



Abercorn News

September 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

I cannot believe that we are at the end of September once again. We have already had two very successful residential trips to Camas and a Duke of Edinburgh expedition. Our football team have had another successful start to the season and fingers crossed this will continue.

Pupils are currently finalizing this session's curriculum plans and we hope you will receive your copy before our October break.

I would like to thank you for your continuing support in relation to our uniform policy and attendance at school. As you know I would like us to try and increase our attendance rate to above 96% this session – a target I am confident we will reach if we work together. As you know the weather has been very changeable of late with extremely wet weather can I ask that you ensure that your son/daughter brings an outdoor jacket with them every day even if they get a taxi to and from school.

You will find a number of information leaflets included with this newsletter and I would like to draw your attention to our Standards and Quality Report for last year, this outlines the progress we have made and identifies the areas we would like to develop this year.

“Meet and Greet with Charlotte and Jagoda”

I would like to thank all of the parents/carers who attended our open afternoons recently to meet our new Pupil/Family Support workers and hear about the services that they are providing for yourselves and our young people.

Regards

Patricia McGowan

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		Our First Parents Evening will		
		take place on Thursday 2nd		
		November from 4.15pm –		
		7.15pm		
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Dates for your diary (October 2017)

	Post Placement Reviews for new pupils
Tuesday 3 rd October	Mr Baird and 2 pupils on day trip to Auschwitz with Holocaust Education Trust
Tuesday 3 rd October	3A hosting Macmillan coffee morning for all staff and pupils
Tuesday 3 rd October	Evening Times Young Community Champion Awards Ceremony
Wednesday 4 th October	Swimming Gala for identified pupils
Wednesday 11 th October	S1 pupils to Amazonia
Thursday 12 th October	Bingo Night – tickets available from school
Friday 13 th October	In-Service
Monday 16 th October – Friday 20 th October	School closed for October Holiday
Monday 23 rd October	School re-opens
Friday 27 th October	S1 Halloween Party 1.45 – 2.45

Dates for your diary (November 2017)

Thursday 2 nd November	Parents' Evening
8 th November	Celebration of Success
14 th November	Internet Safety Workshop for Parents/Carers

Planned Appointments

A number of pupils have attended planned appointments since school returned in August. We are happy to accommodate these appointments where no alternative time is suitable, however, in order for the absence to be authorized we must see the appointment card/letter or have proof of the appointment time. In addition, we can only provide a half day authorization for attending appointments – pupils cannot be given a full day authorization. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this please contact your child's pastoral care year head to discuss.

MacMillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning



On Tuesday 3rd October 3A who are working towards their Personal Achievement Award will host a coffee morning to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer support. They will bake and prepare lots of treats for both staff

and pupils. Pupils will be invited along at break-time for a homemade cake and a juice – for this we would suggest a donation of £1.

Bingo Night

Abercorn's annual Bingo Night is currently being organized by the S4 Personal Development

Award Level 3 class and will take place on Thursday 12th October. Please see attached flyer for more information. Tickets are priced £5 for adults (which includes refreshments and 2 bingo books) and £2.50 for children (which includes 1 bingo book). Children must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets are now available from the school. Refreshments will be provided. Any donations to the raffle would be gratefully received by Mrs Johnston and Mrs Logue.



Camas Trip 2016

Miss Campbell and Mr Robertson recently left Queen Street Station accompanied by 10 pupils for a 6 day visit to Camas Outdoor Centre. Camas is situated on a very isolated part of the Island of Mull. There is little electricity, no TV, no computers, and no shops or houses for miles in any direction. That said however, the pupils had a fantastic time abseiling, canoeing, hill walking, peat-digging, swimming and a host of indoor activities.

This was a great opportunity for pupils to develop deeper friendships with one another, and they were excellent at helping each other through the day's activities. All of the pupils enjoyed the experience and discovered what it was like to live together as a community.

Transport Co-ordination Centre Freephone Number

Please call the Transport Co-ordination Centre on **0800 032 4444** if a pupil is not going to be on the morning taxi run. This is a free-phone number available 24 hours a day. 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 now 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 for any reason you require your son/daughter's pick up/drop off address to be changed then we require a minimum of 5 days' notice.

Auschwitz

On Tuesday 3rd October Sean Hughes and William Mitten will travel with Mr Baird for a one day trip to Auschwitz. Run in conjunction with the Holocaust Education Trust this unique experience allows the pupils to develop a deeper understanding of what people suffered during the holocaust. The project, titled *Lessons from Auschwitz* sees pupils undertake 2 afternoon seminars and a one day visit to the former Nazi extermination camp Auschwitz-Birkenau in order to pass on the lessons to their schools and communities. On their return the boys will work on ways to disseminate the information they have gathered through the seminars and the trip.



Parents Evening

Our first Parent's Evening will take place on Thursday 2nd November from 4.15 pm – 7.15 pm. This is an opportunity to speak to your child's teachers and find out more information about their work and behavior in class. In addition, pastoral care year heads will be available to discuss your child's pastoral care targets for the year.

S1 Halloween Party

The Friday afternoon Abercorn's Crazy Entertainers group are busy organizing a Halloween party for pupils on Friday 27th October. The party will take place from 1.40pm – 3 pm. S1 pupils are welcome to bring a costume to change into at lunch time to attend the party, however, we would ask that the costumes are appropriate to be worn in school.

Transition Club

Miss Thomson has been running a Transition club for former pupils to keep in touch with the school community. It takes place after school one Thursday per month and so far all attending have been really enjoying it. For further information please do not hesitate to contact Miss Thomson.

Abercorn Secondary School, 195 Garscube Road, Glasgow, G4 9QH. Tel: 0141 332 6212. Web: www.abernorn-sec.glasgow.sch.uk

Scottish Studies Award

A number of pupils are working on a Scottish Studies Award this term. All of S3 are undertaking the mandatory unit where they will broaden their knowledge about a particular aspect of Scotland. They can then go on to pick up additional units towards the overall award in subsequent years. In addition, we have a number of pupils in S4/5/6 who undertook their mandatory unit in previous years and will this year complete the required number of units to attain the award. The additional units involve them studying in other curricular areas but with a Scottish focus. Mrs Collie is very involved in the delivery of this award and, consequently, there are a number of pupils learning Gaelic.

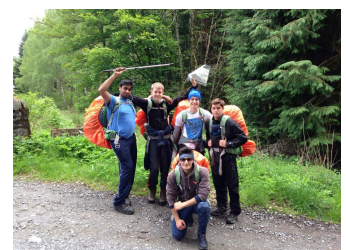
Literacy Club

Mrs Bennett and Miss O'Neill are running a lunch time literacy club on a Thursday to further develop young people's awareness and love of literacy. They have been visiting nearby Woodside Library and are very much enjoying browsing and choosing books which interest them.



Duke of Edinburgh Silver Expedition

Our Duke of Edinburgh students recently undertook their Silver practice expedition. This involved a 2 night camping trip where they had to navigate their way along. This prepares them for their proper expedition which is assessed and contributes towards their Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award.



S4 Personal Development Award Bingo Night

Abercorn Secondary School



Thursday 12 October 2017
7pm-10pm
Eyes down 7.30pm

£5 (includes 2 bingo books and
refreshments)



In aid of School funds

Raffle

Tickets available from Mrs Johnston or Mrs Loque