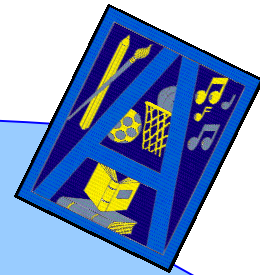


Abercorn News



June 2011

Head Teacher's Introduction

Dear Parent/Carer

Session 2011/11 is at an end and despite being an unsettled year with lots of staff changes, our young people have excelled both in relation to their learning and also their behaviour.

Once again we are Scottish Football Champions and for the third time we have been successful in the Blairvadach Adventure Race.

Many of our senior pupils were involved in the recent diet of examinations and we have high hopes that they will achieve some of our best results ever.

Our awards ceremony was absolutely fantastic and the entertainers were excellent in every way. Des Clarke from Capital Radio, Mrs Myra Baker, a former member of staff and Maureen Noon from Financial Services were happy to present the awards. A big thank you to all involved in making this a great success. The Pat Smith Award went to Gladys Karikumutima for resilience.

We are very happy with the progress made in last years' improvement plan and I have attached a copy of our priorities for next session.

I would like to thank the management team, all staff, the parents and pupils of Abercorn School for making this session exciting and enjoyable.

Have a great summer!

Regards

Catherine McPhillips

**School closes at 1pm on Friday 24th
June 2011 for the summer**

**Re-opens for pupils at 8.55am on
Wednesday 17th August 2011**

Dates for your Diary (August 2011)

17th August
22nd – 26th August

School Re-opens 8.55am
Residential Trip to Blairvadach

Glasgow Schools Adventure Race



Our pupils competed in the Glasgow Schools Adventure Race at Blairvadach Outdoor

Centre once again this year. They trained very hard in the run up to the event and performed well on the day despite difficult conditions. Unfortunately Springburn Academy did particularly well on their way round the course and beat us into second place by around 2 minutes. Still an excellent performance from all the pupils involved and we are very proud of them.

Abercorn's Apprentice

All S2 pupils competed in the final of Abercorn's Apprentice on Wednesday 15th June. This was the culmination of weeks of work on their project. Each group had been given the task to design, package and promote a new pizza idea. Each of the 5 groups had excellent ideas and the judges were very impressed with the standard of work this year. They awarded prizes for 5 different aspects of their work and the results were:

- Best Product – **Pizza Magic**
- Best Pricing Policy – **Tooty Fruity Pizza**
- Best Packaging – **Healthy Wealthy Pizza**
- Best Presentation – **The Italian Job**
- Overall winner – **Fish Dish Pizza**



Congratulations to all the groups and our thanks to the 3 judges who were, once again, excellent – Bill McFarlane from the Broadcasting Business, Moira Stalker from the Scottish Food and Drink Federation and Des Logue From Barclays Wealth.

Changes to the School Day



By now you will all have received a letter regarding the changes to the school day imposed by Glasgow City Council. **As of August the school day in Abercorn will start at 8.55am and finish at 3.25pm Monday to Thursday and 3pm on a Friday.** Pupils will get 40 minutes for lunch. This was a necessary change in order to ensure our pupils received the same educational entitlement as pupils in mainstream secondaries.

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Spain Trip

A group of our senior pupils have just returned from the annual trip to Spain. They stayed in Calella and during the week visited many of the attractions they have been learning about throughout their time doing Spanish in Abercorn. Visits included Sagrada Familia, Camp Nou, Barcelona Zoo, Parc Guell and Waterworld. All pupils had a great time and have many fond memories of their week.



Fire Reach Work Programme

A group of pupils attended this programme at Maryhill Fire Station between 10am and 2pm during the week of 13th – 17th June. This involved the pupils taking part in activities such as rescuing casualties from sewers, working in smoke and



darkness, working in confined spaces and basically learning how the Fire service actually works. The pupils enjoyed their week very much despite being apprehensive at the beginning and some of them have said they would now like to consider a job with the fire service. Our thanks to the staff of Maryhill Fire Station for inviting us to attend.

Jewellery

We have been asked to make all parents aware of the information contained within the guidance note which accompanies this newsletter. It is Glasgow City Council policy to ask pupils to remove any pierced items when taking part in PE, Games, Sports or swimming. Our staff insist on this and provide a safe place for pupils to put such items whilst taking part in any activities. However, we would recommend that pupils do not wear a lot of jewellery in general.



Bearing this guidance in mind I'd like to take this opportunity to say that if you are considering getting your child's ears pierced then my advice would be to do it at the start of the holidays so that they will be able to remove the pierced items for PE when they return to school in August without interfering with the healing process.

