

Dear Parent/Carer

This has once again been a very busy month for all of the pupils and staff in Abercorn and everyone is looking forward to their mid-term break. As you will read in this newsletter pupils have been involved in a number of outings to enhance their learning opportunities.

As you will be aware the school is currently working hard to implement Curriculum for Excellence, I am currently working with staff and S3 pupils to evaluate their experiences so far and will arrange to meet with parents next month to discuss our progress to date and to ask for your views. I realise that the introduction of this new curriculum is a stressful time for parents, staff and young people however we are confident that our pupils will cope very well with the new qualifications and we operate an "open door" policy to answer any queries you may have. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

I am very pleased to announce that two of our parents, Mr & Mrs McMaster, have very kindly organised a social fundraising event to be held on Friday, 1^{st} March in the Crawford Halls, Partick. Tickets for this event cost £5 and are available from the school. I am sure that you will join me in thanking them, as you are all aware these additional funds are used to provide the money required for trips/outing for our young people.

Patrícía McGowan

School Fundraiser, Friday 1st March
Cost £5
Tickets available from the school

Dates for your Diary (February 2013)

S4 Reviews throughout February – Parents to be advised of appointments

Tuesday 5 th	Social Enterprise Parents Café 2.15 pm – 3.15 pm
Tuesday 5 th	S1 Technologies Worskshop (Young Inventors) GMRC
Thursday 7 th	Gaelic Club to visit BBC with Mrs Collie
	S3 Drama/Media group outing to GFT to see Life of Pi
Monday 11 th	Holiday
Tuesday 12 th	
Wednesday 13 th	In-Service
Monday 18 th – Friday 22 nd	S4 Work Experience/Awareness Programme
Tuesday 19 th	Cross Country
Thursday 21 st	Parents Evening – 4.30 pm – 7.30 pm
Wednesday 27 th	S4 Mock Interviews
March	
Friday 1 st	Social Event – Fundraiser organized by Mr & Mrs McMaster – tickets on sale in
	the school
Wednesday 6 th	Spring Fair
Thursday 21 st	Bingo Night – Fundraising Event

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

Molendinar Award



The Molendinar Award started a few years ago with the aim at supporting learning and activities about Glasgow and to focus on Citizenship. Abercorn entered the Molendinar Award this year in the Sport Category. We made a

PowerPoint presentation about all the sport and activities we do in the school to encourage fitness and well being. We were shortlised and were asked to attend the Award Ceremony on Friday 11th Jan. We were delighted to be presented with a **"Highly Commended"** award!

Well done to all the staff and young people in Abercorn who have contributed to helping our school achieve this award.

Social Enterprise Café



Our Social Enterprise Café reopened on Tuesday 15th January with tea/coffee, homebaking and a healthy option (fruit salad) available at a cost of £1.50. The Social

Enterprise class is busy working on proposals to use their profits to donate items to sick children in Yorkhill as well as looking at ways of improving the café experience for our customers. In order to help us do this we will send out a questionnaire in next months newsletter. We would be grateful if you could complete and return it to us to allow us to improve our service.

Our next café will be Tuesday 5th February and the following month will take place during the Spring Fair on Wednesday 6th March.

Swimming Gala

The following pupils competed in the West of Scotland Improvers Gala. All performed exceptionally well at Bellshill on Friday 11th January.



Bilal Yousaf (S3), Jack Bulloch (S3), Codi Young (S1), Marc Stewart (S4), Neil Maher (S4), Neil McAdam (S3), Jamie Baxter (S3), Hussain Mahmood (S3), Craig McNeill (S3), Keiran McNiven (S3).

A number of these pupils were competing for the first time. Well done to all

Technologies Museum Workshops

Our S2 classes recently attended a workshop in the Riverside Museum entitled 'Full Steam Ahead' which complemented their work in both ICT and Science. During the 90 minute workshop they learned about the difference sources of energy and how they can be used to power transport.

Our S1 classes are about to begin their workshops and during this month they will visit the Glasgow Museum resource Centre and the People's Palace to take part in learning activities highlighting how developments in technology have brought about changes in society.

For both S1 and S2 these workshops are an excellent way of allowing them to put their learning in context and provide them hands on approach to exploring the ideas further.

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

Coca Cola Visit



On Tuesday 29th January S1 pupils visited the Coca Cola factory in East Kilbride to look at how they produce and market their

products. This complements their work in Enterprise and allows them to put what they have learned in to the context of a real company.

Fire Reach Programme

Nine pupils from the school had the unique opportunity to take part in a Fire Reach programme for one full week at Maryhill fire station. All pupils were put through



their paces as they were lead through activities such as basic hose running, search and rescue drills, using breathing apparatus, first aid etc all culminating in their big display event at the end of the week which all participants passed with flying colours. Pupils had to work together as a team and motivate themselves and others to succeed. This was a great week for the 9 boys who all displayed great team work, tolerance, motivation and practical skills.

Langside College

A selected group of S2 students will be coached by Langside HNC/D Sports Coaching students over the next few weeks. Our students will be given the opportunity to take part in a variety of sports coached by the young and highly motivated college students.

Spanish Trip

Miss Campbell is busy organsing the annual S5/6 trip to Spain. She has so far booked flights and accommodation and is currently collecting the



pupil's contribution towards the cost. She would like to stress, that the cost of this trip can be spread over installments.

Shinty Club



The Shinty is on every Friday with Mrs Collie and Miss McAllister and we have pupils of all ages

attending. We would like to extend our thanks to Jon Gallagher and The Glasgow Gaelic Club who donated £700 meaning we now have brand new equipment.

Gaelic Club

S3/S4 pupils are now attending the Gaelic Club on Thursday lunchtime. The club will be visiting BBC Alba next month.

Tapas Outing



On Tuesday 29th January a majority of S3 enjoyed an outing to Las Ramblas Tapas restaurant in Bearsden. This trip complemented their learning with their Spanish culture IDL class with HE and Business. Everyone had a great time.

Alton Towers Trip



Our S4 SVS and S3 Personal Development classes are busy organizing a residential Trip to Blackpool and

Alton Towers as part of their curriculum. They have researched hotels in the Chester area, prices, travel arrangements and free time activities. The 2 night trip is due to depart on Sunday 24th March and will return on Tuesday 26th March. We are now being asked by the travel company to make payments towards this trip, therefore, we have now begun to collect the money from the pupils involved. Mrs Johnston will collect all monies for the trip. The Business Education and Home Economics



Departments are beginning to organize a Spring Fair. This will take place on Wednesday 6th March and as always there will be a variety of stalls including Bric a Brac, Tombola, Toys, Books, DVD's and a Café which will be run by the Social Enterprise class in place of the usual Tuesday afternoon event. If you would like to make any donations towards any of our stalls they can be sent in to school. We would like to thank all parents/carers for their continued support of these events.

Transport Issues

We are still experiencing a number of issues with certain taxis.



Ms McGowan has contacted both Education and Transport regarding this and has made it very clear that pupils being collected late means they arrive to school late and that is affecting their education. A meeting has been arranged for the school to meet with the appropriate services to try and resolve these issues. In the meantime we thank you for your patience and once again apologise for this situation. Whether it is the taxi turning up late or issues within the taxi during the journey we would urge parents/carers to contact the Transport Coordination Centre to register their complaint. They can be reached on

0800 032 4444.

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

Name:

Telephone Number: