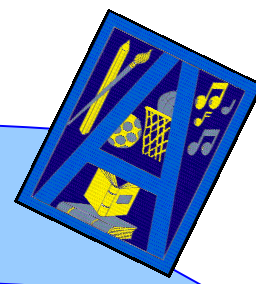


# Abercorn News



January 2016

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. This term our senior pupils and staff have been working hard toward their SQA qualifications. A number of departments have been verified by SQA and we are awaiting feedback from them. As always the pupils have been involved in a variety of activities including cross country and numerous outings. Our football team is continuing their winning ways and are top of the league at present and unbeaten this season. Well done to the players and coaches!!!

Over the next few months parents of S2 and S3 pupils will be invited to a information session to discuss the new qualifications and the opportunities that our young people will have to personalise their curriculum. I realise that the introduction of this new curriculum is a stressful time for parents, staff and young people however to date our young people are coping well with these changes this year and we are confident that our pupils will continue to cope very well with the new qualifications.

We have recently set up a school twitter account. This has proved to be a very useful method to inform all of our followers of up and coming event, success and individual pupil awards. Our Twitter details are: [@AbercornSecSch](#).

Patricia McGowan

## Dates for your Diary (February 2016)

**Mid Term Holiday**  
**Monday, 15 & Tuesday, 16 February**  
**Inset Day Wednesday, 17 February**

S3 and S4 Reviews taking place throughout the month – appointments will be advised individually

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> February –<br>Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February | Work Experience/Work Awareness Week                 |
| Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> February                                      | Spanish Trip Parents Meeting 2pm                    |
| Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> February                                      | S5/6 Spanish Class to visit GFT                     |
| Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> February                                      | Holiday   |
| Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> February                                     | Holiday   |
| Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> February                                   | In-Service  |
| Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> February                                    | S1 to visit St Mungo’s Museum with RE               |
| Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> February                                      | S4 to attend SVP Recruitment event at City Chambers |
| <b>March</b>  |   |
| Thursday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> March                                       | Parents’ Evening                                    |
| Friday, 25 March and<br>Monday 28 March                               | Easter Weekend holiday                              |
| <b>April</b>  |   |
| 1 April – 15 April  | Spring Break – Inclusive dates                      |

## **S4 Work Experience**

From Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February a number of S4 pupils will be out of school on a week-long work experience placement. They will undertake this placement independently, although all will have been accompanied by a member of staff to visit the placement before they start. Unfortunately this year has proved the hardest yet to secure enough placements and a small number of pupils will have to undertake their placements at a later date. This is due to the number of placements being made available to schools reducing each year and it is regrettable that we have not been able to accommodate all pupils within that week. Those who remain in school will undertake a programme of work awareness during that week where they will visit and have the opportunity to learn more about a variety of work places throughout the city.

## **S4 Work Awareness**

The remaining S4 pupils who will not undertake an independent work placement in February will take part in a week of work awareness during the week beginning Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February. They will visit work places such as City Chambers, Novotel Hotel, Asda, Woodside Library, Kelvingrove Museum, Cowcaddens Fire Station and Pollok Park Country Rangers. These sessions will all be out of school so pupils should be appropriately dressed in full school uniform and with a warm waterproof jacket. For the Pollok park country rangers appropriate footwear for walking through the park is also required.

## **Road Safety talk for S5/6**

Glasgow City Council's Road Safety team recently visited the school and spoke to a number of senior students who are studying units of work looking at either planning an outdoor experience or making journeys. The team gave a very informative talk about the Highway Code and staying safe when out and about. The students enjoyed the talk and asked some very good questions.

## **P7 Transition**

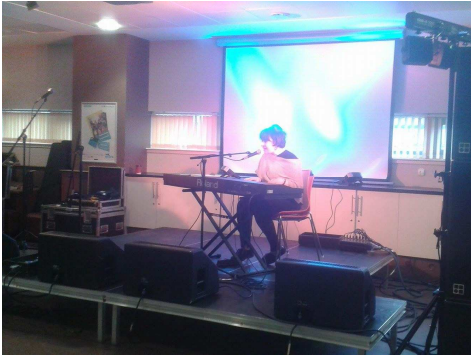
The P7 pupils who will be joining us as S1 in August have begun their transition visits. So far they have been spending an afternoon a week swimming with the PE staff and they will shortly be moving on to spending time in the ICT and Enterprise department.

## **Tramway Visit**

S4 pupils studying National 4 Art and Design recently visited the Tramway with Miss Bracken and Mr Leahy to see the Turner Prize exhibitions. This was a very informative visit and students saw lots of very interesting pieces of Art.



## Celtic Connections Visit



Abercorn recently took advantage of the opportunity to attend the Celtic Connections on Campus, a new free concert series

in January 2016, which was hosted by Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU) in association with Celtic Music Radio to showcase performers and talented students from across Scotland's colleges and universities.

Celtic Connections is the world's largest Celtic music festival and an established part of Scotland's cultural scene and since Abercorn have, in recent years, been developing our young people's knowledge of their cultural heritage through a variety of methods we decided to attend.

During the Celtic Connections 2016 festival, Glasgow Caledonian University invited fans to its central Glasgow campus for lunchtime concerts – Celtic Connections on Campus - which showcased some of the brightest up-and-coming talent both in front of the mic and behind the scenes.

Audio students supported live performances for a unique look into the vibrancy of Scotland's current music education scene. Our S1 and S3 pupils took the short walk up to the university and all thoroughly enjoyed the music. We are grateful to all involved for allowing us to attend.

## Coca cola Factory Visit

S1 recently visited the Coca Cola Factory in East Kilbride as part of their Enterprise course. They had the opportunity to tour the factory and learn about the production processes used to produce the soft drinks. They all agreed it was a great trip and they enjoyed the chance to ask questions about the drinks being made.



## John Muir Award Group Volunteering at Lambhill Stables

Over the past few weeks the John Muir Award group have been volunteering at Lambhill stables. They have been working hard in very difficult weather conditions to ensure the whole area looks amazing and are very proud of their work.

## STEM Club

An after school club runs on Thursday for pupils to experience STEM (Science, Technology, Maths and Engineering) so far they have been working on programming lego models and are delighted to discover they can make their models move. They have been really engaged in their learning during this club and are enthusiastic about sharing what they have been doing. Check out our Twitter page for some great videos of their progress.

