



Abercorn News



October 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

Everyone has returned to school refreshed after our October break and ready to work hard in this very busy term.

Apologies for the delay in sending home a copy of your son/daughter's curriculum plans for this session, this has been as a result of staff retrials and we aim to have them home to you asap. This is a very useful document as it will provide you with:

- names of teachers
- information on subjects and courses
- your son/daughter's planned outcomes for the session
- it is a useful document that will allow you to speak with your son/daughter about their learning in all subjects

Included with the curriculum plans will be a letter asking if you agree with the outcomes that have been set and asking if there is anything else that we as a school can do to support you. I would be very grateful if you could complete and return this letter as soon as possible after you receiving it.

On Tuesday, 30th October, Mrs Bennett and two senior pupils, Stephen Lamb and Chloe Porter were given the opportunity to visit Auschwitz with the Holocaust Educational Trust. This was an excellent opportunity for our young people to develop their knowledge and understanding of the traumatic events that took place during World War Two. They will begin working on an piece of work that they will use with other pupils so that others can share their experiences. Watch this space for more information

Our first Parent's Evening of the session takes place this week for pupils in S2, S3 and S4. This event will give you the opportunity to speak to your son/daughters subject teachers about your child's learning. A second parents' evening for pupils in S1, S5 and S6 will take place on Thursday, 28th February 2019.

Plans are starting to take shape for our Christmas festivities next month. As always there will be a Christmas Fair organised by our S3 pupils and our annual Carol Service. Pupils will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities again this session and more detail will follow. In addition to this we are now finalising the arrangements for the school Ski Trip which takes place in early December. I am sure they will all have a fantastic time.

Unfortunately our Children First Family Support Worker Deborah Agnew has moved onto a new post and we wish her well. This means that once again the school will have a new worker based in the school on a part-time basis, her name is Catherine Jepsan. Catherine will begin work with us on Monday, 12 November and I am sure you will join with me in welcoming her to our school community.

I have included with this newsletter a handout telling you all about the Rights Respecting School Award. We have achieved Bronze level within the award and this session our school community will be working towards Silver.

Patricia McGowan

Bingo Night

Abercorn's annual Bingo took place on Thursday 11th October.

We raised the fantastic amount of £655. Thank you very much to everyone who came along to support this event and also thank you to those who donated prizes.



Transport Co-ordination Centre Freephone Number

Please call the Transport Co-ordination Centre on **287 1056** if a pupil is not going to be on the morning taxi run. The school should also then be informed of any pupil absence. This number can also be used to enquire about taxi's which may not have turned up on time report any issues.

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 5 minutes. Pupils should be ready and waiting for their taxi to arrive.



Amazonia

To complement their work on the Crash in the Jungle novel they have been studying in English some of our junior school pupils will be visiting Amazonia to find out more about jungle animals and how they survive. They have also been visited by Zoolab who brought in a range of animals and spent time explaining how to care for them.



Halloween Party



Abercorn's Crazy Entertainers held the annual Halloween party on Friday 26th October. S1 pupils attended and looked amazing in their costumes. Thanks to all involved

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Young people in 3B who are working towards their Personal Achievement Award recently planned and organised a coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer support.



They worked hard to ensure staff and pupils had a lovely selection of homemade goodies available and were delighted when they counted up the donations to realize they have raised over £200 for the charity. Thank you to all for the generous donations and well done 3B.

Developing Skills for Life and Work

An increasing number of our Senior Phase young people are now out on placements to further develop their skills for life and work. This means they are out of school on weekly placements developing employability and social skills in local workplaces such as Woodside Nursery, Cowcaddens Nursery, Fred Paton Day Centre, Maracas Café. These are extremely beneficial opportunities and we are very grateful to all of the organisations who have offered places.

Ms Thomson has identified more young people who would benefit from this experience and is working with organisations such as Enable to ensure they are ready to undertake these placements. In addition, one of workshops are also being organized – a group of 10 interested pupils recently visited the U Concept Training Academy to find out more about the hair and beauty industry.

Shinty Team



The Shinty team were delighted to be invited to Hollybrook Academy's recent Macmillan Coffee Morning. A strong partnership has developed between the Shinty teams from both schools and they have been working together to coach and improve the skills of all players. The partnership will

turn to friendly rivalry when they compete against each other in the forthcoming National Disability competition in Aviemore as we attempt to defend our title but until then we are delighted to continue working with them for the benefit of both teams. We would like to extend our thanks to them for welcoming us to their school community – the cakes were lovely!

Sponsored Hat Walk



Our Prom Committee recently organized a Sponsored Hat Walk to raise funds for the senior school Prom. They are currently looking at suitable dates in June 2019 and more information will follow, in the meantime they will continue to plan and prepare for the event and look for opportunities like the Hat Walk event which will help to bring the cost down.

Sponsored Swim/Children in Need



Our whole school community will be participating in a sponsored swim on Wednesday 14th November. The proceeds from this will be put towards bringing down the cost of residential trips for young people. In addition, a contribution from the proceeds will be donated to Children in Need and there will also be 'Guess the Cuddly Penguin's Birthday' 20p a go for Children in Need as well.

Parliament Week



UK Parliament Week takes place from 12th – 16th November. It is an annual festival that engages people from across the UK with

Parliament, explores what it means to them and empowers them to get involved. Organisations across the UK run events and activities throughout UK Parliament Week which explore what the UK Parliament means to them and their community. We will be participating in Parliament Week with planned events including re-launching and electing our pupil voice council.

Anti Bullying Week

The theme for Anti-Bullying Week 2018 is: 'Choose Respect' and Anti-Bullying Week runs from 12th - 16th November. We will begin this week by holding an 'Odd Socks Day' on Monday 12th November. This is an opportunity for children to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique!



Imaginarium Art Competition

We were delighted to recently hear that our young people had done so well in the Imaginarium Art Competition. Charley Wood in S2 won First Prize and Abercorn won the Group Entry Award. Charley won a £60 voucher for art workshops with Project Ability, and the school won vouchers for Hobbycraft for materials. All pupils had the choice if they wanted to enter the competition in June last session. The theme was 'Nature'. A number of young people across the school had their work on display as part of the exhibition in the Mainstay Trust, and have received a goodie bag with certificate from Morisons Solicitors who sponsor/ run the Imaginarium competition. Well done to all of you.

Dates for your diary (November - December 2018)
S6 Reviews throughout –appointments to be advised
S5 Reviews throughout – appointments to be advised

Thursday 1 st November	Whole School Bonfire Night Safety Talk
Thursday 1 st November	S2, S3 and S4 Parents Night
Friday 2 nd November	Ski trip bag pack in Sainsburys Drumchapel
Monday 5 th November	S1 and some of S2 to Amazonia
Wednesday 7 th November	S1 to GMRC ICT Workshop
Monday 12 th November – Friday 16 th November	Anti-Bullying Week UK Parliament Week
Monday 12 th November	Odd Socks Day for Anti Bullying Week
Wednesday 14 th November	Sponsored Swim/Run (Whole School)
Friday 16 th November	Children in Need Fundraiser – non uniform day
Wednesday 21 st November	Some of S4/S5 and S6 to STEMfest in the Science Centre (Period 1 – Period 3)
Tuesday 27 th November	Transitions Afternoon – more details to follow
Friday 30 th November	3D hosting St Andrew’s Day Café for local nurseries

December Dates

Tuesday 4 th December	Christmas Fair – 10 am until noon
Thursday 6 th December	Water Safety Talk (Independent Travellers)
Saturday 8 th December	Pila, Italy – Ski Trip departs
Friday 14 th December	Ski Trip returns
Tuesday 18 th December	Christmas Carol Service (10 am tbc)
Thursday 20 th December	School closes at 2.30 pm for holidays!!!



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