



ELLON ACADEMY WEEKLY INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS

To: All Parents/Carers
From: Pauline Buchan, Rector
Subject: Weekly Information Up-date
Date: Friday 12th March 2021

I apologise for repeating myself, but thanks again to our parents and carers for your continued support and patience at this time. As per my communications yesterday, (Thursday 11.3.21) here is the link to *the Return to School Information* on our school website, and we are really looking forward to seeing our young people back in school from next week:

[Ellon Academy Community Campus](#)

Here are the updates for this week:

Quote of the Week beginning Monday 15.3.21:



Next Parent Council Meeting:

The next virtual Parent Council Meeting is on Wednesday 21st April at 7pm.

Please contact them via this email address: ellonacademyparentcouncil@gmail.com

SQA Up-date:

We have been working on the Ellon Academy SQA Timeline for Term 4 and information regarding this will be shared with pupils, parents and carers in a letter coming out next week.

Also, the SQA have produced a booklet for senior pupils which can be accessed by following the link below:

[What you need to know for 2021 - National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher - SQA](#)

Copies of this booklet will arrive in school after the Easter break and will be passed on to senior pupils in due course.

ICT Up-date:

ClickView Free Video Content for Aberdeenshire Schools

Ellon Academy has signed up for a 3-year contract with ClickView and schools across Aberdeenshire are encouraged to use free video content provided through the National e-Learning Partnership and ClickView. *To complement this learning content, ClickView is offering schools in Scotland free access to its full range of curriculum aligned video learning content, free of charge until March 31, 2021.* The full press release can be read on Glow. To find out more, visit Clickview.co.uk.

This will support our teachers to have a wider range of educational resources to compliment learning and teaching.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

We are delighted to confirm that Ellon Academy has been working through all the protocols and principals of on-line learning and safety policies which need to be in place to open up the wi-fi, and that we are almost there! We will ensure that pupils and parents know when we are fully operational. Thanks to Mrs Moir, our Principal Teacher Digital Learning, for her work in progressing this for Ellon Academy.



Good News!



A huge 'well done' to Luca in S5 who presented to the Liberal Democrat Conference last week. We are very proud of Luca and his achievements.

Staff News:

Congratulations to Mr C Bain, who has been successful in securing the Principal Teacher of English and Literacy at Northfield Academy. A huge loss to Ellon Academy but great news for Northfield!

Exec Team News:




Our wonderful Exec Team have been reviewing the feedback from their recent wellbeing pupil questionnaire and have produced a series of mental health and wellbeing support posters for our learners.

This week, their focus is on the benefits of outdoor exercise, because they discovered that only 15% of young people exercise outside. Thanks, and well done to our Exec Team. 😊




Why you Should Exercise Outside

A survey taken by pupils from S1-S6 showed that **15%** of pupils never exercise outdoors





Benefits of outdoor exercise:

-  Boosts mental health, increases happiness
-  Reduces stress
-  Fresh, healthy air

Different ways to exercise outdoors:

-  Walk with a family member/ socially distanced friend
-  Go for a jog
-  Fitness circuits

Apps for exercise:

- Home Workout - No Equipment 
- Strava Tracker 
- Map My Run 
- Nike Training Club 

Our top tips:

- ✓ It doesn't have to be tough - just get outside!
- ✓ Set yourself realistic weekly targets for exercising outside
- ✓ Use apps/social media, connect with friends to stay motivated

By the Executive Team

Flames and Frames Young Enterprise:

Good luck to our S6 Flames and Frames Young Enterprise pupils, who have an interview next week to progress to the next stage of a National Competition for their entrepreneurial and business work. Mr Corser, Mrs Ewen and I had a practice interview with them this week, and they are an impressive group. Thanks to Mr Abberley-Nicol for his excellent co-ordination of Young Enterprise at Ellon Academy.



How does our Garden Grow?

Our EAGer Bunch are seeing the results of their early planting work in the Autumn with a lovely crop of crocus plants this year in support of Purple for Polio / End Polio Now. Well done lads!



Dates for your diary:

- Easter Break: This year the Easter break will be from Friday 2nd April – Friday 16th April inclusive, with the start of term 4 on Monday 19th April.
- May Day: Schools will be on holiday on Monday 3rd May.
- Occasional day holiday: Monday 7th June.
- Additional Inservice days: The Scottish Government have agreed 2 additional in-service days to support school in meeting the SQA requirements for school staff to work on pupil's assessment evidence, draft predicted grades and the quality assurance processes necessary to meet SQA deadlines.
- It has been agreed that these 2 additional in-service days will be on Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th June.

Website up-dates:

Please follow the link below to the latest up-dates on our Ellon Academy school website:

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

Thank you once more for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

P Buchan

Pauline Buchan, Rector 12.3.21