

## Abercorn News



Dear Parent/Carer

#### September 2018

I cannot believe that we are at the end of September once again. We have already had three very successful residential trips to Auchengillan, Camas and a Duke of Edinburgh expedition.

Our new pupils are settling into the routines of Abercorn and all pupils are currently finalizing this session's curriculum plans and we hope you will receive your in October.

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 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 windy and 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.

As many of you know it was with great sadness that we said farewell to Mr Robertson and Mrs Ina Stirrup who have both retired in the last few weeks. Mr Bob Graham will also retire just before our October break. As you all know all three of them made a fantastic contribution to our school community and although we will miss them greatly I am sure you will join with me in wishing them all a long and happy retirement.

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Regards Patricia McGowan Parents Evening for S2, S3 and Ш S4 pupils will take place on Ш Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November from Ш 4.15pm - 7.15pm 

**Dates for your diary (October 2018)** 

Post Placement Reviews for new pupils
Swimming Gala for identified pupils
Pinkston Basin Watersports session for identified pupils
Bingo Night – tickets available from school
In-Service
School closed for October Holiday
School reopens
S1/S2 (selected pupils) to Amazonia
Cross Country Championships
Prom Committee Sponsored Hat Walk
S1 Halloween Party 1.45 – 2.45
Mrs Bennett and 2 pupils to visit Auschwitz
y (November 2018)
Whole School Assembly – Bonfire and Home Safety
S2, S3 and S4 Parents' Evening

### **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 Friday, 28 September class 3B who are working towards their Personal Achievement Award hosted a coffee morning for pupils

and staff to raise funds for

Macmillan Cancer support. We are delighted to say that they raised nearly £200. Well done everyone for all of your hard work.



## **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  $11^{th}$  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 Miss Brown

### **Camas Trip 2018**

Mr Dorrian and Mrs Couper 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 pupils said that it was a fantastic experience and that the island was lovely – well done everyone for coping with some very challenging weather.

## Transport Co-ordination Centre

We are aware that some pupils are experiencing difficulties with the timings of their taxi and we are working to resolve these issues. Can I ask that you telephone Transport Co-ordination Centre in the morning if your childs taxi is late so that they can inform you directly of any issues.

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.

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

#### **Auschwitz**

On Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October Chloe Porter and Stephen Lamb will travel with Mrs Bennett 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 pupils will work on ways to disseminate the information they have gathered through the seminars and the trip.

## S2, S3 and S4 Parents Evening

Our first Parent's Evening will take place on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November from 4.15 pm – 7.15 pm. This is an opportunity to speak to your child's teachers for approximately 5 minutes per subject 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. We have introduced an appointments system for the evening and letters will be sent home prior to the October break for you to indicate what time you would like your appointments to start.

## **S1** Halloween Party

The Friday afternoon Abercorn's Crazy Entertainers group are busy organizing a Halloween party for pupils on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> 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.

#### **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. These units can include further developing their language skills in Gaelic or Scots or finding out about Scottish artists, musicians, politics etc.

## **Boccia Competition**

Congratulations to a small group of S2, S3 and S4 pupils who recently attended the West of Scotland Boccia

Competition in the Emirates Stadium on Tuesday, 25 September. All pupils who participated competed very well and enjoyed the experience. Well done to Cameron (S4) for winning a Silver Medal. Keep up the good work everyone.

# **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. 54 Personal Development Award Bingo Night

Abercorn Secondary School 2

Thursday 11 October 2018 Doors open 7.15 pm Eyes down 7.30pm

Adults: £5 (includes 2 bingo books & refreshment)
Children: £2.50 (includes | bingo book & refreshments)
Additional books available 50p each



In aid of School funds

Raffle

Tickets available from Miss Brown