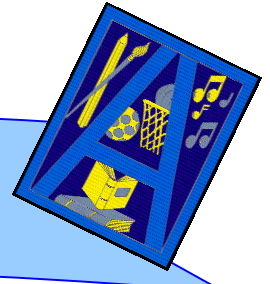


# Abercorn News



November 2011

## Head Teacher's Introduction

Welcome to the November edition of our newsletter. Can I thank everyone for the support that they have given me during the last few weeks as we wait for the appointment of our new Head Teacher.

We had an excellent turnout at our recent parents' night. Another has been scheduled for February. I was delighted with the positive reports that I received about behaviour and enthusiasm during the recent trip to Keswick and I am sure you will join me in thanking all the staff who accompanied the pupils for their hard work.

On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November we held a Celebration of Success Assembly. Pupils delivered a well received presentation on Famous Scots and others took part in excellent musical pieces – well done to all who participated.

Our pupil council is now very active and have had several meetings. They had the opportunity to meet with the candidates who have applied for the Head Teacher post. In addition two pupils are representing Abercorn on the city wide student council.

It has come to my attention that a number of pupils are using technology to keep in touch with each other outside of school. This is through chat rooms, social networking and personal website such as Facebook or My Space. Sadly I have had complaints that some people are posting inappropriate comments on these sites. Can I therefore ask parents to be vigilant about their child's use of computers and mobile phones. In addition can I reinforce that pupils are not allowed to use phones during school time apart from listening to music during breaks. If you do need to get in touch with your child during school hours can you please phone the school office.

During the month of December we have a number of Christmas activities planned including cinema and theatre trips, ice skating, the Variety Party and a Christmas fun day. Our Christmas Service is on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December and I hope that you can join us at this occasion.

Many thanks for your continuing support.

Kind regards

Margaret Beaton



**Abercorn Christmas Fun Day**  
**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2011**  
**10am – 12 noon**  
**All Welcome**



## Dates for your Diary - December

### December

<b>Thurs 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Modern Studies Visit to Scottish Parliament
<b>Tues 6<sup>th</sup></b>	Cross Country
<b>Mon 12<sup>th</sup></b>	Visit to GFT to see A Christmas Carol (Senior pupils)
<b>Mon 12<sup>th</sup></b>	Variety Club Christmas Party (S1)
<b>Tues 13<sup>th</sup></b>	Trip to Pavillion Panto (S1, S2, S3 and all other taxi pupils)
<b>Wed 14<sup>th</sup></b>	Christmas Fun Day
<b>Thurs 15<sup>th</sup></b>	Ice Skating in George Square (group of S5/S6 pupils)
<b>Fri 16<sup>th</sup></b>	Christmas Lunch
<b>Tues 20<sup>th</sup></b>	Christmas Service 10am (Parents/Carers welcome)
<b>Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	Christmas Holidays

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## Bracelets for Sale

The Personal Presentation HWB groups have been busy making beautiful beaded bracelets which they hope to sell over the Christmas period. They will cost £1.50 and can be ordered from Miss Thomson or any members of the group. They will also be sold at the Christmas Fun Day.



## Trip to Auschwitz

On Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November Mr Close accompanied 2 Post 16 pupils on a trip to Poland organized by the Holocaust Education Trust. They visited the former Nazi extermination camp Auschwitz-Birkenau. In preparation for the trip they attended a seminar focused on victims' lives where they listened to the testimony of a Holocaust survivor. Everyone involved found it an extremely rewarding, albeit emotional, experience. They shared their experiences with the rest of the school community at our recent Celebration of Success.



## Christmas Fun Day



On Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December Abercorn will hold their annual Christmas Fun Day. There will be a number of exciting stalls on the day ranging from Christmas Gifts, Cake and Candy, Bric-a-brac, tombola, Books and DVD's, toys and Santa's Grotto as well as a café selling refreshments.

Everyone is welcome to attend and we would encourage you to come along. You may even manage to get some last minute Christmas gifts! All donations for stalls would be most welcome.

## Keswick Trip

50 pupils and 8 members of staff travelled to the Calvert Trust Outdoor Education Centre in Keswick in the Lake District recently for a week long residential stay. Pupils were able to take part in a range of activities including water sports, sailing, climbing and abseiling, horse riding, archery and hill walking under the watchful eye of the instructors as well as using the facilities at the centre in their leisure time. They thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to use the pool, play games in the games room and relax in the sensory room and staff were pleased to report that pupils' behaviour was excellent. Well done!



## School Bank

The Abercorn School Bank has re-opened for this session and pupils with existing bank accounts are encouraged to start saving money again. They will be able to deposit money into their Royal Bank accounts every Wednesday at break time. We have a number of application forms currently going through the account opening process with Royal Bank of Scotland, City Branch at the moment, however, those pupils involved are still welcome to deposit money each Wednesday which we will keep safe in school until their accounts are officially opened. In an attempt to encourage saving, we hope to provide incentives for pupils who deposit money on a regular basis. If anyone does not have a school bank account with the Royal Bank of Scotland and would like to open one please contact Mrs Logue at the school.



## Football Success

Abercorn's school football team has had a very successful start to the session. They have won all of their first 8 games and are therefore proudly placed at the top of the league. Well done boys and good luck for the rest of the year!



## Art & Design News

THANK YOU

A huge "Thank You" to Mrs M Kenley who promoted the school and sold the pupils' felted goods at a 'Coffee, Craft & Christmas Goods' Charity Event at New Kilpatrick Church Hall, Bearsden at the start of the month. Mrs Kenley sold

lots of the felted pieces made by the pupils – necklaces, bags, pictures, phone pouches and brooches – raising £102 for School Funds. This takes our total sales from our Felting Enterprise to £150 so far!!! We aim to buy additional materials to allow more pupils to experience felt making, and develop their ideas and skills. A huge thank you to Mrs Kenley and the Committee, who have suggested an official link with Abercorn for this annual event, with pupils running our stall next year!

## Finance Week

Abercorn's Finance week took place during the week beginning the 7<sup>th</sup> of November. Pupils had the opportunity to learn about saving money, using banks and keeping money safe. They had the



chance to take part in discussions around concerns they have, to design new notes or coins, consider how important charity is and make their own money boxes. Here is what some of the pupils had to say: "We have been learning about bank accounts and how you can save.", "We played Pay Day. I was nearly bankrupt because I had to pay car insurance twice.", "We budgeted for a holiday. We compared costs of holidays here and abroad." "We learned about different charities in Africa. I enjoyed the story."

## Abercorn Christmas Cards

Handmade Abercorn Christmas cards, designed and produced by current pupils, are available to buy from Miss Jaffrey in the Art Department priced £3.99 for a pack of 5. They will also be available for sale on the day of Christmas Fun Day.

## Student Council update

Abercorn's current Student Council comprises:

- S1: Kosrat Sardar and Jenna Mitchell
- S2: Jamie Baxter and Jack Bulloch
- S3: Marc Stewart, Mary Cross and Garry Hamilton
- S4: Chris Kilpatrick and Michael Dougan
- S5/6 Jennifer Orr, Derek Keith, Jack Roach and Robbie Shaw

Our Student Council recently voted overwhelmingly in favour of Michael Dougan (S4) succeeding school leaver James Stewart as Chairperson. Everyone felt Michael's commitment, composure and confidence made him the ideal replacement. Well done Michael!

Our Student Council meets on a weekly basis and so far this session they have planned and delivered a tribute to our outgoing Head Teacher Mrs McPhillips, collated year group information on "Great Scots" to create a presentation on the topic for the recent Celebration of Success and introduced themselves to the candidates for the Head Teacher vacancy on their recent visit to the school.

They are currently working on ways to promote themselves as a source of advice and assistance for all pupils and are preparing a rota to visit all registration classes. They have an information board located in the foyer of the school which they update regularly and which has a folder for pupils to place information on issues of concern for them to bring to the attention of staff.

They will soon be turning their attention to the issue of fundraising for Malawi in response to a plea from Mrs Maureen McKenna, Director of Education in Glasgow who has visited Malawi and who is desperate for schools in Glasgow to help. They are currently considering a number of options and will be deciding on the most appropriate for Abercorn to undertake in the near future with a view to beginning in the New Year.

In the mean time however, they continue to be exemplary pupils both in attitude and appearance and they wish to make clear that they can be approached at any time by any pupil with something to say.



# **S3 SVS Christmas Fun Day**

**Wednesday 14 December  
Held in School Hall  
10am to 12Noon**

**Cake & Candy**

**Tombola**

**Christmas  
Gifts**

**Café**

**Toys**

**Bric a Brac**

**Santa Claus**

