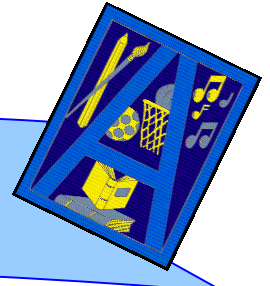


Abercorn News

December 2016



Dear Parent/Carer

As you will see from this newsletter it has been another busy month here in Abercorn. The pupils have enjoyed a number of Christmas activities including a pantomime, a pizza and DVD treat and our end of term Ceilidh that was featured on BBC Alba.

Our Christmas Carol Service was a great success. I would like to thank those parents/carers who were able to attend. The school band and choir were a great success earlier this month when they performed at the Financial Services Association Christmas Lunch in The Grand Central Hotel. It really is lovely to see our former pupils mixing with the new up and coming musicians and continuing to entertain people in the festive season.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2017.

Patricia McGowan

Merry
Christmas



Christmas Holiday Information:

School will close at 2.30pm on Wednesday 21st December and re-open at 8.55 am on **Thursday 5th January 2017.**

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year

Pantomime

On Friday 16th December 120 pupils and staff spent a very enjoyable morning at the "Elfie's Magical Adventure" Pantomime in the Pavillion. We are very grateful to the Pavillion Theatre for donating these tickets free of charge.

Christmas Lunch



On Friday 9th December our pupils came together to have their Christmas Lunch. Everyone seemed to enjoy the 3 course feast and staff commented on the good behaviour of the children and the lovely festive atmosphere throughout.

Christmas Carol Concert

On Tuesday 20th December we will hold our annual Christmas Carol Concert. As always we look forward to the musical treats displayed by Mr Devlin and his talented musicians.



School Band Gig

On Thursday 8th December the school band played a gig at the Grand Central Hotel during the Financial Services Association Christmas lunch. It is a very prestigious event during which we were happy to provide the entertainment and the organisation have kindly offered to donate the proceeds of their raffle to the school. A big thank you to those who took part.



Christmas Fair

On Wednesday 7th December we held a very successful Christmas Fair. We had a number of stalls selling different things including home baking, Christmas gifts, toys, DVD's and books as well as our usual tombola, raffle and café. It was a fabulous morning and we are delighted to say we raised over £800 from the event. We are very grateful to all who supported us. Thank you to everyone who donated things for us to sell. In particular, we must say a special thank you Mrs McKenzie grandmother of David Mott in S6 for her donations of home baking. Thanks also to the family of William Gordon in S1 who donated a huge hamper as first prize in our raffle and to the family of former pupil Samantha McKillop who donated a knitted Mr and Mrs Claus as second prize.

S1/2 Christmas Party

On Friday 16th December S1 and S2 pupils were invited to a Christmas Party which was organized by the Crazy Entertainers Dynamic Youth group. Pupils were very excited about going along and there were a number of activities and treats planned for them. Thank you very much to Gareth Gillies who came along as Braedolph to entertain everyone.

Alternative Transport Contact Number

The transport co-ordination centre have provided an alternative number which is more suitable to call from a mobile. If you use a mobile phone and need to contact the transport co-ordination centre to query your child's transport you can call **0141 287 1056**.



Uniform

As you know the Abercorn School Uniform consists of:

- White Shirt, buttoned
- School tie
- Black cardigan/jumper
- Black trousers (boy)
- Black Skirt or trousers (girl)
- Black shoes or trainers
- Black Blazer



We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents/carers as they prepare for their child to return to school in January that pupils are not permitted to wear football colours, hooded jumpers, leggings or white trainers.

St Aloysius' College voluntary service programme



We have been very fortunate this term to have had 3 pupils from St Aloysius College with us one afternoon per week as part of The Arrupe Programme which is a voluntary service programme. The programme provides St Aloysius students with an opportunity to use their own gifts and talents for the

benefit of others; and to reflect and learn from that experience. The pupils will undertake two different placements throughout their senior year and the group we had recently completed their first ten-week placements in Abercorn. Each placement has a different focus and aims to teach the student different things about themselves and the world. At the end of each week students went back to school and completed a journal, detailing their experiences. The group of pupils we had were excellent, they were very willing to get involved in everything that was asked of them and they were very supportive of the pupils they worked with.

Symphony of Dreams

We must extend our thanks to the organisation Symphony of Dreams who have been very generous to us in the last few weeks. They brought along an up and coming boy band called "Single By Sunday" to play for us on Friday 9th December and also very kindly donated a number of panto tickets and tickets to see the musical Ghost after Christmas. This is in addition to the vast array of musical instruments they donated to us last month. Thank you once again to Symphony of Dreams.

Investment Challenge

S5/6 Business students have been taking part in BNP Paribas Stock Market Challenge. Their problem solving skills and quick reactions were tested to see if they could make a profit from buying and selling shares through an online simulation. The students are up against other Scottish schools with the results being revealed on Wednesday 7 December.

CRNS Schools Challenge

The Eco-committee have won the CRNS Schools Challenge 2016 this year. Joanne McDonald (S5) and Shannon Gun (S4) represented the school at the CRNS Conference and Awards ceremony in Perth and were presented with a cheque for £500 and certificate. The committee members are recycling plastic water bottles from the dinner school to build a greenhouse on the school grounds.

Tennents Training Academy

A selection of S4 pupils will be attending a pizza making workshop on Thursday 5th January 2017 at the Tennents Training Academy. We have attended similar workshops in the past and they are always excellent. Thank you to the Academy for having us back again.

Determined to Animate



Determined to Animate' is a competition sponsored by Glasgow City Council. Abercorn's entry required the S4

Media class to work together to produce a 'Stop Go' animation dealing with the delicate issue of mental health. They produced the backgrounds and made all the props before photographing each frame individually. They composited the final animation using Movie Maker. On the 2nd December at the award ceremony held at the Glasgow Film Theatre, their animated film won first prize for the Best Secondary Animation category and received a certificate and trophy.

Housing Conference

Please see the attached leaflet for information on a housing conference taking place in January providing advice and support for young people on the Autistic Spectrum. All contact details are on the leaflet if you wish to book a place at this worthwhile event.

Italy Ski Trip

A group of young people and staff recently returned from a very successful residential trip to Pila in Italy where they further developed their ski skills in a real life setting. The young people had a fantastic time and the staff all commented on the excellent behavior and participation.



Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership

The Glasgow City HSCP have provided information on a number of issues affecting young people in the city. Some of these are detailed below:

iRights – The youth commission for Scotland has launched a clear and simple framework to enable young people to access the internet creatively, knowledgeable and most important safely see more at <http://young.scot/media/4672/irights-youth-commission-final.pdf>

Child Bereavement UK – Centre based in North Glasgow Maryhill Community Central Halls providing free support and information to children and young people up to the age of 25 who have been bereaved. Family support groups are also available.

Weigh to Go – A service for 12 to 18 year olds who are overweight and want to lose/manage their weight. Young people can be referred to this service by calling 0141 451 2727

North West Youth Health Service – a holistic service for young people ages 12 to 19 years and their parents. Young people can access a range of support from the following staff: Nurse, Doctor, Counsellor, Youth Workers and Gym Instructors (Maryhill). Advice also offered on a variety of topics. Tuesday 6.00 – 8.30pm at Drumchapel Health Centre, Wednesday 6.30 – 9pm Possil Health Centre and Thursday 6.30 – 9pm at Maryhill Health Centre.

Student Council Raffle

Our student council raised £40 from the chocolate raffle. We donated this to Social Bite and bought 8 Christmas dinners for homeless people in Glasgow.



