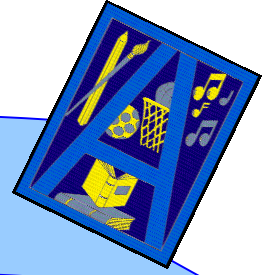


Abercorn News



February 2011

Head Teacher's Introduction

Dear Parent /Carer

Welcome to the February edition of our newsletter. This is always a difficult term for staff and pupils. SQA examinations and the implementation of Curriculum for Excellence contribute to the increase in pace for everyone with all internal assessments having to be completed by the end of March.

We recently had a very successful parents' evening and it was gratifying to see so many parents in attendance. Throughout the evening parents completed a questionnaire about the school. This generated a very positive response, however, some parents were unsure whether their son/daughter accessed school clubs. As a result of this, I will attach the range of clubs on offer and would encourage you to speak to your child about their decisions regarding clubs. Please contact me if you require further information on this matter.

I would like to draw your attention to the tear off slip which is attached to the newsletter I would welcome your thoughts regarding the school and urge you to send in your views via this slip or by telephone. Parents who were unable to attend the parents' evening will be given the opportunity to complete a questionnaire at their child's review.

The Parent Council have organised a lunch for parents on 22nd March 2011. Your personal invitation will be in the post shortly. This will be a chance for you to meet with the Parent Council as they are keen to represent you in matters regarding education. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Kindest regards

Catherine McPhillips

Parent Council Lunch

22nd March 2011

We hope to see you all there

Dates for your Diary (March 2011)

S4 Reviews - Parents will be informed of appointments

S2 Reviews - Parents will be informed of appointments

Friday 18th

Comic Relief Red Nose Day

Sun 27th – Tues 29th

Alton Towers Trip

Planting a Commonwealth Orchard



On a wet and windy Wednesday in February pupils who are working with Glasgow Life went to Milton. Their mission was to plant fruit trees with the hope the Milton community could harvest apples,

pears and cherries in the future. Under extreme conditions the pupils planted a number of trees but in the end the weather won and the voluntary work was cut short. Well done to James, Scott, Kirsty and Marc who worked very hard.

Swimming Gala



On Wednesday 3rd February 2011 a number of pupils took part in an Improvers Swimming gala at Eastwood pool. Pupils

completed in a variety of disciplines and some even took part in more than one. We are very proud of the achievements of all of the pupils who took part. Some notable results were as follows:

1st place: Andrew Larter (twice), David Morrison, Jack Bulloch and Craig McNeill. 2nd place: Skye McLachlan and Bilal Yousaff. 3rd Place: Connor Mills, Jamie Baxter (twice) and Neil McAdam.

Science Centre Visit



S1 - S3 had an 'out of this world' experience recently at the Glasgow Science Centre.

Firstly we studied distant stars and planets at the Planetarium. We learnt all about the constellation 'Orion'. Then we took a short walk to the IMAX

cinema where we went back into space watching a 3D film about the Hubble space telescope. We then had a quick visit to the Science Mall and were back to school in time for lunch.

Football Success



We would like to extend our congratulations to Wesley Young and Paul McAlinden who have recently been selected to play for Scotland at Under 19 level following trials held in Stirling. They have

worked very hard and are extremely proud to be given the honour of representing their country. They will train with the squad in Largs and will be available for selection in the forthcoming game against Northern Ireland.

School Bank



We are about to relaunch our Abercorn School Bank in connection with the Royal Bank of Scotland. We have been very fortunate over the

years that the Royal Bank of Scotland have set up bank accounts for a number of our pupils in their Glasgow City Branch (Gordon Street). These accounts are still active and we would encourage pupils to bring in money to deposit in these accounts again. If your child does not already have a bank account we can help them to complete a form to open a Royal Bank of Scotland bank account. After the Easter holidays pupils will be able to deposit money into their account every Tuesday. There will be incentives for pupils to deposit regularly, however, we would like to stress it is not the amount deposited which is important but more the fact that pupils learn the value of money and the importance of saving.

Work Experience and Work Awareness

Our S4 pupils have recently undergone a period of Work Experience or Work Awareness. During this week they either completed a week working for a local organization or they visited a variety of different organizations to see how they operate. All pupils had a very successful and enjoyable week and we are very grateful to each of the organisations for taking the time to provide this opportunity and support our pupils so well.



S3 Enterprise Event

On Tuesday 8th February 2011 all S3 pupils attended an Enterprise event run by Delia Dixon from Scottish Government organisation 16+ Learning Choices. The day was intended to help pupils in their future career choice. The morning session revolved around pupils identifying both their own skills and qualities and the skills and qualities employers may look for in prospective employees. The afternoon session involved the pupils working in teams with pupils from a range of other schools to develop an idea for a new mobile phone product. They then had to present their ideas and the best one was chosen as the winner. Congratulations to Jordan Rooney, Kayleigh Haney and Chris Kilpatrick who were members of the winning team.

Special Olympics World Games



We would like to extend our congratulations to some pupils and former pupils who have been chosen to represent their country at the Special Olympics World Games in Athens. **Alexander Ferrier** (4A) will compete in Judo, **Wesley Young**

(4C) will compete in 11 a side Football and former pupils **Iain Souter** and **Chris Duffy** will compete in Basketball and **Sarah Jane Taylor** will compete in ladies football. This is a fantastic honour and we are extremely proud of all the young people chosen and we will be trying to support them with their training for the world games but also as it is the only Olympic Games that is not government funded the pupils are required to pay for the experience. We at Abercorn don't think this is fair, therefore, we are hoping to help raise the £5000 needed. This will assist with the cost for our pupils to represent their country at their chosen sport

If you can help raise funds or have any family connections which may help us reach our target - E.g. (pub disco, local company sponsor, raffle prizes etc. donation) we would be grateful to hear from you!

If you have any suggestions as to how we can improve the school or you wish to discuss a particular topic with Mrs McPhillips, Head Teacher, please complete and return this tear off slip to the school.

Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Art and Design News

Glasgow Schools Calendar Competition

As you know Courtney Devlin, of 1B, was one of the winners selected in this annual competition. Courtney's work features as February in the calendar which has been issued to all Glasgow City Establishments. Courtney attended a prize giving event in January.



Update on Mural Panel Project for Friends of The River Kelvin



At a recent meeting with a number of members from 'F.O.R.K' the final designs were approved for the series of 4 large scale mural panels, and

images chosen for an additional 2 panels. The committee members were delighted with the effort, research and original images produced by all pupils. Pupils from S2-S6 all produced drawings early in this session, and the selected designs combine a huge number of the original drawings. Well done everyone. The hard task of priming, transferring the images and painting the very large boards now lies ahead!

Show Racism The Red Card Competition

S2 and S3 Pupils have been linking their Modern Studies and Art & Design work by working towards producing entries in the 'Show Racism the Red Card' Competition. They have been producing a range of stories/poems, posters, t-shirt designs, animations and power-point presentations. Entries have been sent in – so fingers crossed!



Glasgow the Caring City



Pupils recently attended an assembly by the International Aid and Development charity Glasgow

the Caring City who explained their **Baby Aid** project and that they are looking to collect children's clothes and blankets to send to Burundi in Central Africa where there is a significant need. If you have any items you would like to donate please send them in to Mr Robertson (RE) or Ms Walsh (MS)

