

Dear Parent/Carer

This has once again been a very busy month for all of the pupils and staff in Abercorn and everyone is looking forward to their mid-term break. This term our senior pupils and staff have been working hard toward their SQA qualifications. This term we are awaiting feedback from SQA for one department with staff and pupils having worked hard to prepare for this. As always the pupils have been involved in a variety of activities including cross country and numerous outings. Our football team is continuing their winning ways and are top of the league at present and unbeaten this season. Well done to the players and coaches!!!

Over the next few months parents of S2 and S3 pupils will be invited to a information session to discuss the new qualifications and the opportunities that our young people will have to personalise their curriculum. I realise that the introduction of this new curriculum is a stressful time for parents, staff and young people however to date our young people are coping well with these changes this year and we are confident that our pupils will continue to cope very well with the new qualifications.

Please continue to follow us on Twitter: @AbercornSecSch. This will keep you up to date on all of the events, outings and activities we are arranging.

Patrícía McGowan

#### Dates for your Diary (February 2017

Mid Term Holiday Friday, Monday, & Tuesday, 10-14 February Inset Day Wednesday, 15 February

S4 Reviews taking place throughout the month – appointmenes and ite automatical and a second and	
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	S3 Scottish Studies Group 1 to Kelvingrove Museum workshop
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	S5/6 visit to City Chambers
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	S5/6 Crazy Hat Walk (Prom Committee)
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	S3 Scottish Studies Group 2 to Kelvingrove Museum workshop
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	S4 to college recruitment event at Banqueting Hall, City Chambers
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	Mid-term Holiday
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Mid-term Holiday
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	Mid-term holiday
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> February	In-Service day
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	Crazy Entertainers Valentine's Party 1.45pm – 2.45pm
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	S4 Work Experience/Work Awareness Week
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Teenage Booster DTP/Men ACWY and HPV Mop up
March	
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Parent's Evening 4.15pm – 7.15pm

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#### S4 Work Experience/Work Awareness



Our S4 pupils will be experiencing the world of work during the week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> February. A number of pupils will be on a week long placement with an employer and the others will be visiting a

2 different workplaces each day to gain an awareness of the different employment opportunities available. Parents will receive more detailed information in due course.

### **Literacy News**



Our young people have been working on improving their literacy for

a number of years and we continue to seek opportunities to support this process. Our lunchtime literacy club continues to prove very popular with the young people enjoying the opportunity to read in a social setting and have stories read to them. We also recently had an author visit to speak to S1 and S2 about her job and the process of writing. The young people found this very interesting.

The young people have also been issued with short homework tasks to build skills in the areas of reading and writing. These tasks should be undertaken at home, however, if anyone genuinely has an issue completing the work Ms Hunter and some of the staff have offered times where they will be available to support the completion of the tasks. If any parent/carer would like more information regarding the literacy homework tasks please contact Ms Hunter.

#### **Tennent's Training Academy**

A group of young people studying Health and Food Technology attended a recent workshop at the Tennent's Training Academy where they had the opportunity to create a pizza in a commercial kitchen setting. They had an absolutely fantastic time and were delighted with the very professional looking pizzas they produced. Our thanks go to the Tennent's Training Academy for facilitating this visit and for their continued support.

# **Coding Club**

A number of young people are taking part in an after school coding club from 3:30pm

to 4:30pm . A mix of S1-S4 pupils are working with ComputerXplorers and Glasgow University to develop coding knowledge and understanding. This builds on the skills for learning, life and



for learning, life and work. The program they are using is Kudo.

# **Board Games Club**

Following on the success of the lunchtime strategy board games club the group now meet after school on a Wednesday to allow for a longer game time. They have been playing games such as Pandemic and The Settlers of Catan which has really deve4loped their problem solving skills and their ability to think strategically. The group are enjoying the experience.

### 2 Fat Ladies at the Buttery



Mr Anderson, Mrs Middleton and a group of S5/6 pupils recently spent time with Ryan James at 2 Fat Ladies at the Buttery. Mr James has very kindly offered to support the school with our Special Olympics fundraising and invited the pupils down to discuss how he can help. They were treated to a lovely afternoon tea while they discussed fundraising efforts and he was very impressed. We are extremely grateful to Ryan and his staff for their support and look forward to working with him.

#### Personal Achievement Walking Group

S3 pupils undertaking the Personal Achievement Award have chosen walking as the focus of their Hobbies and Interests units and are busy researching routes in the local area. They will be out walking to improve their fitness over the next few Wednesdays.

# **Special Olympics Dance**

Partick Thistle have also been very proactive in supporting our fundraising efforts and have arranged a dinner dance on Friday  $21^{st}$  April 2017 in the Petershill club. More information is detailed on the attached flyer and all proceeds will go towards the £10,000 fundraising target to enable the young people to participate in the Special Olympics UK Games this summer. Please get in touch with Mr Kerr if you require more information.

# Clyde College Anniesland Campus

Mr Hugh Kelly, the Senior Lecturer for ASL learners at Clyde College(Anniesland Campus) is keen to engage with as many prospective 2017 -18 Full Time ASL students and their parents /carers as possible. He has arranged an open evening at the Anniesland Campus on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February between 4pm and 7pm. If any parents/carers would like to go along and see the college and hear more about the available courses please contact Hugh so that he can arrange appropriate staffing for the event. The flyer advertising the event is attached to this newsletter.

### **Tesco Bags for Help**

We would like to extend our thank to all the parents/carers and friends of Abercorn who supported the recent Tesco Bags for Help scheme by placing the blue tokens in the box for Abercorn. The winners of the grants will be announced in the next 6 months – we will keep you posted.

# **Science Centre**



S4 pupils recently visited the Science centre and were delighted to find they had the place almost to themselves!

They spent time looking at the exhibits in the science mall and visited the planetarium. All agreed it was a great trip.