



Abercorn News



September 2013

Dear Parent/Carer

I cannot believe that it is already the end of September. I feel this has been one of the busiest starts to a school year; we have already had a number of pupils taking part in another two residential trips. All of the second year pupils who went to Blairvadach had a fantastic time participating in outdoor activities and there has also been another very successful trip to camas. In addition there has also been a number of sporting events and you will be pleased to hear that the football team has had a very successful start to the season.

All staff and pupils are busy finalising this session's curriculum plans, I hope you will receive your copy before the October break.

Members of the Parent Council are busy putting the finishing touches to a social event being organised on Saturday, 2nd November to raise money for school funds and the many residential experiences that our young people benefit from. Tickets will be available from the school at a cost of £5 each. All donations for the raffle /tombola will be gratefully received. For more information please refer to the poster that is attached to this newsletter. I am sure you will join me in thanking everyone involved in organising this event and I hope you will be able to join us on the night.

Finally I would like to thank you all for continuing to support our school uniform policy, all of the pupils look very smart in their black uniforms.

Once again please feel free to contact the school if you have any suggestions on where we can improve or if you require any support or guidance in relation to your child's learning.

Regards
Patricia McGowan

September Weekend Holiday Arrangements

School Closed - Friday 27th and Monday 30th September

In Service Tuesday 1st October

School Re-opens to pupils on Wednesday 2nd October

Dates for your diary (October-December)

Tuesday 1 st October	In Service Day
Wednesday 2 nd October	Selection of S5/6 pupils to Romeo and Juliet at The Bridge, Easterhouse
Wednesday 9 th October	Swimming Gala (Scotstoun)
Thursday 10 th October	Bingo Night
Friday 11 th October	S1 Trip to Amazonia (10am – 12 noon)
Monday 14 th - Friday 18 th October	October Week Holiday – School re-opens Monday 21 st October
Wednesday 23 rd October	S1 Trip to Coca Cola Factory, East Kilbride
Friday 25 th October	S1 Halloween Party 1.45-2.45
Saturday 2 nd November	Parent Council Fundraising Social Evening (details to follow)
Thursday 7 th November	Parent's Evening
Tuesday 12 th November	Parents Café
Tuesday 10 th December	Parents Café
Friday 20 th December	School Closes 2.30pm
S1 Post Placement reviews will take place at the end of October (appointments to be advised)	
S6 Leavers Reviews will take place during November (appointments to be advised)	
S5 Reviews will take place in December (appointments to be advised)	

S2 Residential trip to Blairvadach

Our S2 pupils recently took part in a residential trip to Blairvadach outdoor Education Centre. They had a fantastic time taking part in a variety of outdoor activities including kayaking, rock climbing as well as enjoying social activities such as disco's in the evening. They returned to school shattered but very happy after their week.

Parent's Café



The first Parent's café of the session took place on Tuesday 10th September from 2.30pm – 3.15pm. It was lovely to see the number of parents/carers and friends who came along. The S3 Business and S3 Home Economics classes work together to run these events once per month. Tea/coffee and home baking is available for £1.50 and since the café is a Social Enterprise all profits go towards addressing social issues. We have a new group of S3 pupils running the café this session and they have some very good ideas on how to improve the experience.

Café's will run approximately once per month from **2.30pm – 3.15pm**. Please see the dates at the front of this newsletter for details of the next 2 scheduled dates. Please note parents attending may wait and take their children home but they will not be able to leave their period 6 class before 3.20pm.

Bingo Night

Abercorn's annual Bingo Night is currently being organized by the S4 Personal Achievement

class and will take place on Thursday 10th October 2013. Please see attached flyer for more information. Tickets priced £5 (includes 2 books) are now available from the school. Refreshments will be provided. Any donations to the raffle would be gratefully received by Mrs Johnston.



City Wide Student Council

Michael Dougan (S6) and Garry Hamilton (S5) have been chosen to represent the school at the City Wide Student Council. There are a number of meetings planned throughout the session where they will have the opportunity to meet with students from other Glasgow secondary schools to discuss the issues important to them. This is a significant responsibility and Michael and Garry will receive a reference from taking part which they will be able to use when making applications post school.

Glasgow City Bus Tour

The S5/6 Travel and Tourism class and 2B Geography recently had the opportunity to increase their knowledge of



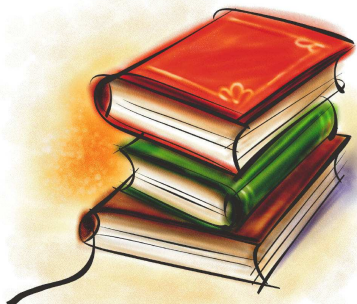
Glasgow when they went on the 'Glasgow City Bus Tour'. Although the weather could have been better it didn't dampen their spirits! We managed to take in some interesting attractions during the tour such as; The Gallery of Modern Art, The Riverside Museum, The Tall Ship, Kelvingrove Art Galleries and The Peoples Palace. Pupils all gained a valued and interesting experience, exploring some of the city's finest attractions.

Abercorn Student Council

S1 have been learning more about the Student Council within the school and the responsibilities associated with being a representative. A number of pupils expressed an interest in being the representative for S1 and prepared a nomination speech. They have now filmed their speech and the other pupils took part in a ballot to elect the person they felt would best represent their views. The new S1 representatives are Aimee Leigh Allan (1A) and Anthony McGroarty (1B). Congratulations to them and well done to everyone who nominated themselves.

S1 Library Trips

S1 recently visited Woodside Library during one of their English periods. This was a very successful trip during which they filled out the form to join the library, browsed the catalogue of books and also had the opportunity to look through books on the Rainforest which the library staff had



ordered in to support their *Crash in the Jungle* topic. This allowed them the experience of using the library to gain information as they were able to make notes of interesting facts. It is hoped that each class will be able to make this trip once every 3 weeks.

S1 Post Placement Reviews

Our S1 pupils seem to have settled well into the rules and routines within Abercorn. They have a good grasp of their timetables and have begun to participate in clubs etc. Staff will shortly be given the opportunity to feedback on their progress in classes and also give details of any issues that have arisen and this will form the basis of a post placement review meeting with Mr Robertson towards the end of October. Parents/carers will be advised of the time for this meeting nearer the time.

S6 Leavers Reviews

Our S6 pupils have also settled well into the courses and are working towards a variety of qualifications, awards and wider achievements. Parents will be invited to attend a leavers review with Mr Shields in November to discuss arrangements and possible destinations for post school transition. Parents/carers will be advised of the time for this meeting nearer the time.

School Meals

At the end of last session (June) we issued information regarding Free School Meal entitlement along with the necessary forms. If you think you may be entitled to free school meals for this session, and you haven't already completed the forms, you must do so as soon as possible. Since the award of free school meals is means tested it is necessary to repeat this process at the start of every academic session. Any pupil who has not been awarded free school meals will be required to pay £1.40 per day if they wish to have a school meal. More information and the required forms are available from the school office.



Transport Co-ordination Centre Freephone Number

Please call the Transport Co-ordination Centre on **0800 032 4444**

if a pupil is not going to be on the morning taxi run. This is a freephone number available 24 hours a day. The school should also then be informed of any pupil absence.



We must also be made aware if a pupil has not travelled in the morning taxi but does require to be added to the run for the hometime journey. If pupils have not travelled in to school by taxi that morning drivers will not take them home without prior notice.

Please note also that the wait time for taxis is now only 5 minutes. Pupils should be ready and waiting for their taxi to arrive as drivers are unable to wait outside the house for longer than 5 minutes.

Abercorn Parent Council
have organised a
Social Evening

in The Goodyear Club
307 Duntreath Avenue

G15 6SA



*Tickets £5
available from the school*

Saturday 2nd November

Raffle

7.30pm - late

Tombola

donations gratefully
received in school