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ELLON ACADEMY WEEKLY INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS

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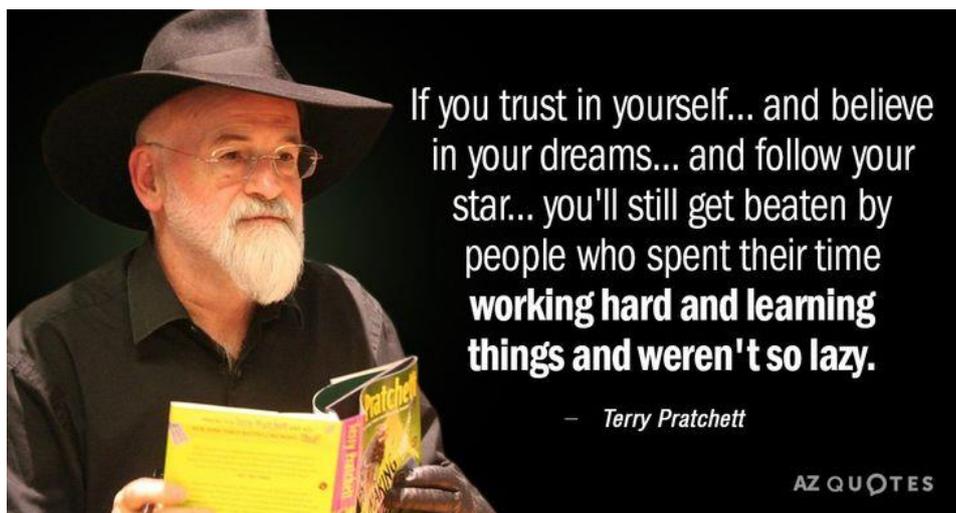
To: All Parents/Carers  
From: Pauline Buchan, Rector  
Subject: Weekly Information Up-date  
Date: Friday 11th November 2022

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Dear parents/carers,

This week we have commemorated Remembrance and Armistice at our daily assemblies and with a one-minute silence this morning. Thanks again to our wonderful Exec Team who have led the assemblies and the sale of poppies for Poppy Scotland this week.

Quote of the week beginning 14.11.22:



Thanks to Mr Murdoch in Maths for this week's quote.

**Assemblies – Week beginning Mon 14.11.22:**  
**Theme – Ellon Academy School Values**

S1	-	Mon 14.11.22	Theatre with Mr Corser
S2	-	Tues 15.11.22	Theatre with Mr Corser
S3	-	Wed 16.1.22	Theatre with Mr Corser

No assemblies for S4/5/6 due to in-service days on Thurs 17.11.22 and Fri 18.11.22.

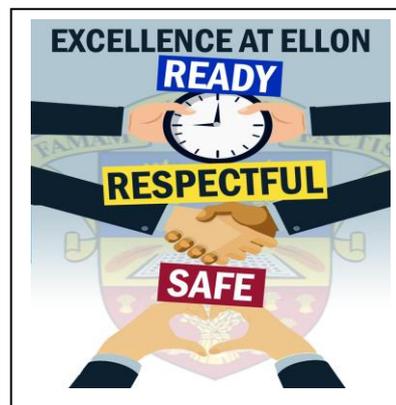
## Most Merits/Over and Above:

The pupils below have accrued the most merits week beginning Mon 7.11.22 and will receive their canteen fast passes on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> Nov after registration in the sunken social area. Well done, everyone!

### Most Merits

11.11.22

Sophie	D	1C1	7
Eva	M	1C1	8
Analeigha	L	1K1	7
Alexander	S	1K2	8
Vanessa	M	1M2	8
Burak	E	2F2	9
Enzo	T	2F2	10
Milo	B	2M1	9
Adrijana	P	2M1	7
Robyn	G	2M2	7
Millie	M	4M2	7



## Save the Date!

### Ellon Academy Careers Convention 2022:

On Tuesday 15th November the Ellon Academy Careers Convention will return for the first time since 2019. This is a fantastic opportunity for young people to engage with local and national employers, from a range of employment areas, to find out the latest information regarding employment opportunities, apprenticeships, and career pathways available in our local area and beyond.

As always, we will have a wide range of University and College representation which will allow pupils to discuss course options, entry requirements and, also, ask questions about life in Higher and Further Education. We will also have several presentations, over the course of the evening, from businesses where you can hear more about the work they do and the potential career opportunities available.

The event will begin at 6pm and will run until 8pm.

It will be open to all year groups however we do ask that S1/2/3 pupils attend with a parent/carer.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Mr Corser

DHT



## SQA Appeals 2022

S5/6 Learners who lodged an appeal with the SQA were told the outcome of their appeals this week.

Any learner who missed the session on Tuesday morning can find out their appeals up-dates from their Guidance Teachers. To those learners who were successful in their appeals, the SQA will send new certificates in due course

Learners who left school in the summer, will be sent a new certificate if their appeals were successful too and if you know of a learner who has left school and hasn't heard their appeals news, please let them know to call the school and ask to speak with their former Guidance Teacher.

## Reminder of the new times for breaks and lunchtimes:

Mon/Tues

Reg	1	2	Break	3	4	5	Lunch	6	7	Home
8:25	8:35	9:25	10:15	10:35	11:25	12:15	13:05	13:50	14:40	15:30

Wed/Thurs/Fri

Reg	1	2	Break	3	4	Lunch	5	6	Home
8:25	8:35	9:25	10:15	10:35	11:25	12:15	13:00	13:50	14:40

## Peanut Allergies:

This week at assemblies we have been asking pupils not to bring peanut products to school in packed lunches and for snacks as there are several pupils who have a peanut allergy and inadvertently may be affected by proximity to these products.

Our school canteen is a 'Peanut-free Zone' and any young person who has concerns about any food ingredient content is encouraged to speak with Miss Rachael Jarvis, our canteen supervisor in the mornings.

Miss Jarvis is also very keen to speak with parents/carers who may have concerns. Please call the school on 01358 281150 and ask to speak with Miss Jarvis directly.

## Staffing up-date:

Miss Willins (Modern Studies) leaves us today to take up an exciting job opportunity in Edinburgh and we wish her all the very best for the future.

Mr J Faulds (PE) also leaves us today to take up a new PE post in Aberdeen City. Wishing him well for the future.

## Faculty of Mathematics - Our new faculty website is now live:

<https://sites.google.com/as.glow.scot/ellonmaths/home>

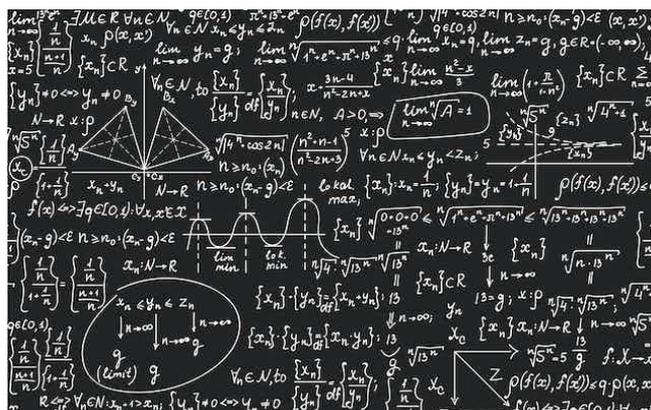
Over time we will continue to populate this with resources & information for pupils & parents.

Please bear with us as this is an ongoing work in progress.

Please note:

- course information is available for all to access

- learning resources are only available for pupils to access, as they need to be logged into GLOW to view them.



## S2/3 Visit to the National Decommissioning Centre

On Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November, a group of 22 young people from S2 and S3 Science classes attended a trip to the National Decommissioning Centre in Newburgh. The event was aimed towards developing a greater understanding of one of the North East's budding industries in Oil & Gas decommissioning, as well as the environmental responsibilities and challenges that must be navigated. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed hearing about some of the exciting research taking place in this area, as well as having the opportunity to discuss the skills and qualifications that will be required for careers in the Oil & Gas industry in the future. In particular, they had a great time trying out the sub-sea remotely operated vehicle simulator.

At the end of the session, they took part in a literature and art workshop, led by local writer Shane Strachan, and were challenged to produce a piece of flash-fiction inspired by their experiences at the decommissioning centre and the future of Oil & Gas for the Northeast of Scotland. Their short stories (up to 500 words) should be word-processed and emailed to Mr Abberley-Nicoll ([gw18abberleynicoll@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw18abberleynicoll@glow.sch.uk)) by the end of the day on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November so that these can be submitted into a flash-fiction competition, where the first-place winner will receive a cash prize of £50 and have their work published in the Pushing Out The Boat magazine!! Staff at the NDC were very complimentary of the behaviour of the pupils from Ellon Academy and felt it was great to see such enthusiasm and engagement into such an important and inter-disciplinary field.

(Photos to follow)

Mr Abberley-Nicoll



### **Pupil Achievement:**

The following S3/4 pupils have been selected to attend the Enterprising Maths National Final in Glasgow on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November. This is a hugely prestigious event within the Scottish Maths community and is a real honour for us to be asked to send a team.

Kyle M 3K2  
Nicole W 3K1  
Megan M 4F1  
Kiera F 3C1



Well done and good luck!

**Pupil Achievement:**

**Eager Bunch Garden Up-date:**

Last week, a sharp frost was forecast so the garden crew picked the last of the grapes and tomatoes and delivered them to the Ellon Parish Church Kirk Centre to help feed local families. Nicole and Edith were very pleased to take them! They also said that our green tomato chutney last year was treasured and went out to families in Christmas hampers. The senior boys agreed that this was a great way to share our fruit and veg.



The Junior Hub pupils have also enjoyed harvesting and photos will follow when parental permissions are received.

The Eager Bunch have also been selling veg boxes to staff including potatoes, onions, and garlic.



There are also some new budding gardeners helping in the Memorial Garden on Friday lunchtimes too.



Lucy and Peter planted spring bulbs in the orchard corner of the Memorial Garden.

The senior boys made apple crumble and grape ice-cream!



## Pupil Achievement - S2 Digital Champions – Maddie is Online

After their success in the recent story writing competition for the online digital learning animated cartoon series *Maddie is Online*, pupils commenced their work on the next phase with Dr Konstantina Martzoukou from the Robert Gordon University yesterday (Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November). They were starting to learn how to use Plotagon, which is an award-winning story telling animation platform and starting to compose the dialogues for their story and do some basic voice recording. Some images of the pupils are work can be found below:

Mr E Armstrong, PT Digital Learning



### **Pupil Achievement**

Junior Girls Football League Result.

Inverurie 5-2 Ellon.

The girls lost out this week against a very strong Inverurie side.

Ellon girls played some very good football and continued to stick to their principles of playing football on the deck. Despite being 4-0 down at half time, the girls stuck at their task and grew into the game. A much closer second half saw a shot by Grace S deflected into the Inverurie net and another goal from Grace S made the last 15 mins of the game very interesting. Player of match. Alisha M

### **Pupil Achievement – Ellon Academy Swimmers:**

Well done to all the Ellon Academy swimmers who were competing at the Scottish Schools Swimming Championships at Aberdeen Sports Village today. Lots of fantastic swims and PB's. Our results will now be collated with the rest of the regions across Scotland to decide on the overall winners. As usual our swimmers behaved impeccably and did the school proud. Thanks to the parents who volunteered to officiate because otherwise the event wouldn't go ahead.

### **Pupil Achievement:**

This week Nathaniel and Emma were awarded their own version of the [Ellon Scarecrow Festival](#) award for their part in designing the trophy. They did a fantastic job, and well done to both of you.



## **Pupil Achievement:**

### **NESMS – North-East of Scotland Music School**

Congratulations to Eve Begg, Charlotte S (Ellon Academy), Chenghong Zhu and Daniel Silcock for their fantastic performances at the Cowdray Hall Lunchbreak Concert.

(A retired University of Glasgow Music Lecturer friend of mine attended this concert and let me know how impressed he was with Charlotte's performance!) Well done, Charlotte!



## **Behind the Scenes:**

### **Ellon Academy On-going work:**

Here are some of the projects and on-going work of the school:

This week the Extended Leadership Team were working on:

- Excellence at Ellon – a review of our new Ethos, Expectations and Culture.
- Senior Phase Assessment Planning
- Broad General Education Curriculum Review – Making the BGE Count!
- New school policies - Mobile Devices Policy, Promoting Positive Relationships Policy and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Policy
- Plans for our In-service days next week (Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> and Fri 18<sup>th</sup> November)

## Dates For Your Diary

Here is a link to our school calendar on our Ellon Academy website:

<https://ellonacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/parent-zone/>

### Ellon Academy Christmas lunches 2022:

Here are the dates for our school Christmas lunches this year:

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November – S1 and staff

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December – S2 and staff

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December – S3 and staff

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December - S4/5/6 and staff

- S1/2/3 Tracking Report 1 to be issued to parents/carers w/b Mon 14.11.22
- Careers Fair – Tues 15.11.22 (6-8pm)
- In-service Days – Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> and Fri 18<sup>th</sup> November – School closed to all pupils
- S1 Pastoral Parents Evening (Virtual) – Wed 23.11.22
- YPI Grand Final – Wed 23.11.22 Periods 5/6
- Celebrating Cycling Day – Fri 25.11.22 (more details to follow)
- Parent Council Meeting – Wed 30.11.22, 7pm
- Weekly Christmas lunches from Wed 30.11.22 (see above)
- Interhouse Swimming Gala – Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> December
- Senior Citizen's Lunch – Wed 7<sup>th</sup> December
- Christmas Jumper Day 2022 – Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> December – Come to dressed down and with a Christmas Jumper if you have one
- S6 Privilege – S6 pupils can continue to wear their Christmas jumpers from 8<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> December
- Christmas Concert – Wednesday 21.12.22, 7.30pm in the school Theatre
- End of Term – Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December. Dress Down Day.
- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December is an Ellon Cluster Occasional Day so Ellon Academy and associated primary schools will be closed that day.

For your information:

### ALL PUPILS – CHESS CLUB

Chess club is held in the Library at lunchtime on a Friday (12:30-13:00) and all pupils are welcome to come along. Please see either Mr Royle (Maths) or Mrs Murdoch (Library) if there are any questions. See you there! Mr Royle & Mrs Murdoch

### ALL PUPILS – MANDARIN CLUB

REMINDER: Mandarin club is held in S40 at lunchtime every Tuesday – please feel free to bring your lunch! Next week, we will be looking at food in China. See you there!

Mrs Duffus

### S1-3 PUPILS – INTER HOUSE BADMINTON

This year's Inter House Badminton tournament will be held during lunchtime (from 12:15) on the following dates this week:

Friday 11th November – S3

We are looking for 2 pupils (1 boy and 1 girl) from each house within each year to play in a round robin mixed doubles tournament. We will use this tournament to select our team for the upcoming NASSA Badminton event on Monday 21st November (09:30-14:30) at Meldrum Academy. We are looking to take an S1/2 team, S3/4 team, and S5/6 team to compete in the boys' doubles, girls' doubles and mixed doubles competitions.

Mr Caskie

### **S4-6 PUPILS – BERLIN TRIP 2023**

All participants are to please note that the next payment of £250 is due by Monday 21st November. Further information (and a reminder of how to pay) is detailed in a letter that has been posted in the Google Classroom. Thank you!

Mrs Chalmers

### **S5/6 PUPILS – N5 AND HIGHER ART**

The SQA have returned some N5 and Higher Art Folio work to us. Pupils can collect their Expressive and Design work from any member of the Art and Design teaching staff.

Mr Birse

### **ROCKESTRA CLUB**

Rockestra is Ellon's biggest band! Join us in G22 after school (15:30-16:30) every Tuesday. All pupils are welcome to join, regardless of musical ability. Be part of the band, learn new songs and even new instruments - live out your Eddie Munson dreams! The first session will take place on Tuesday 15th November. Please see Mr Price if you have any questions!

Mr Price

### **S5/6 PUPILS – SENIOR MANDARIN LESSONS**

REMINDER: Mandarin lessons are taking place in S46 during period 5 on a Monday from Monday 7th November - Monday 5th December. Please remember to register with your study teacher first. All future updates will be posted on the Google Classroom!

Mrs Duffus

### **Library Homework Club:**

Times next term will be:

Mondays and Tuesdays 1.20pm to 1.50pm

Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays 12.30pm to 1.00pm

### **Teen Yoga:**

Teen yoga is held in Gym A from 12:20-13:00 every Wednesday. Pupils should wear leggings or sportswear that can be easily changed into, and all years are welcome.

Please see Mrs Winterbottom if there are any questions. See you there!

Mrs Winterbottom

### **Ellon Academy News Group:**

Where? S8

When? Wednesday 12:20-13:00

If you have a keen interest in all forms of journalism and would like to be involved in reporting about what is happening in our community, then the Ellon Academy News Group would love for you to join the team!

Pupils are allowed to bring their lunch along to the session.

Mrs Cawthorne

### **All Girls – NETBALL:**

Girls Netball takes place after school on Thursdays and will resume after school on Thursday 29th September. S

Miss Daniel & Miss Mathers

### **S1 Boys – FOOTBALL:**

Training will resume on Wednesday 28th September – see you there!

Mr Caskie

### **S1-3 PUPILS – JUNIOR BOOK CLUB:**

Where? S8 When? Friday 12:20-13:00

Join us for a range of activities – the links to reading will be varied!

Pupils are allowed to bring their lunch along to the session!

Mrs Cawthorne

### ALL PUPILS – CROSS COUNTRY 2022/23

Active Schools are delighted to announce the return of our Cross-Country series for this school year! Pupils will run a 3km course in 6 different locations across the North of Aberdeenshire.

NEW FOR THIS YEAR: Each Primary & Academy school will have the opportunity to win an overall winners' shield. This will be based on the percentage of participants attending all 6 races from each school. Therefore, Active Schools would advise each school to encourage as many pupils as possible to also attend the Run 4 Fun series 2022/2023

To sign up, please follow the link below and complete the online form. Details of payment will be sent in a confirmation email.

<http://bit.ly/asabevents>

Kelly Green, Active Schools Coordinator

### S2 PUPILS – MANDARIN ENRICHMENT

Mandarin Enrichment starts on Thursday 10th November and will take place in S40 during period 1 and 2. Pupils should go directly to S40 at 08:35 (start of period 1).

Mrs Duffus

### S5/6 PUPILS – PAIRED READING

If any S5/6 pupils are interested in becoming a 'paired reading' mentor, please attend a short meeting in S8 at 12:40 on Thursday 10th November to find out about what it involves. This is an excellent leadership and volunteering opportunity for any senior pupils who have an interest in helping junior pupils to develop their confidence in reading. If you cannot attend the meeting, please see Mrs Cawthorne by Friday 11th November to register your interest.

Mrs Cawthorne



The poster for Ellon Youth Groups features a vibrant yellow and orange border with several yellow stars. The title 'Ellon Youth Groups' is written in a large, bold, red font with a yellow outline. Below the title, the text 'Are you looking for:' is followed by a list of bullet points: 'For something to do', 'For a new challenge', 'To learn new skills', 'To meet new people', and 'To get involved in your community'. The schedule is listed as 'Every Thursday' with two sessions: 'S1/2 lunchtime 12.15 – 1.00pm' and 'Youth Voice S1+ 2.40-4.00pm', both taking place in 'Community Room 2'. Contact information includes the email 'rachel.lewis@aberdeenshire.gov.uk' and the instruction to 'drop in for a session'. The logo for 'EYF' (Ellon Youth Forum) is at the bottom left, and the 'Aberdeenshire Council' logo is at the bottom right.

**Ellon Youth Groups**

Are you looking for:

- For something to do
- For a new challenge
- To learn new skills
- To meet new people
- To get involved in your community

**Every Thursday**  
**S1/2 lunchtime 12.15 – 1.00pm**  
**Youth Voice S1+ 2.40-4.00pm**  
in Community Room 2

For further details:  
email: [rachel.lewis@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.lewis@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)  
or drop in for a session

**EYF**

Aberdeenshire Council  
Education and Children's Services  
Community Learning and Development

We hope you have enjoyed hearing about all the wonderful things happening at Ellon Academy.

Thank you for your continued support.

*Pauline Buchan*

Rector  
11.11.22