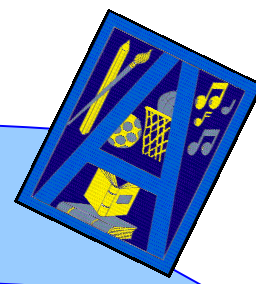


Abercorn News

May 2013



Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome to the May edition of our newsletter. As always this has been an extremely busy month for all of the staff and pupils in Abercorn. Many of our senior pupils have been involved in their SQA examinations and I was very pleased with their mature attitude towards these. I would like to wish them every success when the results are out in early August).

In early May we were very pleased to be awarded a **Platinum 2 Level Partnership Award** during an awards ceremony in the City Chambers, in recognition of all of our hard work. In addition to this we have just received confirmation that we are a finalist in the Scottish Education Awards 2013 in the Active Nation Category. The awards ceremony will take place on Monday, 10 June – fingers crossed that we receive the top award.

Other notable achievements this month included a number of pupils being recognised for their Art & Design work by the Trades House of Glasgow.

We are currently preparing for a number of end of term events to take place next month including two residential trips and the Senior School Prom, S1-S3 BBQ, Duke of Edinburgh Expedition, Sports Day and of course our annual Awards Ceremony – I have included your invitation to this with this newsletter.

On Monday, 10 June our school team will take part in the Glasgow Schools Adventure Race in Blairvadach – I am sure you will join me in wishing them every success – watch this space for an update on how they did!!!!

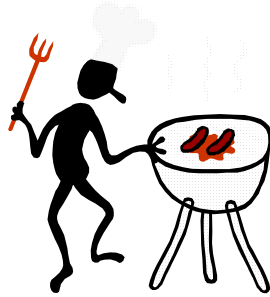
Patricia McGowan

June Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 5 th June	Senior School Prom – The Grand Central Hotel
Wednesday 5 th June	Athletics at Grangemouth
Wednesday 5 th June	Abercorn's Apprentice Final
Monday 10 th June	Blairvadach Adventure Race
Tuesday 11 th – Wednesday 12 th June	Duke of Edinburgh Expedition
Tues 11 th / Wed 12 th June	P7 Transition full day visits
Tuesday 11 th June	Abercorn's Got Talent (organized by S3 Personal Development Award)
Friday 14 th June	Spanish trip Departs
Tuesday 18 th June	S1-S3 Summer BBQ (6pm-8pm)
Tuesday 18 th June	Future Works Award Ceremony
Wednesday 19 th June	Summer Fair including Social Enterprise Café
Thursday 20 th June	Spanish Trip Returns
Friday 21 st June	Awards Ceremony and Summer Service 10.30am
Wednesday 26 th June	School closes for summer 1.00pm

Summer Barbeque

Abercorn Crazy Entertainers are busy organizing an end of term barbecue for S1-S3. They have chosen to hold this event on Tuesday 18th June. Pupils can be dropped off at school at 6pm and collected from school at 8 pm. The cost of this event is £2.00



Scottish Education Awards Active Nation Award



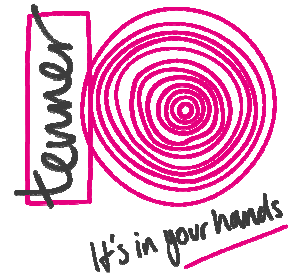
Having been shortlisted as finalists for the Scottish education Awards Active Nation Award we were recently visited by Education Scotland for some more information on our entry. They spent a very enjoyable morning speaking to our pupils and staff as well as some of our partners who assist with our sporting activities. This category recognizes schools that have developed opportunities for all children and young people to be active on a regular basis with a wide participation in sports and other physical activities. The panel will now consider all of the available information to make their decision and, as finalists, we have been invited to attend the awards ceremony on Monday 10th June so fingers crossed.

Breakfast Club

We have recently had a breakfast club pilot running in our school by Miss Thomson and S5/6 Maths. The pupils have been putting their Maths and numeracy skills into action by running the breakfast club whilst at the same time encouraging pupils to have a healthy meal to set them up for the day.

Tenner Challenge

Both of our S3 Business classes have been participating in the Young Enterprise "Tenner challenge". Each class has been allocated £10 and their task was to try and turn it into as much money as possible during the month of May. Group 1 chose to arrange a fun morning for S1-S3 pupils on Thursday 2nd May. They used their £10 to purchase refreshments to sell during activities and managed to raise £80. Group 2 decided to organize a cake stall; they used their £10 to purchase ingredients and baked a selection of cakes to sell to pupils on Wednesday 15th May. They were very grateful to receive donations of baking from Mrs McKenzie (grandmother of David Mott in S2) and decorating ingredients from Mrs Shiells (mum of Craig in S1) to boost their total. Their stall was very successful and they managed to raise £60 although they learned that with more stock they could easily have doubled that figure! Both groups must now repay their initial £10 loan from Young Enterprise. Since they have been learning about Social Enterprise they have decided their outstanding profits (£120) will be added to the parents' café profit going to Yorkhill. Well done to both classes.



Sports Leader Award Ceremony

This year's sports leaders have successfully completed their Level 1 course. They all attended a graduation ceremony which was held at the City Chambers in the centre of Glasgow. The pupils have worked really hard this year and have developed a number of different skills which will help them later on in their lives. From coaching young children in primary schools to working with pupils in autistic units they have certainly proved themselves as great Sports Leaders. This year's group consisted of Jordan Rooney (S5), Victoria Richards (S5), Michael Quinn (S5), Billy Nicholson (S5), Phillip O'Neill (S5) and Neil Simpson (S5). Well done to them all

Blairvadach Adventure Race

The Blairvadach adventure race team, Kyle Hannin (S4), Billy Nicholson (S5), Kyle Gault (S2), Kosrat Sarder (S2), Chris Kilpatrick (S5), Garry Hamilton (S4), Phillip O'Neill (S5) and Nico McMillan (S4) will take part in this years Blairvadach Adventure Race on 10th June and will be competing against 13 other secondary schools from across Glasgow. The team of 8 boys have been working tremendously hard over the past 6 months and will compete in events such as running, climbing, canoeing, kayaking and mountain biking. We have a long successful history in the event, being either winners or runners up every time we have entered and they are confident they can do well again this year. We wish them all luck.

Museum of Rural Life

S1 recently visited the National Museum of Rural Life in East Kilbride to take part in a workshop entitled "From field to Fork" this workshop was excellent and all enjoyed it very much. They got to see how food makes its journey from source to their plate which complements the work they have been doing in Home Economics.

Hopscotch Theatre Visit

S1-S3 were recently visited by Hopscotch Theatre Company who were performing their new play "*Hamish's Healthy Nutrition Mission*". Billed as an absorbing adventure through the human body the play told the story of Hamish who always eats unhealthy food and therefore was unable to compete in the school cycling team. When he is accidentally shrunk by the school science teacher he goes on a journey through the human body which highlights the damage the unhealthy food can do to your system. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the performance which was both informative and amusing.



American Dance Crew

We were recently visited by an International dance crew made up of very talented dancers from all over the world. The crew are currently travelling the world to encourage others to become involved in dance. We were contacted by the American embassy to see if we would be interested in spending a day in a dance workshop run by the crew. We were delighted to accept and 16 pupils were involved in the workshop which was followed by an enthralling dance performance by the crew.

Social Enterprise Café



We have been in contact with the charity '*Chloe's Chemoo Cows*' whose mission is to raise

awareness and much needed funds to brighten the lives of children with cancer, to do this they work alongside the play therapists at the Schiehallion Ward, Yorkhill Children's Hospital. One of the first things *Chloe's Chemoo Cows* does is provide all children receiving chemotherapy with their own Chemoo Cow gift box containing a soft toy cow, bookmark, sticker and certificate.

They then liaise with the staff to buy much needed activities, crafts, toys, DVDs and other items for the children or the ward. They deliver these huge parcels of crafts & activities to the ward 3 times a year as well as making additional deliveries with other gifts at special points in the year including Christmas and Easter. Having contacted them recently to say that the S3 Business class had been learning about Social Enterprise and running a monthly parents café with the help of Mrs Johnston and S3 Home Economics, we were delighted when they said we could work with them to spend our profit on some much needed portable DVD players. We have been to Richer Sounds in Jamaica Street and ordered 15 Toshiba portable DVD players which we will be delighted to hand over in the next few weeks.

Abercorn's Got Talent

S3 Personal Development Award have been busy organizing an Abercorn's Got Talent competition. They have so far held their auditions and decided on the finalists who will perform in front of the judges on Tuesday 11th June. Good luck to everyone who will be competing.

Summer Fayre

We will be holding our annual Summer Fayre on Wednesday 19th June. It is hoped that the weather will be nice enough to hold this event outdoors. There will be a variety of stalls including:

- Toys
- DVD's
- Bric a Brac
- Books
- Tombola
- Café
- Homebaking
- Crafts
- Games (beat the goalie, shoot the hoops etc)

Everyone is very welcome to attend and any donations for the stalls would be gratefully appreciated and can be handed in to any of the SVS teachers.

Abercorn Awards Ceremony and Summer Service

Our annual Awards Ceremony and Summer Service will take place on Friday 21st June. Your invitation is included within this envelope. To ensure everyone has a seat to watch the young people receive their awards and enjoy the entertainment it is very important that you return your invitation indicating the exact number of people who will be attending.

Art & Design News

Trades House of Glasgow Schools Craft Competition 2013

On Monday 22nd April 2 judges visited the school, to look at S5/ S6 work entered into this years Trades House of Glasgow Schools Craft Competition. They were most impressed with the school and with the work of the pupils. We have since heard that we have prizewinners! Pupils will be attending an award ceremony on Monday 3rd June to receive their certificates and awards.

The prizewinners are:

Daryl Healy (S6) - Deacon Convener's 1st prize Higher Award

Victoria Richards (S5) - Deacon Convener's 1st prize Intermediate 2 Award

Mark Lawrence (S5) - Deacon Convener's 2nd prize Intermediate 2 Award

Demi Nolan (S5) - Intermediate 2 Deacon Convener's Commendation

Connor Montgomery (S6) - Intermediate 2 Deacon Convener's Commendation

Phillip O'Neill (S5) - Intermediate 2 Deacon Convener's Commendation

Robyn Maltman (S5) - Intermediate 1 Deacon Convener's Commendation

Crafting Group's Presentation to Blythswood Care



On Wednesday 28th May the Wider Achievement Afternoon's Crafting group presented the blanket they had all been working on, to Mrs Black on behalf of Blythswood Care. Pupils have been learning a variety of craft skills and have been creating many items for 'the benefit of others', through a variety of charities and fundraising. Some of their work will be on sale in the Summer Fair in June, raising money for the British Heart Foundation.