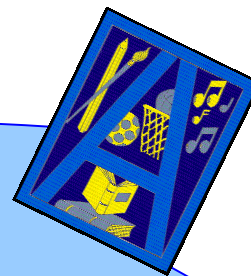


Abercorn News



November 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to the November edition of our newsletter. Once again it has been another very busy month in Abercorn.

Thank you for supporting our recent Sponsored Swim event. To date we have raised £3,904 an outstanding amount of money for such a small school. Please pass on our gratitude to you friends and family members who all gave so generously.

On Tuesday, 21st November we held our annual Celebration of Success event. This gave the school community an opportunity to recognise a number of our recent achievements. We were delighted to welcome Keiran McNiven to attend this event as the first Abercorn pupil to achieve a Higher Grade – well done!! I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the parents/carers who attended this event.

As you will see from the "dates for your diary" section December is going to be a particularly busy month. I will strive to keep you informed of all outings/trips as these have an impact on our young people's timetables and I am very aware of the necessity to ensure that everyone is fully prepared for any changes within the school day.

Included with this envelope is an invitation to our Christmas Carol Service on Tuesday, 20 December, I hope that you will all be able to attend.

Patricia McGowan

Dates for your Diary (December 2016)

S5 Reviews throughout December – Parents will be advised of appointments	
Thursday 1 st December	Selected pupils to Schools Cross Country Championships (both competing and volunteering)
Friday 2 nd December	S4 pupils to Determined to Animate Awards Ceremony
Monday 5 th December	Selected pupils to filming of Robot Wars in Renfrew
Wednesday 7 th December	Christmas Faor 10am – 12 noon (all welcome)
Thursday 8 th December	School Band to play at Financial Services Authority Christmas Lunch
Thursday 8 th December	Transition Club 5.30pm – 7pm
Friday 9 th December	Selected S3 to Christmas Markets with Miss O'Neill and Mrs Reilly am
Friday 9 th December	Christmas Lunch
Saturday 10 th December	Residential Ski trip to Pila, Italy leaves at mid day
Wednesday 14 th December	S1 to Science Centre
Friday 16 th December	S1 and S2 Christmas Party hosted by Crazy Entertainers
Saturday 17 th December	Residential Ski Trip Returns home approximately 4pm
Tuesday 20 th December	Christmas Carol Service
Wednesday 21 st December	School Closes at 2.30pm

Christmas Fair

The S3 Personal Achievement Award group are busy organizing the annual Christmas Fair. They have chosen to hold the fair on Wednesday 7th December from 10am till 12 noon. There will be a selection of stalls including toys; books/DVD's; home baking; raffle; tombola; café and our ever popular Christmas Gift stall. The pupils have been busy deciding on Christmas Gifts to make and sell and are hopeful you will like what they produce. All parents, carers, family and friends are welcome to come along to the fair. Donations for the home-baking stall and our Tombola would be gratefully received.

Celebration of Success



On Tuesday 22nd November we held our annual Celebration of Success assembly. We were delighted to celebrate a number of recent successes within our school community, including Kerian McNiven achieving our first ever Higher in Administration

& IT and the number of young people we have preparing to take part in the Special Olympics UK Games next summer; our Student Council and Eco Committee amongst others.

Christmas Carol Service

Our next event will be the Christmas Carol Service which will take place on Tuesday 20th

December in the morning and, again, all parents, carers and friends will be made warmly welcome. To allow for appropriate seating to be made available you will shortly receive an invitation, please return this to us indicating how many people will be attending.



Christmas Lunch

Pupils will have Christmas lunch on Friday 9th December. They have had the opportunity to order what they would like to eat – if any young people have not done this they should see Sadie or their Student Tutor.



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Developing the Workforce

As part of our commitment to developing skills for learning, life and work Miss Thomson has been looking to secure volunteering placements for a number of senior pupils. Those who have begun are all enjoying the experience and are doing very well. This is an ongoing process and it can be difficult to source suitable placements, however, our bank of contacts is growing rapidly.

Massage in Schools

Ten pupils have been involved in the launch of our Massage In Schools Programme which is a peer massage programme in which pupils learn a routine involving massage on the head, back, neck, arms and shoulders.

Research studies have proven that there are many benefits of the programme which include: Improved concentration levels, calmer classrooms, respect for self and others, reduction of bullying and aggression, and an overall increase in emotional health and wellbeing!

Transition Club

Our Transition Club continues to run on a monthly basis. This is an opportunity for the young people who have left Abercorn recently to get together socially to catch up on their news and spend time together.

Barclays Inspire Workshop

S5 Business pupils recently attended a Barclays Inspire workshop in Barclays Aurora offices in Bothwell street. They had the opportunity to participate in budgeting challenges as well as Dragon's Den style event. A very useful day, young people leave with a better understanding of the need to budget appropriately both in their own lives and in business. Thank you to Martin for continuing to invite us down to take part in these events.

Puma Trip to Sealife Centre Loch Lomond

As a reward for having the most Puma points in the first term S2 recently enjoyed an outing to the Sea Life Centre in Loch Lomond. A great day was had by all and all young people are currently trying hard to obtain Puma points this term in the hope they can achieve a similar reward.

St Andrew's Day Café

S5/6 pupils who are working on developing the Core Skill of ICT prepared for a St Andrew's Day café on Wednesday 30th November for the S3 pupils you are learning more about Scotland. They used ICT to research common Scottish food products and create informational signs to highlight what each product was. They all had the opportunity to taste products such as shortbread, oatcakes, tablet and Scottish Blend tea.



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