

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to the March edition of our newsletter. This is always a very difficult term for staff and pupils. SQA examinations and the internal assessments for the new Nationals contribute to the increase in pace for everyone. So far this term we have had two of our National 3 qualifications verified by SQA as well as a visiting verifier for our National 1 and 2, we are extremely pleased to report that our assessment judgements are valid and that they have highlighted specific areas of good practice within the subjects. We will continue to support pupils over the next few months to ensure that they reach their full potential in this SQA qualification diet.

So far we have had 4 new S1 pupils confirmed as joining us in August 2018. They have had the opportunity over the past few weeks to spend part of a morning each week learning the routines of Abercorn – they and their parents will be a great addition to our Abercorn community.

The adverse weather that we experienced last earlier this month has meant that a number of activities/events have had to be re-organised. I can only apologise for any inconvenience that this may have caused however I am sure that you will agree with me that there was nothing else we could have done in the circumstances.

As many of you will know Miss Thomson and her baby girl are now on maternity leave. Mr Fletcher has taken over as Student Tutor for class 2D. I am also delighted to say that we have a new PE teacher, Mr Scougall who will join our Abercorn community on Monday, 23 April.

I would like to thank you all very much for your continued support during this school term. Our Parents' Evening, Annual Review and School Services have all been very well attended. Despite having to rearrange our Senior Phase Parents' Evening we had a turnout of 56% and an overall attendance of 70% for the session. I would also like to thank you for your generosity this term by supporting a number of fundraising events both for our school and for the wider community.

As you will see from the dates for your diary section next term is already filling up and will prove to be an extremely busy term. Not only do we have a number of Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh expeditions we also have a further three residential trips taking our pupils to Aviemore to compete in the National Disability Shinty Competition as well as to London and Spain.

I hope that you all had a very pleasant Easter weekend and the spring break will give everyone the opportunity to recharge their batteries and come back refreshed for the new term.

Patrícía McGowan



Dates for your Diary (Summer 2018)

Wednesday 28 th March	Easter Service
Wednesday 28 th March	Reuse Recycle Fair
Thursday 29 th March	Aber-mania, Dance-a-thon – School Prom Fundraising
Thursday 29 th March	School closes at 2.30 pm
April	
Monday 16 th April	School reopens for the summer term
Tuesday 17 th April	S5/6 to North west Foodbank (donations welcome)
Wednesday 18 th April	S2 PUMA Trip
Wednesday 18 th April	3A to Round in Circles museum workshop (Riverside Museum)
Thursday 19 th April	Parents Meeting for London Trip 11.30am
Thursday 19 th April	Transition Club
Monday 23 th April	Duke of Edinburgh – Girls Expedition (all week)
Tuesday 24 th April	Duke of Edinburgh – Bronze Expedition (3 days, 2 nights)
Tuesday 24 th April	Children First Money Advice Drop In (afternoon)
Thursday 26 th April	National Disability Shinty Tournament, Aviemore
Monday 30 th April	S5/6 Volunteer group and S3 eco group to Lunderston Bay Beach Clean
Мау	
Monday 7 th May	May Day – School Closed
Tuesday 8 th May	Inset Day
Friday 25 th May	May Holiday
Monday 28th May	May Holliday
Wednesday 30 th May	Primary/Secondary Transition
Thursday 31 st May	Primary/Secondary Transition
Thursday 31 st May	Bingo Night – 7.30pm until 10.00 pm
June	
Monday 4 th June to	Residential trip to London
Wednesday 6 th June	
Thursday 7 th June	Senior School Prom
Saturday 9 th June to	Residential trip to Spain
Saturday 16 th	
Thursday 21 st June	Annual Awards Ceremony
Contact us:	Email: <u>headteacher@abercorn-sec.glasgow.sch.uk</u>
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Bingo Night

Our senior pupils are currently preparing for a residential trip to Spain in June and to help towards the costs they have organized



a bingo night to take place on Thursday 27th April. Tickets will be £5 and are available from Miss Campbell.

College Tasters

Our S4/5/6 pupils have recently begun attending college for taster sessions with a view to being accepted for a course next session, these tasters will continue after our Spring Break. This is an excellent opportunity for them to get a chance to look around the college and get an idea of what the course entails. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact Mr Shields.

Loch Lomond, Sealife Centre



17 young people and 3 staff spent the night in the Aquarium as part of their Caledonian Award.

This was a first for Abercorn and everyone enjoyed the tranquil experience sleeping underneath the sharks.





Green Flag Success

We are very pleased to announce that we have now received our 5th Green Flag. Congratulations to Mrs

Bennett and all of our Eco-Committee members. They have worked tirelessly to build new partnerships for the school and have written a new action plan. I am sure that you will join me in thanking them for all of their hard work.

Special Olympics Fundraising



Our Special Olympics athletes who will be attending the UK Games in Sheffield have been working hard to raise the funds necessary to make the trip. Mr Kerr announced at our recent School Service that we have raised £7.500 so far. We have a target of £10,000 and are on course to achieve this. Mr Anderson is building new partnership links with Ryan James (Buttery) to assist with the remainder of the fundraising. Watch this space for more information.

Scotland U-19's 4 Nation Tournament

Mr Baird and 3 pupils are visiting Dublin from 17 April until 21 April with the U-19 Learning Disabled Scotland



Football Team. Congratulations to Kyle Gault, Blair McGregor and William Mitten who have been chosen to represent Scotland. Kyle has also been chosen to be team captain for this Tournament – well done everyone. We will keep our fingers crossed that you bring the trophy home for a second time.

Cllr McAveety, Leader of Glasgow City Council



On Monday, 6th March Councilor McAveety visiting the school to meet with a group of our senior school

Modern Studies student. This visit gave them the opportunity to hear about the work of the council and to quiz Cllr McAveety on issues such as housing, parks and work opportunities within the city.

IDL within Abercorn



Our John Muir Award pupils have been working very hard infusing Lavender into oil. This Lavender Oil will then be used as part of our Massage in Schools club. Thanks to everyone for all of their hard work.

Velodrome, Cycling

Mr Baird and six S2 and S3 pupils have had the opportunity to cycle in the Velodrome for a six



week period. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed this experience and their cycling improved too. Thanks very much to PEPASS for this opportunity.

SDS Cross Country

Unfortunately due to adverse weather earlier this month the Cross Country final had to be postponed. This has now been reorganized for 25th April – watch this space for an update on medal winners etc. Good Luck to everyone taking part.

Volunteering to help our Local Neighbourhood



S2 pupils teamed up with our Cowcaddens Nursery school last week to litter pick in our local

community. This is part of a volunteering initiative to help make improvements within our local area. (of course this helps with our Eco-schools too!!!).

IndepenDance

A group of 15 pupils participated in a 6 week



dance club organized by IndepenDance. The school had the opportunity to enjoy a performance on their last day. Thanks to everyone for

their hard work.

It was great to have IndepeDance back in Abercorn and we were delighted that one of our former pupils, Sean Harrigan was in working with them. Well done Sean.

Red Nose Day March 2017

Great Fun was had by all when raising money for Comic Relief this year.

Over the course of the week we had:-

- a cafe where pupils enjoyed a cake and a drink of juice
- 'Red Hair Spraying' with a choice of stencils
- a non-uniform day
- a quiz



Our Prize Winners





Official red noses were also on sale

In the run up to the day, pupils learned in Modern Studies about people and projects, at home and abroad, supported by Comic Relief.

A FABULOUS TOTAL OF £467.12 was raised WELL DONE EVERYONE!

A HUGE THANKYOU TO EVERYONE WHO TOOK PART IN THE FUNDRAISING AND HELPED ON THE DAY!