

Abercorn News



March 2012

Dear Parent/Carer

This has once again been a very busy term for all of the staff and pupils in Abercorn and everyone is looking forward to their Spring Break. In particular, our senior pupils have been busy preparing for their examinations which they will sit over the next few months and we wish them every success. I also had the privilege this week of attending the Sports Leaders Awards Ceremony which took place in the City Chambers on Monday, 26 March. I was very proud when four of our senior pupils (Gareth Kennedy, Wesley Young, Jack Roach and Andrew Russell) received their Award; they are a credit to the school and their parents.

Since my appointment as Head Teacher in January I have been busy interviewing and filling temporary promoted staff vacancies within the school. Staff members with additional responsibility are:

- Depute Head Teacher Mr Shields
- Principal Teacher (Curriculum) Mrs Loque
- Principal Teacher (S4 Pastoral Care) Miss Campbell

I would once again like to take this opportunity to thank all of the parents/carers for their continued support. Thank you to all parents/carers who attended the annual review for their son/daughter and to the large number of our school community who attended our Social Enterprise Café and Bingo Night – without your continued support these events would not be successful.

Finally, Mr Pat Halfpenny our School Janitor is retiring on Friday after seven extremely happy years within the school. I am sure that you will join the staff and pupils in wishing him a long and happy retirement.

Patrícía McGowan

Wednesday 18th April

April Parents Café

10am - 11am

Dates for your Diary (April 2012)

	S3 Reviews Parents/Carers will be informed of appointments
Monday 16th	School reopens
Wednesday 18 th	Parents café (Social Enterprise) 10am – 11am
Friday 20 th	Standard Grade Art and Design Exam
Friday 20 th	Football Tournament at Toryglen
Wednesday 25 th	Standard Grade Computing Studies Exam
Thursday 26 th	Standard Grade English Exam

Work Experience

All S4 pupils were involved in a World of Work week from 27th February till 2nd March. Pupils either undertook a week of work experience with an employer or completed a series of work awareness visits designed to introduce pupils to the workplace and different roles and jobs available in our local community. The work placements all went very well and we are pleased to say that a number of our young people got excellent reports back from the employers. The work awareness visits were informative and exciting and pupils had the opportunity to experience a flavour of what happens when you work in each area of industry.

Bingo Night

Our recent Bingo Night was a huge success. We raised the fantastic sum of £646 towards the senior school trip to Spain. This is an excellent contribution



towards what is an expensive trip and we are very grateful to everyone who contributed. We hope you had an enjoyable evening.

Tapas Evening



S3 recently visited Las Ramblas tapas restaurant with Miss Campbell, Mr Robertson and Ms McGowan. The pupils enjoyed

trying different foods they had learned about in class - paella, patatas bravas, pollo al ajillo etc. Everyone who went along thoroughly enjoyed the visit.

Theatre Visit



On February 23rd, a group of S4 and S5 pupils made the short walk up to the Theatre Royal to take in a matinee performance of Stephen Daldry's award winning production of 'An Inspector Calls'.

J.B. Priestley's masterpiece morality play has been studied this term by S4 pupils as part of their Standard Grade course and this opportunity to see the characters and dialogue so vividly and imaginatively brought to life was eagerly anticipated.

Each pupil took something different from the experience. Some were amazed by the elaborate staging while others saw characters in a different way from the way they had imagined them to be.

The dramatic conclusion to the play involved a scale model replica of an Edwardian English townhouse tilting forward and pyrotechnics flashing and banging all over the stage.

The pupils are now looking forward to further opportunities to experience live theatre as a way of enhancing their learning.

Watch this space...

School Ties

We have noticed recently that a number of our spare ties have gone missing. Could I ask you to check if your child has borrowed a tie but has forgotten to return it. We would be grateful of people could send these ties back in to school as soon as possible.

Eco news



The Eco Committee have devised a poster competition (with the help of Ms Jaffrey) for S1 pupils. They are to design a poster to remind staff and pupils to

save energy. The results of the competition will be revealed at the Easter service.

Second year pupils attended a "Windworks" workshop at the Glasgow Science Centre during Climate Week. Pupils experimented with the design of wind turbines to find out which was the best for making energy.

An S3 Maths class conducted litter surveys of all the playgrounds. They used the computers to make bar charts of the results and analysed the data. They looked at the most common litter, who might be responsible for the litter and tried to think of ways to try and deal with it. They discovered the most common litter was chewing gum. It was inside and outside the school. They want to start a campaign to keep the school tidy. There will be a wall display of their findings and some of the posters for their campaign outside the maths rooms. Please come and take a look at the display and show your support.

The Eco Committee is still looking for a willing parent/carer volunteer to attend their meetings and discuss Eco matters. They meetings will now take place on Tuesday mornings, 9.00 to 9.25 a.m. Please let the school know if you would be able to help out.

Telephone Number:

Student Council

The Student Council are still working on their plans to support people in Malawi. They have already begun collecting items for the Mary's Meals Backpack appeal (see attached leaflet). These items will be gathered up and sent to school children in Malawi to allow them to access education and attempt to find a way out of poverty. The Student Council have set up a donation station in school where backpack items can be donated and have already gathered a lot. They are very grateful to the people who have already brought these items in.

The group have a number of other ideas to raise funds and they will be putting these into action after the Easter Holidays with the aim of raising as much money and filling as many backpacks as possible by the end of the summer term. More information to follow soon...

Cross Country Success

We are very pleased to report the excellent outcome of the Cross Country

Championships. Kyle Hannin was crowned the under 15 1k champion, Kyle Gault was crowned the under 13 1k champion, Candice



Binnie won silver in the 2K girls course and Billy Nicholson won silver in the 2k boys course. *Congratulations to you all on a marvellous achievement*.

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

Abercorn Café



S3 Business and S3 Home Economics pupils recently held their first monthly Abercorn café for parents/carers and friends. We were taken aback by the number

who attended and hope that people continue to support it so well in the future.

The Business class who had been studying Retail Skills and, in particular, Customer Service were exceptional in their welcome for our customers and served them very well. The Home Economics class made an array of delicious cakes and everyone commented on how nice the baking was.

Both classes were delighted with the positive response from the people who came along and they have taken on board the comments on the evaluation sheets and will make changes next month to make the café even better.

As they explained to the people who came along they have decided to run their café as a Social Enterprise. This means that they will be donating their profits to help other people. This month's profit of £78 will be given to the Student Council who have pledged to spend from now till the Summer raising money to support the children in Malawi.

For your information the next three Abercorn café's will be Wednesday 18th April, Wednesday 23rd May and Wednesday 20th June.

Next month's café will be Wednesday 18th April 10am-11am. We hope to see you there.

Art and Design News

RGI Painting Competition

S1 & S2 pupils had their work selected and exhibited in the Glasgow Art Club, 185 Bath Street from $3^{rd} - 30^{th}$ March, along with a wide range of entries from a host of Glasgow schools. Craig Kelly, S1 won 4^{th} prize in the competition – winning £30 in cash and a £25 voucher for the Art Store. Very well done everyone!

'My Glasgow' Art Competition

Pupils from S1-S3 had their work exhibited briefly in the Tramway, Albert Drive. We are still waiting to hear who the selected winners in the different categories are, but we were up against some fabulous artwork from a range of Glasgow schools.

Sport Relief 2012

Since the beginning of March Miss Walsh has been teaching the pupils a lot about the work of Sport Relief in this country and abroad. She has been selling official Sport Relief sweatbands and we have also been running a quiz for pupils. These activities culminated in a series of events including:-

- all pupils in the school taking part in a Sport Relief mile
- 'sponge the teacher' soaking lunchtime
- non uniform day
- bake sale
- red hair-spraying option
- 'penny dash'
- pupils versus staff basketball game

All of these activities were very successful and supported by all – raising a **Fantastic total of** £480!

A huge thank you to everyone for their support, in particular to David Mott's Gran for sending in lovely home baking for the cake sale!