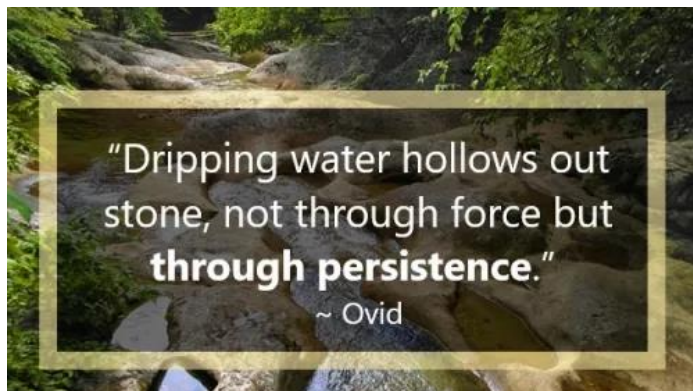


ELLON ACADEMY WEEKLY INFORMATION FOR PARENT/CARERS

To: All Parents/Carers
From: Pauline Buchan, Rector
Subject: Weekly Information Up-date
Date: Friday 6th May 2022

Dear parents/carers

The Quote of the Week beginning 9.5.22:



SQA Up-date:

As you are aware, the SQA exam diet has started, and we have been so impressed with our seniors as they embark upon this experience. Those who have been in school studying are to be commended for their work and commitment, and having spoken with many of them, I have been so impressed by their work ethic and their range of study skills which they are using well.

Exam Stress:

Please find below a link to some resources which have been collated around study support and coping with exam stress.

[Exam stress and study support | \(glowscotland.org.uk\)](https://www.glowscotland.org.uk)

MySQA:

Sign up to MySQA and get your exam results delivered by email or text on Tuesday 9th August 2022. No need to wait for the post! Link on the link below to register:

https://www.mysqa.org.uk/cs8/content/secure/my_homepage.jsp

Study Leave started on Monday 25th April for all S4/5/6 learners and will run until the last exam on Wednesday 1st June. We expect our timetable to change on Monday 6th June after the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend.

School Leaving Date:

This year, the official school leaving date is Tuesday 31st May 2022. However, leavers can collect their Leaver's forms after their last exam.

Interdisciplinary Week 2022

S1/S2 pupils will take part in IDL week next week, and all lessons will be based on a Scotland/China theme, with a showcase of pupil work at the end of the week.

You may be aware that Ellon Academy is a Confucius School and pre-covid, as part of this status, we had a resident Chinese Teacher in school, working with pupils on Mandarin and learning about Chinese culture. Currently, the Confucius Institute are not sending Chinese teachers abroad for obvious reasons, but we continue to include links to Scotland/China in our curriculum to ensure the continuing Confucius School status. Lots of photos to follow after our IDL focus next week.



Columba 1400

The S2 Columba 1400 Team will be setting off to the Columba 1400 Leadership Academy on the Isle of Skye on Monday 9th May and will return on Friday 13th May. Staff members going with them are Mr Corser DHT, Miss Longhurst (Geography) and Miss Willins (Modern Studies).

Parents and Carers attended a Zoom session with school staff and Columba 1400 staff on Wednesday evening and were able to hear and understand more about what the leadership course for young people will offer to them as individuals and Ellon Academy.

Lots of photos to follow!



Columba 1400 Leadership Centre, Staffin, Isle of Skye



Staff up-date:

Acting PT Creative Arts – Congratulation to Mr E Armstrong, who will be taking up a 0.4 Acting Principal Teacher of Creative Arts here at Ellon Academy from August 2022.

DHT Pupil Support – Congratulations to Mr F McLachlan who is leaving us on 17th June to take up a new DHT post in Edinburgh. The Interview process for this post starts on Monday 16th May and we will inform you of the appointment when this process has been seen through.

Maths – The Maths Faculty have welcomed Mr C Royle and Mr C Goan, and we are delighted that this faculty are now up to full complement.

Pupil Opportunities:

As you will be aware, covid and subsequent lockdowns have had a significant impact on what schools have been able to offer to our young people. In normal times pre covid, we had been able to punctuate the school year with various events and entitlements for our learners which can lift spirits and give pupils things to look forward to.

Over the past 2 years, our pupils have missed out on extra-curricular activities, trips, external speakers, inter-school competitions, school concerts and shows, Wider Achievement Week (WAP) and work experience to name just a few highlights to the school year.

Session 22/23 will be the first full year of returning to all of the usual things that pupils and staff have come to enjoy.

I am aware that some parents were concerned about WAP this year, but to help you understand, the planning of WAP usually begins pre-Christmas of any 'normal' year. We need this time to source and book events and activities, advertise and sign-up pupils and to carry out all of the necessary checks and risk assessments required, so with restrictions just lifting more recently, we have not had the time to do the planning for this session but all being well, we have included WAP in our school calendar for next session.

Similarly with Work Experience for S3 learners, the Work Experience Unit at Aberdeenshire Council has not been offering placements where whole year groups can go out for a week as we usually do in May each year. However, they will be up and running again ready for next year.

The Work Experience Unit do all the employer checks and workplace risk assessments for us, so we would not have the capacity to do this ourselves this year.

However, the Work Experience Unit has supported us to allow work placements for 20 senior pupils who have had this as part of their timetable this year on a weekly basis.

Pupil Achievement:

Congratulations to Millie B, who has been voted as Junior Girls Football Player of the Season by her teammates. Millie has covered every blade of grass this season and is never afraid to tackle. She is an excellent passer of the ball. Well done, Millie.



Pupil Achievement

Congratulations to Lucy D, who has been voted Senior Girls Football Player of The Season by her teammates. Lucy's ability to cross the ball with her left foot and her desire to play passing football has helped others in the team to play at their best also. Well done, Lucy.



Pupil Achievement:

Congratulations to Owen C, who has been voted S1 Player of the Year by his squad. The goals he has scored, and the way he leads the line has been a huge part of the success we have seen this year. Well done, Owen.



Pupil Achievement:

As part of Ellon Rugby Club, some of our S3 and S4 boys celebrated success after winning the under 15's league earlier this year and they are now the under 15's Caledonia Cup Bowl winners!

Fantastic lads! Great achievement! Here's the squad:

Findlay G, Boyd C, Liam L, Liam D, JP F, Riley H, Will F, Leon McC, Kieran T, Kyle N, and Ruadhan P. Well done.



Pupil Achievement:

Junior Girls Football, Wed 4th May: Ellon 8-2 Meldrum.

Some very good football was played against Meldrum. There were debuts for Sophie M, who also scored, Rachel B who had an excellent game, and Lily M.

Players of the match were Millie B, who demonstrated why she was voted player of the season and she scored an excellent goal from long range. Grace S also scored an excellent goal from long range, showing excellent dribbling skills and set pieces proved a problem for Meldrum throughout the game. Goal scorers: Millie B 3, Grace S 2, Sophie M 1, Natalie C 1, Emily S 1.

Well done.



For your information:



POLICE SCOTLAND
POLAAR ALBA

**STREET SPORTS & YOUTH DROP
IN SESSIONS**

EVERY FRIDAY FROM
29TH APRIL – 20TH MAY

6pm to 8pm

@

Ellon Community Campus Football
Pitch

OPEN TO ALL YOUNG PEOPLE IN
ELLON – FREE OF CHARGE

PSYV

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



CADET OPEN DAY

10:00 – 14:00
Saturday 21 May 2022

RMR and Cadet Force Centre, Strathmore Avenue, Dundee, DD3 6SQ

Opportunity for the local communities to interact with all three Cadet Services and try hands-on activities such as laser shooting, fieldcraft first aid, flight simulator and Rigid Inflatable Boats (RIBS).

Register on Eventbrite: <https://bit.ly/3KYlkmQ>



Dates For Your Diary

Term 4:

- Sports Colours Awards – date to be decided when Colours ties have arrived
- S2 Columba 1400 Residential Leadership Training on Skye – Mon 9th May – Fri 13th May
- S1 Virtual Parents Evening – Wednesday 18.5.22 (4.00pm – 6.30pm)
- Public Holidays – Thurs 2nd and Fri 3rd June (Queen's Platinum Jubilee Weekend)
- Change of timetable – Monday 6.6.22
- Senior School Induction – Tuesday 7.6.22
- School Sports Day – Wednesday 8.6.22
- Parent Council Meeting – Wednesday 8.6.22 (7pm)
- P7 Transition Days – Tues 14.6.22 – Thurs 16.6.22 (inclusive)
- Prizegiving – Thursday 16th June
- Last day of Term 4 – Friday 1.7.22

Thank you for your continued support of our school.

Pauline Buchan

Rector
6.5.22

