



ELLON ACADEMY WEEKLY INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS

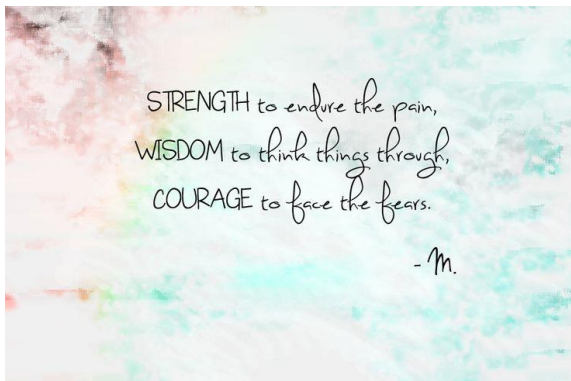
To: All Parents and Carers
From: Pauline Buchan, Rector
Subject: Weekly Information Up-date
Date: Friday 12th November 2021

Dear parents and carers,

It's been a very productive week here at Ellon Academy with our Remembrance events, YPI Class Finals, S1 Pastoral Parents Evening, working on tracking reports for S1/2/3 and full reports for S4/5/6 and planning for the In-service days next week. Our staffing has been much more stable this week too which benefits everyone.

Here are the updates for this week:

The Quote of the Week beginning 15.11.21:



A reminder of canteen concerns:

An email to all parents/carers was sent during the last week of term asking for support in ensuring all our pupils have a National Entitlement Card/Young Scott Card to pay for their school meals. In the email we have provided information regarding how to register for Free School Meals, how to order a new or replacement NE card and how to top the card up with credit/money. We have also included a school canteen price list in the email so parents/carers can see what our food and drink products cost.

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

S4/5/6 Assessment:

As you will be aware formative assessment is on-going in all classes, but we have started to progress with the work required to plan a summative assessment block in January 2022. We will be able to provide pupils and parents/carers some more information in the coming weeks prior to the Christmas break.

Celebrating Success:

We have been delighted that some parents/carers have been in touch to let us know of their child or children's recent successes and achievements out with the school. Young people can be quite shy about their success, but if they are will for us to celebrate these, please could you let us know if your child/children have had any external to school successes and achievements. We have seen quite a few out with school achievements since our return from the holidays and we are delighted to celebrate these achievements via our Facebook page, this newsletter and in school.

Pupil Achievements:

Alyssa G competed at the British Schools Modern Biathlon Finals in Bath on the 16th of October. Alyssa improved both of her run and swim times to finish an impressive 6th and make the podium for the whole of the UK in her age group. She was also the top Scot in the results. Great achievement Alyssa! Your hard work and dedication is paying off!



Pupil Achievement:

Well done to Alfie in S2! 'Chef of the day'!



Pupil Achievements:

This week we had our S6 Youth Philanthropy Initiative Class Semi-Finals. Watch this space for more news!



Pupil Achievements

Well done to Jack, Aiden, Lucas and Calum who all represented Aberdeenshire in the National Competition against Dundee, and were an absolute credit to themselves and the school.



Remembrance 2021 at Ellon Academy:

(Press article 11.11.21)

Rector thanks community for overwhelming response to poppy plea.

Ellon Academy has marked Armistice Day by creating a poppy waterfall display and a striking poppy handprint painting created by senior pupils.

Last month, the school asked pupils, parents, carers, and families to make poppies to commemorate Armistice Day and the 100th anniversary of Poppy Scotland to create the display.

Principal Teacher Humanities, Mrs Leslie posted videos and tutorials on how to make poppies on the school's Facebook account – from quite complicated knitting and crocheting to using red cupcake holders with tie fasteners.

Pauline Buchan, Ellon Academy's Rector, said, *"The school has been overwhelmed with the response from the local community. "We've been inundated. Staff, parents, friends, neighbours, and relatives have responded so positively to our appeal and some have been knitting, crocheting, and coming up with some very special and creative poppy designs. Some pupils have arrived at school with boxes full of poppies with different designs. Many staff have been involved as well. There were workshops over lunchtime where staff and pupils came to make their own poppies," she said.*

The display was installed on Monday November 8th, in the school's Sunken Social Area. S6 pupils have also created a picture of a poppy comprising of red handprints, which has been displayed alongside the poppies. Pupils were also learning about Armistice Day in History, Geography, Religious Studies, and Modern Studies classes. Some of the work in these classes has been displayed alongside the waterfall as well.

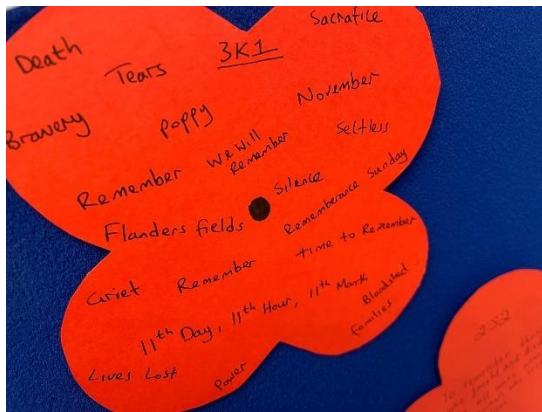
Pauline Buchan said: *"I am so grateful to the local community in Ellon for their overwhelming response for our plea for poppies. It has been so heartening for me and the school staff to see the generosity and support shown by the community, and their willingness to acknowledge those who made the ultimate sacrifice so we can enjoy our freedom today."*

Yesterday, pupils across the school marked the minute silence at 11am and watched a presentation given by our S3 Drama pupils. Our S6 Exec Team provided a virtual assembly about the history of Poppy Scotland and led the silence. Aymara and Ellen read 'In Flanders Fields' as a moving tribute to the fallen in conflicts over the years.

Gordon Michie, Head of Fundraising and Learning at Poppy Scotland said: *"On behalf of Poppy Scotland I want to send sincere thanks to Ellon Academy. The display looks wonderful! Our work relies on supporters like Ellon Academy who champion our mission that those who have served or are still serving are deserving of our support to live life fully without disadvantage after service. The Poppy waterfall is a truly moving tribute to our fallen Servicemen and women, and as we mark the 100th anniversary of the Poppy, the display is even more poignant."*

A huge thank you to our staff, pupils, friends, relatives and members of the community for supporting our appeal. Particular thanks to Mrs Leslie and Mrs Murdoch for their ideas, creativity and co-ordination of the display and to Mr McLachlan, Ms Coates, the S3 Drama class and the Exec Team for their significant input and to our janitors and technicians for supporting the installation of the displays and presentations.





Staffing Information:

This week we welcome the following supply teachers to our school:

Mr M McColm (Former Principal Teacher of Modern Languages)

Mr C Simpson

Mrs M Dougall

Ms I Kocot

Parent Council:

Next Parent Council Meeting: The next virtual Parent Council Meeting is on Wednesday 24th November at 7pm via Zoom. Please contact them via this email address: ellonacademyparentcouncil@gmail.com

Dates For Your Diary:

- Occasional days for session 21/22
 - Wed 5.1.22 – occasional day added on the end of the Christmas break
 - Thurs 10.2.22, Friday 11.2.22 (Mon 14.2.22 is already a holiday and Tues 15.2.22/Wed 16.2.22 are in-service days)
 - It has been mooted that May Day and Jubilee Day are combined – National decision, so more info as it is received

Term 1/Term 2:

- Term 2 Inservice Days – Thurs 18th/Fri 19th November 2021
 - S1/2/3 Tracking Reports to be issued via Parents Portal week beginning Mon 22.11.21
 - S4/5/6 Full Reports to be issued week beginning 6.21.21
 - End of Term 2 – Tuesday 21.12.21 (Last day of Term)
 - Start of Term 3 – Thursday 6.1.22
- Ellon Academy Christmas Events will be published next week!

Ellon Academy School Calendar 21/22:

Our school calendar for session 21/22 can be viewed on our website.

[Ellon Academy Calendar 2021.22 Final.xlsx](#)

Thank you once more for your continued support.

Pauline Buchan

Rector

12.11.21