



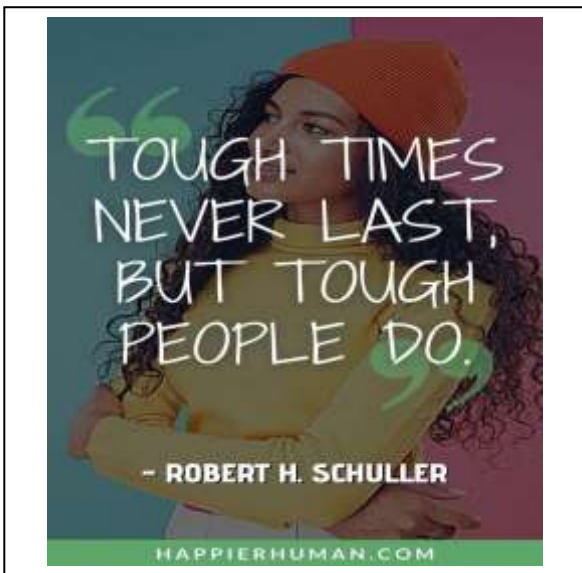
ELLON ACADEMY WEEKLY INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS

Date: Friday 24th February 2023

Dear parents/carers,

As you will be aware following the letter from Vincent Docherty, Head of Education that Tues 28.2.23 and Wed 1.3.23 are 2 days of industrial action. Pupils and staff will return to school as normal on Thurs 2.3.23.

Quote of the Week beginning 27.2.23:



Most Merits/Over and Above:

The pupils below have accrued the most merits over the 2 broken weeks around the February long weekend and will receive their canteen fast passes on Mon 27.2.23 after registration/S1 Assembly in the sunken social area. The fast passes will roll on to week beginning Mon 6.3.23 to compensate for the 2 days of industrial action. Well done, everyone!

Scott	M	1F1	8
Clark	W	1F1	7
Charlotte	W	1F1	6
Ryan	M	1M1	6
Enzo	T	2F2	6
Robyn	G	2M2	6
Aaron	M	2S1	6
Mark	M	2S1	6
Hannah	S	2S1	6
Ewan	S	3K2	6
Blair	W	4F2	3
Leo	F	4M2	4
Luke	S	4S2	3
Ryan	S	5C2	3
Katie	K	6K	3



Assemblies:

Please note that due to industrial action and up and coming SQA Drama exams in the Theatre, assemblies will be affected:

Mon 27.2.23	S1 Assembly – Fairtrade
Tuesday 28.2.23	No S2 Assembly – Day of industrial action
Wednesday 1.3.23	No S3 Assembly – Day of industrial action
Thursday 2.3.23	S4 Assembly - Fairtrade
Friday 3.3.23	S5/6 Assembly - Fairtrade
Mon 6.3.23	S2 Assembly – Fairtrade
Tues 7.3.23	No Assembly – Drama N5 Practical Prelim
Wed 8.3.23	S3 Assembly – Fairtrade
Thurs 9.3.23	No S4 Assembly – SQA Drama Practical Exams
Fri 10.3.23	S5/6 Assembly

S1 ENTERPRISE – FUTURE MARATHON

As part of our S1 Enterprise course, all pupils who are able will take part in a marathon to raise funds for our chosen charity, Charlie House. The last time we were able to do this was just before COVID hit so we are keen to build our links with external parties again. Back in 2020, our pupils ran a total of 18 marathons and raised just over £977.

Over the next few weeks, pupils will be working on social enterprises and charities when in class. It is also hoped that a representative from Charlie House visits to tell pupils first-hand about the important work that they do.

Sponsor forms have been issued to all pupils this week. Pupils have been tasked with asking family members and close friends for sponsorship. Safety is important and pupils have been reminded not to knock on the doors of strangers!

Whilst accepting that we are amid a cost-of-living crisis at this time, some families may not be able to contribute. It is hoped that, as a school, we can all pull together and manage to raise as much money as possible. 1p, 20p or £10 – whatever you can afford will all help to support this worthy cause.

Pupils will be running their marathons during normal PE time later this term. Dates will be confirmed in class and via Google Classroom.

Big thanks to Mr Lawson and the Health & Wellbeing faculty for helping in this venture.

Keep an eye on social media and weekly news for further updates.

Mrs Ewen, PT Business Education



Life is precious

S2 – S3 Subject Choices:

It was good to see so many S2 parents/carers attending our virtual S2 Parents Evening on Wednesday 1st February and we know you will be in discussions regarding course choices with your children.

Also, a massive thank you to the Prefects who were on duty at the S3 Parents' Evening last week. Thanks to them for helping make the evening a success and keep it running smoothly – it was much appreciated.

Also, a huge thanks to the S2 Digital Champions who volunteered to run a Digital Drop-in Surgery for families and carried out parent/carer surveys on the night. Well done all! Ms Booth, DHT

As a reminder, here are our course choice key dates and a link to Mr Cowie's course choice presentation for S2 – S3:

S2 – S3 Course Choices Key Dates:

- S2 – S3 Course Choice Preferences Google Form submission deadline – 24.2.23

<https://ellonacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/parent-zone/> or <https://youtu.be/11rvb0GSQdA>



S3 – S4 Subject Choices:

Here are our key date for S3 – S4 Course Choices and a link to Mr Cowie's DHT Course Choice Presentation for S3 – S4:

S3-S4 Course Choices Key Dates:

- S3 – S4 Course Choice Preferences Google Form submission deadline – 3.3.23

<https://ellonacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/parent-zone/> or <https://youtu.be/H0Ddi3QdK2U>

S4 – S5 and S5 – S6 Course Choices Key Dates:

- w/b 27th Feb: Senior Phase Options Form discussed with S4 and S5 in PSE.
- w/b 27.2.23 - Senior Phase Curriculum Slides issued to Parents/Carers.
- w/b 27.2.23 - S4 Guidance 1-1 Interviews
- w/b 27.2.23 - Faculty Careers' Assembly and Faculty presentations to Parents/Carers.
- w/b 6.3.23 - S5 Guidance Interviews
- w/c 6.3.23 - Tracking Reports issued to Parents/Carers. Google Course Choice Form to be issued.
- 15.3.23 – S4 Virtual Parents Evening (4.00pm – 6.30pm)
- 21.3.23 - S5/6 Virtual Parents' Evening (4.00pm – 6.30pm)
- 23.3.23 - S4/5 Course Choice form submission deadline

Developing the Young Workforce Up-date from Mr Abberley-Nicoll, PT DYW:

S4-S6 – Job Vacancies and Apprenticeship Opportunities

The following job vacancies and apprenticeship opportunities are currently accepting applications - from across the North-East (via the DYW Northeast Jobs Portal <https://www.dyw.org.uk/jobs-portal>).

- Junior Administrator – TMM Recruitment (closing date: 24/02/23)
- Modern Apprenticeship: Mechanical Engineering – AirCon Scotland (c/d: 26/02/23)
- Apprentices: Joinery & Bricklaying – CHAP Homes (c/d: 27/02/23)
- Trainee Products & Logistics Operator – Marport UK Ltd (c/d 28/02/23)
- Application Support Apprentice – Escone Solutions (c/d 03/03/23)
- Apprentice Stonemason – Harper & Allan Masonry Ltd (c/d 06/03/23)
- Electromechanical Apprenticeships – Deebidge Electrical Engineers (c/d 09/03/23)
- Apprenticeship Programme: Accountancy & Business Advisory – AAB (c/d 10/03/23)
- Oil & Gas Technical Apprentice – OPITO/ECITB (c/d 10/03/23)
- Trainee Engineer – Thermal Energy – SSE (c/d 12/03/23)
- Distribution Craft Apprenticeship – SSE (c/d 12/03/23)
- Distribution Trainee Engineer – SSE (c/d 12/03/23)
- Site Construction Graduate Apprenticeship – SSE (c/d 12/03/23)
- Apprentice Fitter/Linesperson – SSE (c/d 12/03/23)
- Various Apprenticeships (Logistics/Business, Engineering Design, Mechanical Fitter) – Baker Hughes (c/d 30/03/23)
- Apprentice Workshop Technician – Airpac Rentals (c/d 31/03/23)
- Graduate Apprenticeship: Civil Engineer – Balfour Beatty (c/d 31/05/23)
- Apprentice Draughtspersons – TechnipFMC (c/d 07/07/23).

To find out more and to apply for these exciting opportunities, visit the DYW North East Jobs Portal at <https://www.dyw.org.uk/jobs-portal>.



The following vacancies are also available outside of the DYW North East Jobs Portal:

- Land-based Pre-apprenticeship – Ringlink Scotland (c/d 31/03/23).
www.ringlinkscotland.co.uk/pre-apprenticeship
Application by email to gail@ringlinkscotland.co.uk
- Trainee Technician – Reservoir Group (c/d ASAP).
Application by email to maureen.smith@reservoirgroup.com

S3-S6 – Scottish National Apprenticeship Week

To celebrate the Scottish National Apprenticeship Week (6th – 10th March 2023), the FTSE 250 Company Babcock international (an international aerospace and defence company operating all over the UK) will be hosting a live virtual event to learn more about their business and the range of graduate apprenticeships they have on offer in various areas of business, engineering, science and technology. Sign up for the event (from the comfort of your own homes) at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Babcock-Scotland>.

Football Trip to Newcastle Feb 2023







Confucius School Up-date:

Yesterday morning our time Mrs Murdoch our Librarian and Jacob V (S6) had a lovely call with our twinned school in Tianjin, the No.1 school in China. The pupils had lots of questions for Jacob and Mrs Murdoch and are really looking forward to the next call!



Pupil Achievement:

Girls Senior Football Result: Ellon 3-2 Inverurie.

A team consisting of a mixture of junior and senior girls played an end-to-end match against Inverurie on Wednesday 22.2.23. Ellon came back from being 1-2 down to claim the win, with another goal for Grace S and a double for Rhianna S. Player of match for Ellon was, keeper, Kayleigh R, who produced some brilliant saves and was very brave diving at the feet of opponents. Kayleigh just edged out Millie B, who battled for every ball and drove from midfield with the ball. Also, Nicole I had an excellent game at left back, defending exceptionally, and passing the ball very well too. Oh, and shout out too to whoever took the pics with the camera! Mr McLean. Goal scorers- Grace S 1, Rhianna S 2





Pupil Achievement:

Well done to both our junior and senior netball teams who played an away match against Aberdeen Grammar on Wednesday night.

Our junior team secured an 11-7 win 🏆

Our senior team faced an especially challenging team but managed to score half points, the final score was 30-17 to Aberdeen Grammar School. 🏐



Well done to all the girls 🌟 😊

Pupil Achievement:

Ellon seniors travelled to Kemnay tonight in the Aberdeenshire semi-final coming away with a superb performance and a 4-0 victory.

Every player had a fantastic game and Ellon were worthy of their win.

They now have a cup final 🏆 to look forward to as well as another semifinal and conclusion of the league.

Well done boys! Hope to see lots of supporters at the final!

Scorers: Harry C 🏐 Aiden B 🏐



Ellon Academy Reading School - Reading for Pleasure

Recommended Reading for parents, pupils, and staff:

'A Good Girl's Guide to Murder' by Holly Jackson

- Pippa investigates a murder that took place in her town 5 years previously.
- She doesn't think the police got the right person...



'A Kind of Spark' by Elle McNicoll

- Addie is intrigued by her class topic when they are learning about the victims of witch hunts in her local area.
- She is bullied due to challenges she faces at school.
- She spots the similarities between how people treated those accused of witchcraft and how she is treated.



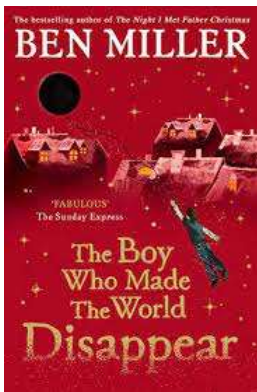
'I Know You Did It' by Sue Wallman

When Ruby was four, she accidentally killed a girl. Now, as a teenager, she is being framed for murders at school...



‘The Boy Who Made the World Disappear’ by Ben Miller

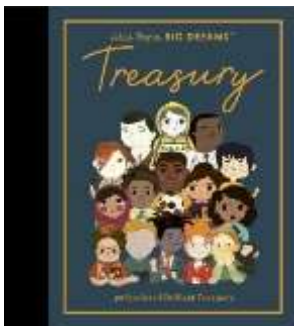
Harrison has a terrible temper. An unusual entertainer gives him his very own black hole. He starts to put things which annoy him in it – he soon regrets some of his decisions though!



Little People, BIG DREAMS Treasury: 50 Stories from Brilliant Dreamers

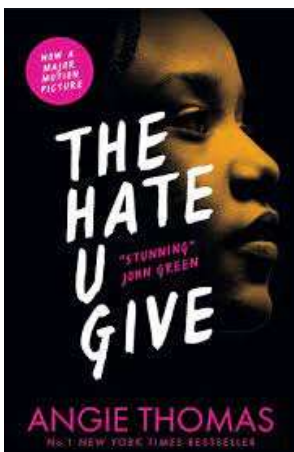
This is a beautiful collection of heroes – some well-known ones and some not so well-known. There is also a great section at the end for the reader to recognise their achievements and perhaps plan what adventures they will have as they grow up.

A great one for dipping in and out of for those who can find reading tricky and/or time-consuming!



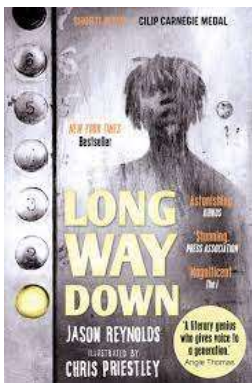
‘The Hate U Give’ by Angie Thomas

Starr is a passenger when her friend, a black teenager, is shot by a policeman for no reason. She needs to decide if she is brave enough to testify in the face of protests & pressure from the police. Unfortunately, a very relevant book. There are violent themes.



'Long Way Down' by Jason Reynolds.

Will's brother has been shot. He needs to decide if he is going to get involved in gang warfare. This book is written as a narrative poem and is really easy to read. Another one for those who perhaps struggle to find the time to read.



For your information - School Activities

S1 Trip to Dalguise – Last week of Term 4 2023

On Monday morning (20.2.23), in assembly, Mr Cruickshank spoke to S1 pupils about a trip to Dalguise (in Perthshire) planned for the last week of term 4, before the summer break.

Further details regarding the trip have been sent to parents/carers on Tuesday 21st. This will include a reply slip to be completed if you wish to request a place for your child on the trip.



ALL PUPILS – AQUATHLON

Any pupils wishing to take part in this year's Scottish Schools Aquathlon (run by Triathlon Scotland) should attend a short meeting in Gym A at breaktime on Friday 24th February. Details regarding the venue and distances per age group are listed below. Ellon Academy entered a team last year and did fantastically well and it would be great to have another strong team to attend the event again this year. Please see Mr Lawson in PE if there are any questions!

Venue: Michael Woods Sports & Leisure Centre, Glenrothes, Fife

Age: S1 to S6 inclusive

Format: Individual and Mixed Team Relay Aquathlons

*S1/2 = 250m swim, 2km run

*S3/4 = 400m swim, 3km run

*S5/6 = 500m swim, 4km run

*Mixed Team Relay: 200m swim and 1km run per athlete in an S1-3 Open, S1-3 Female, S1-6 Open, S1-6 Female format

Mr Lawson

ALL PUPILS – BASKETBALL

Starting next week, Basketball club will change from a Thursday lunchtime to a Tuesday lunchtime due to the Inter House Cheerleading rehearsals. Therefore, due to the strike action, there will be no Basketball club next week. The next session will be at lunchtime on Tuesday 7th March.

Miss Daniel

ALL PUPILS – INTER HOUSE CHEERLEADING

The annual Inter House Cheerleading event will take place on Thursday 30th March. Boys and girls from each year group are invited to take part – regardless of previous experience! Sports Captains will be visiting reg classes this week to tell you a bit more about the event. Rehearsals will be held every lunchtime on Monday 27th February-Friday 3rd March.

Cheyne – Fitness Suite

Forbes – Games Hall

Keith – Gym B

McDonald – Games Hall

Sinclair – Gym A

Mrs Donald

ALL PUPILS – CROSS COUNTRY 2023

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>

For more information, please contact your local Active Schools Coordinator.

Kelly Green, Active Schools Coordinator



S3-5 PUPILS – PARIS 2024

For any pupils who are interested in joining the trip to Paris in April 2024, there will be a short meeting in S42 at 12:30 on Friday 24th February. This opportunity is open to all pupils, not just those who have studied French, although we will be encouraging pupils to speak in French during the trip! If you're interested but can't attend the meeting on Friday, please see Mrs Duffus in S42 as soon as possible.

Mrs Duffus

Here's a link to the last Ellon Academy school trip to Paris for your information:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vi-lmMI96Zg>

ALL PUPILS – DIGITAL DROP-IN

'Digital Drop-In' sessions will take place in the EOLA space (English Open Learning Area) from 12:30-13:00 every Thursday lunchtime for any pupil who is having a school-related digital problem (either with a device or online). Pupils must ensure that their problem is school-related or for school use.

Mr Armstrong

ALL PUPILS – DRAMA CLUB

We have resumed from Thursday 23rd February.

Mr Price, Miss Moore & Mrs Cozens

ALL GIRLS – FOOTBALL

We have resumed from Thursday 23rd February.

Mr McLean

ALL GIRLS – NETBALL

We have resumed from Thursday 23rd February.

Miss Daniel

ALL PUPILS – YOUNG SCOT CARDS

Pupils should ensure that there is sufficient money on their Young Scot cards before buying any items from the Canteen. Recently, there has been an increase in the number of pupils trying to purchase food/drink when their accounts are empty. If parents/carers are having problems when trying to top-up online, pupils can use cash at the Revalve machines (at any time) or at the Canteen (outwith breaktime and lunchtime).

Miss Jarvis, Canteen Supervisor

S1 PUPILS – FOOTBALL

S1 football training will resume on Wednesday 22nd February.

Mr Caskie

ALL SENIOR PUPILS – STUDYCAFE

StudyCafe will take a break for the next two weeks to give pupils and staff a well-deserved break following the assessment block. It will restart after the February long weekend and continue to run on a Thursday (after school). A notice will feature in the Bulletin and a message will be posted on Google Classroom nearer to the resume date. Thanks to both pupils and staff for their hard work, attendance, and support over the last few weeks! Mr Meechan

ALL PUPILS – BADMINTON

Badminton will be back to normal and open to all pupils on Monday 30th January. Please see Mr Murdoch (Humanities) if there are any questions/issues.

ALL PUPILS – DUNGEONS & DRAGONS CLUB

Dungeons & Dragons club has resumed in F12 at lunchtime on a Wednesday. Pupils can bring their lunch with them. New members are always welcome! If you have any questions, please speak to Mr Goan.

All Pupils - Library Homework Club:

Times this term will be:

Mondays and Tuesdays 1.20pm to 1.50pm

Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays 12.30pm to 1.00pm

All Pupils - 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

All Pupils - 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

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

S2 PUPILS – MANDARIN

Unfortunately, there will be no Mandarin class for a few weeks. It will resume on Thursday 9th March.

Mrs Duffus

External Opportunities:

S5 PUPILS – ABERDEEN UNIVERSITY COURSE

For any S5 pupils with a genuine interest in studying Law at University, Aberdeen University have been in touch with details of an exciting opportunity: "So you want to be a Lawyer". This event will take place at the Aberdeen University campus on Wednesday 8th March. For further information, or to apply for a place on the course, please speak to your own Guidance Teacher or Mrs Kaczmarek by Thursday 9th February. PLEASE NOTE: We are limited to 4 spaces per school.

Mrs Kaczmarek (on behalf of the Guidance Team)

Dates For Your Diary

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

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

- Industrial Action Days – Tues 28.2.23 and Wed 1.3.23. School closed to pupils.
- Launch of the Ellon Academy Writing Anthology – Thurs 2.3.23 3-4pm for invited guests
- World Book Day – Fri 3.3.23
- Music for Spring Concert – Wed 29.3.23 (7.30pm)
- End of Term 3 – Friday 31.3.23
- Start of Term 4 – Mon 17.4.23
- SQA Exam Diet/Study Leave for S4/5/6 starts – Mon 24.4.23
- May Day Holiday – Mon 1.5.23

Parents Evenings Term 3:

- S4 Virtual Parents Evening – Wed 15.3.23 (4.00pm – 6.30pm)
- S5/6 Virtual Parents' Evening - Tues 21.3.23 (4.00pm – 6.30pm)

Parents Evenings Term 4

- S1 Parents' Evening (In person) – Tues 30.5.23 (4.00pm – 6.30pm)

S3-S4 Course Choices Key Dates:

- S3 Parents' Evening (In person) – Thurs 16.2.23 (4.00pm – 6.30pm) to include Curriculum drop-in session with Mr Cowie DHT
- S3 Course Choice Guidance Interviews – w/b 20.2.23
- S3 – S4 Course Choice Preferences Google Form to be issued to parents/carers – 22.2.23
- Faculty Careers' S3 Assembly – 22.2.23
- Faculty Careers/Course Choice Presentations issued to parents/carers – w/b 20.2.23
- S3 – S4 Course Choice Preferences Google Form submission deadline – 3.3.23

S4 – S5 Course Choices Key Dates:

- w/b 27th Feb: Senior Phase Options Form discussed with S4 and S5 in PSE.
- w/b 27.2.23 - Senior Phase Curriculum Slides issued to Parents/Carers.
- w/b 27.2.23 - S4 Guidance Interviews.
- w/b 27.2.23 - Faculty Careers' Assembly and Faculty presentations to Parents/Carers.
- w/b 6.3.23 - S5 Guidance Interviews.
- w/c 6.3.23- Tracking Reports issued to Parents/Carers. Google Course Choice Form issued
- 15.3.23 – S4 Virtual Parents Evening (4.00pm – 6.30pm)
- 21.3.23 - S5/6 Virtual Parents' Evening (4.00pm – 6.30pm)
- 23.3.23 - S4/5 Course Choice form submission deadline

Thank you all for your continued support and have a lovely weekend.

Pauline Buchan

Rector 24.2.23