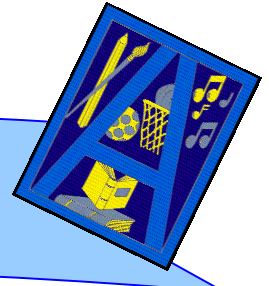


# Abercorn News



February 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to the February edition of our newsletter. This is always a difficult term for staff and pupils. SQA examinations and the internal assessments for the nationals contribute to the increase in pace for everyone. We will continue to support pupils over the next few months to ensure that they reach their full potential in this SQA qualification diet.

Over the last few weeks we have begun our Primary/Secondary transition programme. Pupils will have the opportunity over the next couple of months to spend one afternoon each week learning the routines of Abercorn – they and their parents will be a great addition to the Abercorn community.

Thank you very much to all of the parents/carers who said they would attend the last parents' evening of the session – I am looking forward to seeing you all then. We are also having an open afternoon on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March for you to meet the new Pastoral Care Year Heads Mr Connor and Mrs Mackenzie and also for you to have the opportunity to meet Catherine Jephson our Children First Family Worker. Catherine has also arranged for Lisa McNaughton Children Firsts Money Advisor. It will be fantastic if you could join us then we have received excellent feedback from parent/carers regarding the advice and support that Children First has provided them with. I have enclosed an invitation for this event with the newsletter.

We are also involved in the following international activities this month:

## **World Book Day – Thursday, 7 March**

We are planning to hold a "Booky Breakfast" on Thursday 7 March as part of our World Book Day activities. Pupils will have the opportunity to read/listen to a variety of stories and be served breakfast too. We intend to donate money towards the World Book Day fundraising activities that provide books to young people across the world who do not have access to them. It costs about £2 per book and it would be great if Abercorn could buy a few – if you would like to make a small donation that would be fantastic.

## **International Women's Day – Friday, 8 March**

As part of our commitment to celebrating International Women's Day then a group of 5 S5/6 girls will attend an event in the City Chambers on Thursday, 7 March – this will be a fantastic opportunity for them to participate in this event.

I have also enclosed an invitation to our Easter Service and I hope that you will be able to attend. As you all know we appreciate your continued support and if there is anything that you would like to discuss please do not hesitate to contact the school.

As you will be aware we are continuing to experience inclement weather, it seems to change every day. Can I please remind you to ask your son/daughter to bring a winter jacket to school as we are often out and about in the community as part of their learning activities.

*Patricia McGowan*

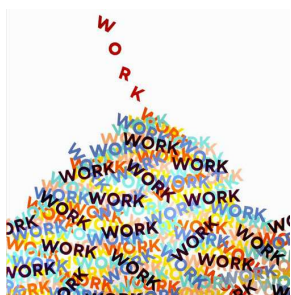
## Parents Evening

Our second parents evening of the academic session will take place on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February from 4.15pm till 7.15pm. This is an opportunity for parents

of young people in S1, S5 or S6 to speak to your child's teachers about their work in each individual subject area.



## Work Experience/Work Awareness



Our S4 pupils recently took part in a number of activities aimed at Developing the Young Workforce. A number of the young people were out on week long work placements in a variety of

settings including nurseries, offices, animal welfare organisations, leisure centres and RSBI. They got very good reports with many receiving very positive comments for their conduct and work rate during the week. The other young people within the year group took part in a series of work awareness visits over the last few weeks where they had the opportunity to see a number of different work places and gather information. They visited places such as Barclays, the Fred Paton Centre and John Lewis and had visits from the Police and former pupils talking about their jobs. The young people got a lot from this experience will have the opportunity to evaluate the visits and explain what they liked and disliked. We are very grateful to all of the workplaces who gave up their time to give our pupils such beneficial experiences.

## Saltire Transport Card

The Saltire Transport Card provides free bus travel anywhere in Scotland and a concession rate for rail travel anywhere in Strathclyde for people with disabilities. The cards can be applied for at Buchanan Street Bus Station or your local Social Work office Monday to Friday 9.30 am till 3.30 pm. If applying you will require to have proof of age, address, disability and a passport photo. There are also options for companion cards in certain circumstances. For more information please use this link <http://www.transport.gov.scot/public-transport/concessionary-travel-people-aged-60-or-disability>

## Internet Safety

We celebrated Safer Internet Day with a whole school assembly on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February where we discussed the issue of consent online and ensuring that you always give consent and seek consent when posting things online. Further information is included with this newsletter. Please take the time to speak to your young people about their online activities and ensure they are kept safe.



## Transport Co-ordination Centre Freephone Number



Please call the Transport Co-ordination Centre on **0800 032 4444/0141 287 1056** if a pupil is not going to

be on their taxi run. This is a freephone number available 24 hours a day. The school should also then be informed of any pupil absence.

We must also be made aware if a pupil has not travelled in the morning taxi but **does** require to be added to the run for the home time journey. If pupils have not travelled in to school by taxi that morning drivers **will not** take them home without prior notice.

Please note also that the wait time for taxis is only **5 minutes**. Pupils should be ready and waiting for their taxi to arrive as drivers are unable to wait outside the house for longer than 5 minutes.

**If your child is not going to require the taxi it is important you contact Transport to let them know to cancel the taxi for that run. There are costs incurred when taxis arrive when not needed.**

## Comic Relief



As you know each year we support Comic Relief through a variety of fun fundraising events. This year will be no different and these are currently being planned for the day itself Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March. In the run up to Comic Relief we will be selling fundraising merchandise in School. Please see Ms Walsh or Miss Jaffrey.

## Glasgow's Dragons Den

S3 recently attended the Glasgow's Dragons Den event to present their Aberscane Social Enterprise idea to the judges. They were very impressed by their idea to sell scones to staff once a month to raise money to support Social Bite. The group did very well presenting their ideas on stage. Well done!

## STEM Club

Our Friday afternoon STEM club continues to work on exciting tasks to explore the world of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths). Recently they have been building weight bearing structures and model aeroplanes which looked amazing!

## Cinema Card



The Cinema Exhibitor's Association Card (CEA Card) is a cinema card for disabled children over the age of 8 that gives a parent or carer a free adult cinema ticket whenever they accompany a disabled child to the cinema. To qualify for the CEA card **you must be receiving Disability Living Allowance or Attendance Allowance**, or be registered blind. There is a small one-off processing cost of £6.

The CEA card is available to parents of children over 8 years old. To apply you will need proof of eligibility, a photo and a one of payment of £6. You no longer need a code to renew your CEA card. The CEA card is valid for one year from the date of issue. You can pay for your card online or by post.

For more information or to apply please visit [www.ceacard.co.uk](http://www.ceacard.co.uk)

## Dates for your Diary (March 2019)

### S3 reviews ongoing - appointments to be advised individually

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March   | PE pupils attending European Indoor Athletics   |
| Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March   | Duke of Edinburgh Student Reps to meet Earl of Wessex   |
| Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March  | 4B to Barclays to investigate the workplace   |
| Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> March  | P7 transition – lunch and PE  |
| Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March   | International Women’s Day   |
| Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March   | World Book Day – Booky Breakfast  |
| Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March   | Gaelic Conference, Stirling   |
| Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March  | Comic Relief Fundraising events   |
| Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March   | 3A to host local nurseries for community activity   |
| Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March   | P7 Transition Lunch and PE  |
| Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March  | Crazy Entertainers hosting Easter Party for S1 and S2   |
| Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March   | Aldi Employability workshop for S4  |
| Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March   | Easter Service  |
| Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March   | P7 Transitions Lunch and PE   |
| Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March  | School Closes at 2.30pm for Spring Break (re-opens Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April)                           |
| Contact us:<br>Abercorn Secondary School<br>195 Garscube Road<br>Glasgow<br>G4 9QH | Email: <a href="mailto:headteacher@abercorn-sec.glasgow.sch.uk">headteacher@abercorn-sec.glasgow.sch.uk</a> |
|  | Phone: 0141 332 6212  |
|  | Twitter: @AbercornSecSch  |



twitter 



We would like to wish Bella Van Velsen well as she travels to Abu Dhabi to represent Scotland West in the Special Olympics World Games. Good luck Bella! We can't wait to hear all about it when you get back.



SPECIAL OLYMPICS  
**WORLD GAMES**  
ABU DHABI 2019

الأولمبياد الخاص  
**الألعاب العالمية**  
أبو ظبي 2019