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ELLON ACADEMY WEEKLY INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS

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To: All parents/carers  
From: Pauline Buchan, Rector  
Subject: Weekly Information Up-date  
Date: Friday 16th September 2022

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Quote of the week beginning 20.9.22:



**Holiday - Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September**

In commemoration of the Queen's death on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September and following 10 days of national mourning, all Aberdeenshire schools will be closed on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September as a mark of respect for the day of HRH Queen Elizabeth II's funeral.

Thinking of all our families affected by loss at this sad time.

**Most Merits/Over and Above:**

The pupils below have accrued the most merits week beginning Mon 12.9.22 and will receive their canteen fast passes on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> Sept after registration in the sunken social area. Well done, everyone!

Lauren	R	1C1
Lewis	D	1F1
Scott	M	1F1
Charlotte	W	1F1
Hannah	M	1K1
Niks	A	1K2
Ewan	B	1M1
Finlay	R	1M1
Hannah	S	1S1
Toby	Y	2C1
Ruaridh	G	2M2
Sienna	G	4C1
Sophie	K	4C1
Josh	C	4K1
Johnny	A	4M2
Millie	M	4M2
Mali	C	4S2



### Timings of break and lunch at Ellon Academy

Since returning to school in August 2020 after the first national COVID-19 lockdown, morning interval and Lunchtimes at Ellon Academy have been amended. The original times have recently been reinstated to pre COVID-19 times, but there has been a discussion regarding the suitability of these and whether these are Sustainable in the long-term.

To this end, we would like to gather opinions of pupils, parents, and staff towards deciding on whether we will Continue with these times or introduce a revised set of times.

Please look at the survey via the link below and note the pdf attached which details 3 options for morning Interval and lunchtimes. Please rank your preferences 1 – 3 (1 being most preferred and 3 being least preferred). The deadline for parents/carers to complete this form is by Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2022.

<https://forms.office.com/r/5vPMdMfEw5>



### Mobile Devices in School:

Staff at Ellon Academy always encourage pupils to use their mobile devices in a responsible, respectful, and safe way. Whilst mobile devices can play an important part in securing pupils' personal safety before and after school, there is an emerging body of evidence pointing to incidences of mobile device misuse, including, text and social media bullying, improper use of images and other forms of harassment. There are also links between mobile device use contributing towards anxiety and a range of other mental health issues, which are becoming increasingly common among young people in Scotland.

As advances in mobile device technology continue and young people live out more and more aspects of their lives in a digital realm, schools have a responsibility to encourage a healthy balance in mobile device use.

This responsibility has increased considering concerns from employers about the negative effects of excessive phone use on productivity in the workplace among young workers.

We are currently revising our Mobile Device Policy which will be designed to strike a balance between allowing young people access to technology and the freedom to learn without distraction, as well as working within the policies and procedures of Aberdeenshire Council to educate pupils in the appropriate use of mobile devices and manage appropriately incidents of their misuse.

Pupils will continue to be allowed to bring a mobile device to school, and this is in line with Scottish Government advice, and we will also allow mobile device use in classrooms when deemed appropriate by teachers.

We ask that parents continue to be vigilant in checking what their children are accessing, posting, and sharing online.



### **PE Changing Rooms Protocol:**

Your child may have mentioned changes to how they enter and exit the PE changing rooms, especially in respect to the handing over of mobile phones. **The PE changing rooms are a no mobile phone zone.**

Pupils are now expected to hand their phone over to their teacher prior to entering the changing room, and they will be returned once the pupil is changed after their lesson.

During this time phones will be locked away securely.



### **Extra-curricular Activities at Ellon Academy:**

Our extra-curricular activities booklet has been uploaded to the school website. This is only version 1. We will up-date the booklet as more pupil groups and activities are set up.

We are also having an Activities Fair on Thursday 29th September at lunchtimes so that all pupils can see what's on offer!

It's good to have our lunchtime and after school clubs and activities back again!

<https://ellonacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/extra.../>



### Ellon Academy – Faculty of Technical and Design Education:

To help celebrate the high-quality learning and teaching that happens within the Technical Faculty, a Twitter page has been set up to share pictures of pupils work and to celebrate their achievements.

Please feel free to follow the page as see for yourself what happens within Engineering Science, Graphic Communication, Woodwork and Metalwork

[twitter.com/EllonTech](https://twitter.com/EllonTech)



### Pupil Achievement:

Girls Junior Football Result. Meldrum Acad 0-3 Ellon Acad  
Goal scorers; Myah R - 2, Millie B - 1.

It was a good game on Monday night against Meldrum Academy in a close, competitive match. Six S1 girls played their first game for the school, some playing their first ever 11 a side match, and they acquitted themselves very well.

Myah R scored 2 goals on her debut and always looked comfortable on the ball, whilst Ava R covered every blade of grass and chased every ball, creating many chances for the team.

Katie G also did extremely well in her debut for the school

Player's player of match was Natalie G

Coaches' players of match were the sisters, Ava R and Myah R

Very well-done girls!



**Pupil Achievement:**

Recently Lauren M in 2S1 wrote to Prince William Duke of Cambridge (Now the Prince of Wales) and here is his reply. Very well-done Lauren.



**Pupil Achievement:**

Summer W – 6M has been working with Mrs Campbell to design a series of posters to promote Growth Mindset at Ellon Academy. As you will be aware, our S1 pupils follow an Ellon Academy bespoke programme called ‘SEEDs’ for one period per week. This programme has been devised by Mrs Campbell and her committee of staff and Summer was asked to design the promotional posters based on the work of our S1 SEEDs learners. We will be delighted to share Summers’s posters when they have been professionally printed for the school. Excellent work Summer and thank you on behalf of the school.



**Pupil Achievement: Aberdeenshire Secondary Schools Football Association (Senior Squad)**

Thank you to all the players for the Senior trial this week, and all those who were there to assist with the selection of the squads. The standard was high and all boys that were there represented their school in an excellent manner.

The Ellon Academy pupils chosen for the squad are:

- Jack R - Ellon Academy
- Callum K - Ellon Academy
- Owen E - Ellon Academy
- Kade M - Ellon Academy

Well done all!



**Pupil Achievement: Aberdeenshire Secondary Schools Football Association (Under 15 Squad)**

Thank you to all the players for the U15 trial yesterday and all those who were there to assist with the selection of the squads. The standard was really high and all boys that were there represented their school in an excellent manner. Due to the high talent on show and the number of players that were nominated a second trial has been arranged for those on the list from which a final squad will be picked. The second trial will be at Mintlaw Academy (ASTRO-TURF) next Thursday, 22nd September.

The shortlisted Ellon Academy player is:

- Scott M - Ellon Academy

Well done, Scott!

**For information:**

**S1, S3, S5 & S6**

**INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPH**

**Tuesday 27th September 2022**

8:40am	5C1
8:50am	5C2
9:00am	5F1
9:10am	5K1
9:20am	5K2
9:30am	5M1
9:40am	5S1
9:50am	6C
<b>Break 10:15 – 10:30</b>	
10:35am	6F
10:45am	6K
10:55am	6M
11:05am	6S
11:15am	3C1
11:25am	3C2
11:35am	3F1
11:45am	3K1

11:55am	3K2
12:05pm	3M1
12:15pm	3S1
12:25pm	3S2
<b>Lunch 1:00 – 1:50</b>	
2:00pm	1C1
2:10pm	1C2
2:20pm	1F1
2:30pm	1K1
2:40pm	1K2
2:50pm	1M1
3:00pm	1M2
3:10pm	1S1

### Dates For Your Diary

#### Term 1:

- HRH Queen Elizabeth II Funeral – Ellon Academy closed on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September
- Assemblies - week beginning Tues 20<sup>th</sup> Sept – Mr Cowie – Excellence at Ellon

Tues 20.9.22    S2 Assembly  
Wed 21.9.22    S3 Assembly  
Thurs 22.9.22    S4 Assembly  
Fri 23.9.22    S5/6 Assembly  
Mon 26.9.22    S1 Assembly

- School Photographer for Individual Photos (S1/3/5/6) Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September
- Activities Fair – Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> September (lunchtime)
- Week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> October – Senior S4/5/6 Tracking Progress Reports to be issued
- End of Term 1 – Friday 14.10.22

Have a lovely weekend and thank you for your continued support.

*Pauline Buchan*

Rector  
16.9.22