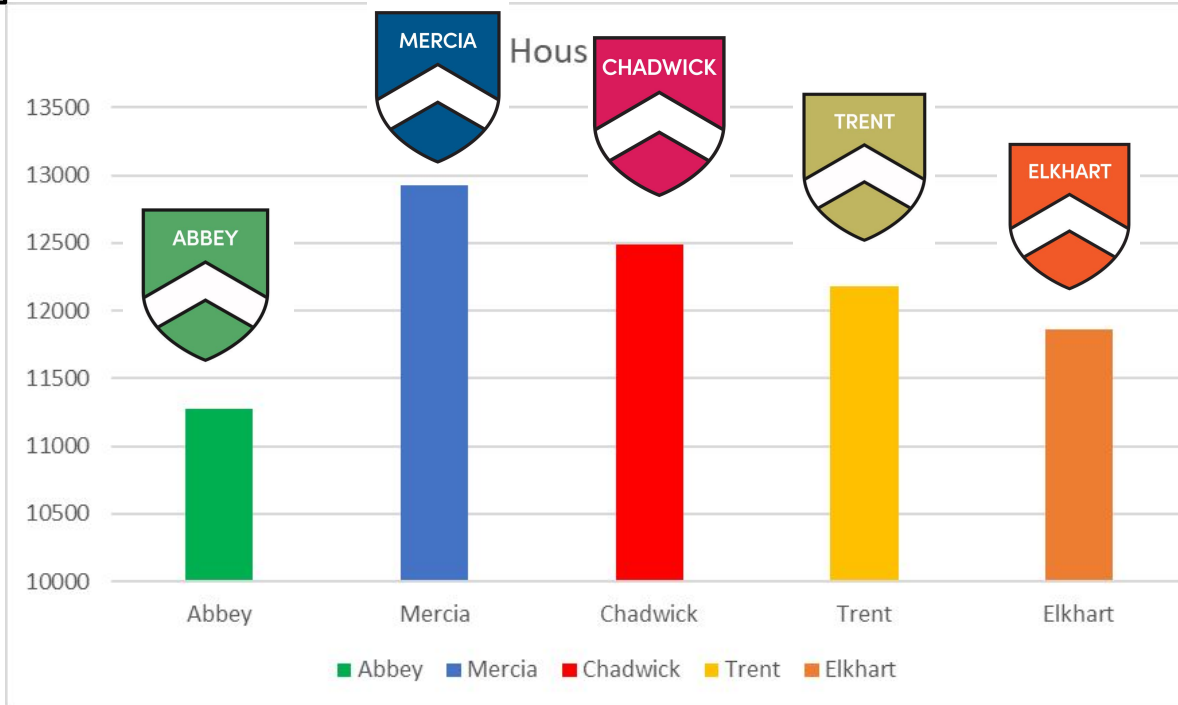
Remember you can earn house points in a number of ways:

- Effort in classwork or homework
- Attending extra curricular activities
- Showing respect, taking responsibility or demonstrating resilience



## House points

Mercia continue to lead the house points competition. Can Abbey close the lead and stay in touching distance before the Christmas holidays?



# Enrichment

Mrs Sullivan took the Year 12 English Literature students to Stratford upon Avon to the world famous Royal Shakespeare Company to watch a performance of Othello last week. This was a great opportunity for the students to watch this A level text in an iconic theatre setting, performed by some of the finest actors in the country. Head student George H had this to say about the performance:

*"The Royal Shakespeare Company's latest staging of Othello, with John Douglas Thompson in the title role, is a lesson in theatrical excellence. Thompson gives nothing less than an extraordinary performance as Othello, commanding on stage, with a voice like gold, and subtly rendering the character's transition from dignified general to heartbroken madman. The supporting cast is equally impressive, with Iago's character crafted to perfection, personifying manipulation and malice, and the innocence and elegance of Desdemona make the tragic nature of their fates all the more depressing. This Othello is a triumph, it feels alive and is a testament to the RSC's ability to breathe new life into classic work. A fresh reminder of why Shakespeare proves eternal, it is an essential theatrical experience, one which will stay in the mind long afterward."*



**Othello**

## Enrichment Experience:

- To watch, or take part in, a live production of a play, musical or dramatic performance

### Venue:

- RSC Stratford

### Students:

- Year 12



Mr Stafford took a group of A level Geography and A level Photography students to Liverpool for the day to complete some practical fieldwork. The geographers learnt all about the regeneration of the docklands area of the city and the photographers used the same locations to take photographs and build up their portfolio of work.

## Enrichment Experience:

- To undertake practical fieldwork in an outdoor setting away from school..

### Venue:

- Liverpool

### Students:

- Year 13



**Liverpool**



# Attendance



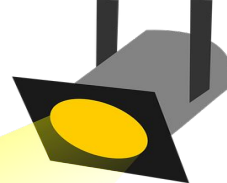
The effect of of absence on progress					
A whole year has 365 days; a school year has 178 days. That leaves 187 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping and other appointments.					
No absence	9 days absence	11 days absence	18 days absence	27 days absence	36 days absence
100%	95%	94%	90%	85%	80%
Very Good		Worrying		Serious Concern	
Best chance of success. Gets your child off to a flying start.		Less chance of success. Makes it harder for your child to make progress.		Your child will find it very difficult to make progress	

**Most Improved  
Form  
Attendance  
7B**

**Best Form  
Attendance  
10C**

**Most Improved  
House  
Attendance  
Mercia**

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## Careers under the spotlight: Mrs Lowe, Director of Learning Innovation



**What was your first job?**

Hairdresser

**If you hadn't become a teacher what alternative career path might you have chosen?**

When I left school at 16 I was already working as a hairdresser and did a two year apprenticeship. At 18 I decided to complete my 3rd year, which included the teaching of hairdressing practical and theory. I then worked in a teaching salon teaching NVQ Hair to 16 year olds. At 21 I realised that this was actually not the career path for me so went back to education and completed my GCSEs and A Levels so that I could go to university.



**What or who influenced your career choice?**

My college tutor gave me the love of Chemistry, he was passionate about his subject and made it fun and interesting. Then, at University, my Physical Chemistry lecturer made teaching seem fun, engaging and most of all interesting. Having taught hairdressing, I knew that I already loved teaching students, so it seemed the most logical career path.

**What do you know now that you wish you'd known then?**

I wish I had realised at 16 that I would fall out of love with hairdressing in such a big way and therefore not have (what I now see as) wasted 5 years before going back into education. Also I would have done a degree that included some work experience.

**What is your greatest achievement?**

My wonderful daughter. She means more than any academic achievement I have ever received.

**If you could go back in time and study any degree at any university in the world, where would it be and what would you study?**

The same degree, but I think I would have gone to America, maybe Harvard or MIT.

**What was your worst job?**

Night shift in a nursing home which I did whilst at university to help pay my mortgage.



# HAF Winter programme 2024 - booking is still open



## Activities Available

There will be lots of different clubs for families to choose from across the county and in the local area [Holiday activities and food programme - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/topics/holiday-activities-and-food-programme)

## Booking Process

1. All activities will be advertised on the 'Staffordshire County Council' website where you can watch a video which explains the process and see 'HAF in action'. [Holiday Activities and Food timetables - Staffordshire County Council](#)
2. There is a '**Book Now**' button on the HAF website where you can register your interest, book sessions, or sign up for free school meals or click here [Book now](#)
3. You will be asked to have your child's unique **HAF code** to hand to book the activities of your choice. You can also scan using the QR code.

## Support to Book

You can contact your local Family Hub for support. Details can be found at [Family Hubs - Staffordshire County Council](#)

**FREE**

## Holiday Activities and Food

Department for Education

Staffordshire County Council

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD

### Holiday Activities and Food

Funded for children and young people aged 5-16 who get free school meals\*. Paid places also available.

[staffordshire.gov.uk/holidayactivities](https://staffordshire.gov.uk/holidayactivities)

SCAN ME!

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# Festive Lights Switch on Event



**Saturday 30th November  
3.30pm to 4.30 pm**



**Join us for music and refreshments  
at the open space on  
Beaufort Road**



**With support from  
Co-op Woods Lane  
Tesco Express**

**Please park considerately  
Walk if possible**

This event is weather dependent - please check our Facebook page or contact 07540 600 111 for confirmation on the day



THE BEST OF BURTON

# CHRISTMAS MARKET

SUNDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 12-6PM  
BURTON MARKET HALL & MARKET PLACE  
FREE TO ATTEND



An afternoon of festive fun and entertainment for all! Enjoy delicious food, hot drinks, live music and plenty more festive cheer. With free entry, come and join in the spirit of Christmas.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT [WWW.BESTOFBURTON.CO.UK](http://WWW.BESTOFBURTON.CO.UK)



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DISCOVER  
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