



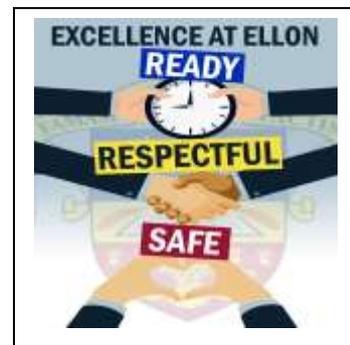
Date: Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023

**Quote of the Week beginning 6.3.23:**



**Most Merits/Over and Above:**

The most merits fast passes for last week's learners will run over for another week because of the industrial actions days this week!



**Assemblies:**

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

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 N5 Drama Practical Exams
Fri 10.3.23	S5/6 Assembly

**Weeks beginning 13.3.23 and 20.3.23:**

**No assemblies due to Higher and Advanced Higher Drama exams in the Theatre**

## Ellon Academy Writing Anthology Launch – Thurs 2.3.23

For the past 2 years, Catherine Deveney, the celebrated author has been working with Ellon Academy learners and staff on a Creative Writing for Wellbeing course and yesterday we held an event to launch the Anthology of Creative Writing for Wellbeing pieces created by our learners and staff.

Mrs J Murdoch and Mrs E Cawthorne made the initial application to the Scottish Book Trust, applying for a Live Literacy Residency and the relationship between the school and author Catherine Deveney was established. The Scottish Book Trust, represented yesterday by Christian Ritchie, provided the funding for the writing project which has been hugely successful.

The pupil participants, including Mrs Cawthorne's S4 class have enjoyed this experience and yesterday the following learners and staff read some of their own work to staff, parents, family members, friends and invited guests:

Prose Fiction based on world events (War in Ukraine and the plight of people in Afghanistan) reported in the news:

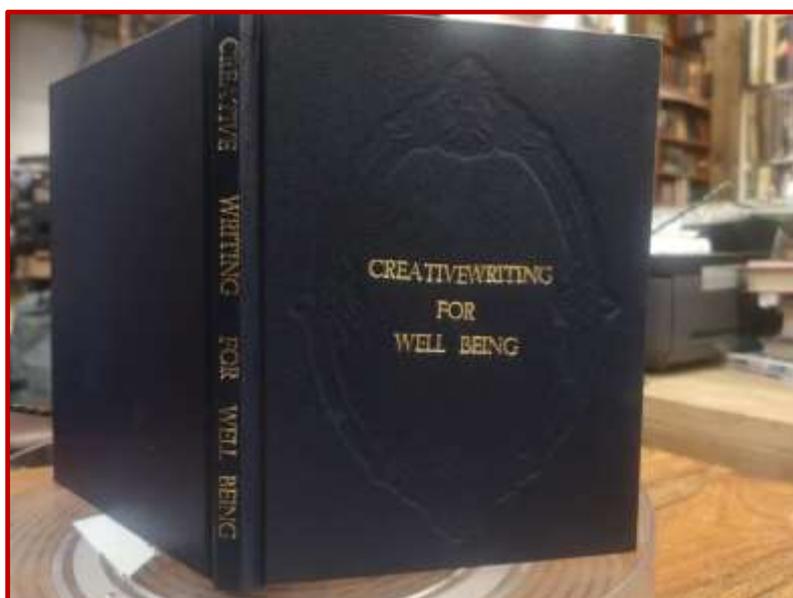
- Neve S – Afghanistan
- Sienna G – Don't Look Back in Anger
- Niamh W – The Flash of War

Poems that express emotions:

- Erin B – A Colour Poem
- Finlay M – The Night-time Bottle
- Leah P – For Me
- Esther Morrice – who is now in first year at the University of Dundee and sent us a video recording of her work

Also, Miss R Wilson Modern Language Teacher and Mrs Corine Kooij ASL Teacher said excerpts from their creative writing work too.

Mrs Buchan thanked Mrs J Murdoch, our school librarian for all her hard work in co-ordinating the launch. Miss Kyle and Mrs Wright, Technicians for reproducing the anthologies, Ms Jarvis, our Canteen Supervisor for the teas/coffees and home baking, Mrs Connor, PT Creative Arts, Stephanie B and Abigail H for providing some musical entertainment, Better Read Books, Ellon for a very special copy of the anthology which was presented to Catherine, our elected members Cllrs Owen and Macalister for supporting the launch event and everyone for coming along.



## Confucius Classroom at Ellon Academy:

Just arrived from Tianjin, China. Some beautiful new year cards made by pupils from our partner school.



## 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

### 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>

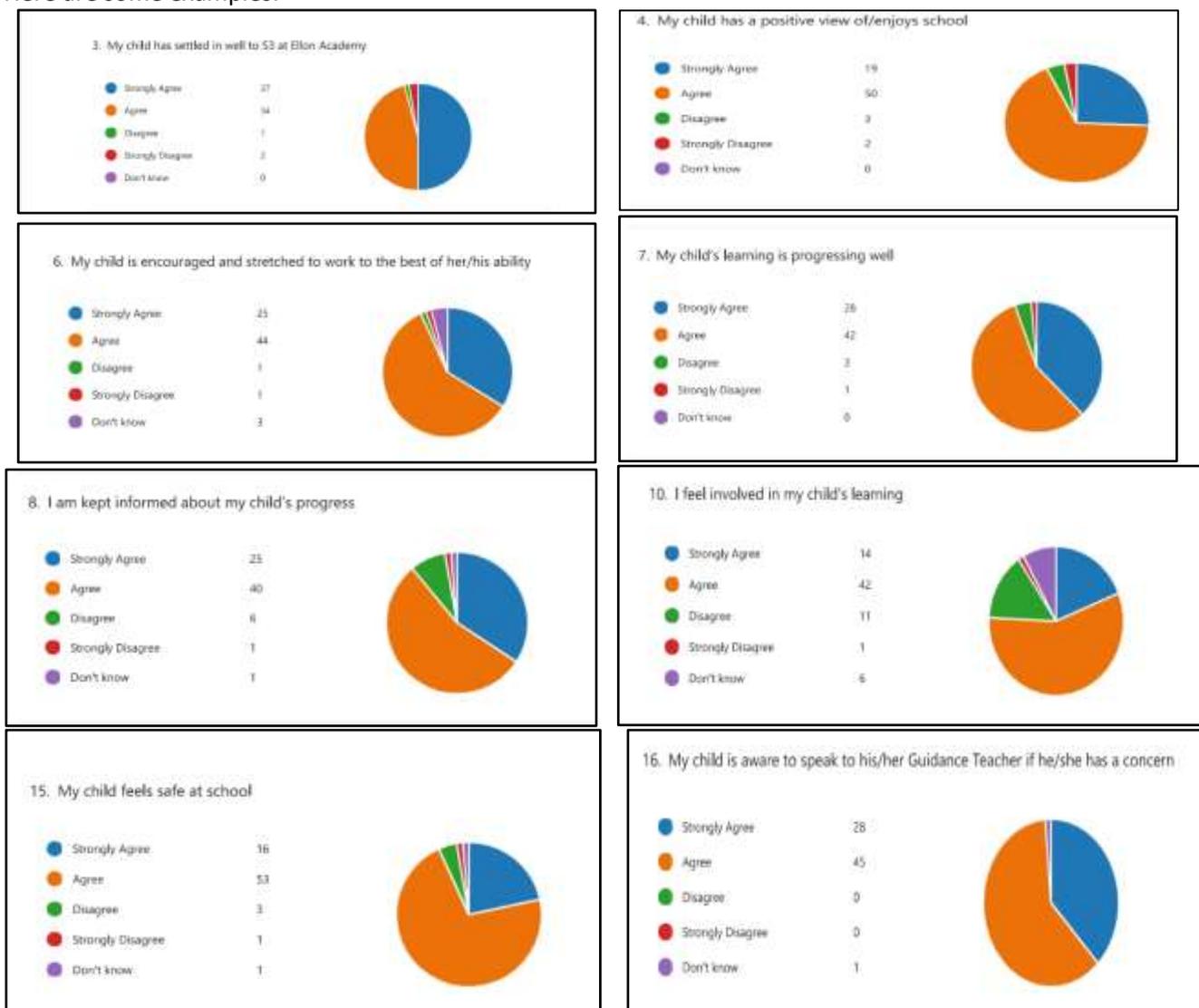
#### S4 – S5 and S5 – S6 Course Choices Key Dates:

- w/b 27<sup>th</sup> 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

#### S3 Parents Evening Survey from 16.2.23:

Many thanks to the parents who completed the survey either during or just after the S3 Parents’ Evening. The survey questions were taken from the standard HMIE Inspection survey, and we are pleased to say we had 75 responses which have been helpful and positive.

Here are some examples:



S3 Parents Evening Survey. Here are some of the comments:

- The teachers were extremely helpful in guiding my daughter with her choices and understanding her needs.
- This felt long overdue as I felt out of touch with how well or not my son has been doing in his learning and of his actual ability and his progress. All teachers were very helpful and detailed in their information. I feel having this new knowledge will help me to know how to encourage my son to do better at school. I also feel very confident in the teaching staff now I have met them properly and had a face-to-face discussion.
- From the pupils directing me to the teachers I spoke to, everyone was extremely helpful. To the janitor too who kindly directed me when I was running late for appointment. Thank you.
- I thought the zoom session was more time efficient.
- It has been lovely getting to meet my son's teachers. Well run and the senior pupils were extremely helpful and professional.
- Liked the online booking.
- Great opportunity to have a face to face with staff, my son and myself, with the full reports being shared beforehand also gave a good starting point for the conversation. Staff have such a great understanding of my son and his needs. It was very encouraging to meet everyone and see that he is supported so well across all subjects.
- I mentioned to several staff that although Google Classroom is a great tool for everyone, it would be a great benefit to ensure that homework assessments have 'Homework' in the title to ensure there is no dispute about what is homework and what is classwork.
- A lot of things got became clearer to me. My daughter and I feel more confident about the subjects she is going to choose.
- Teachers were lovely and it was great to be able to speak to them face to face and discuss any concerns.
- There was very limited spaces for parents . I only secured 3 apps, nine of which were core subjects.
- More homework always welcome, as it gives parents the opportunity to support our children's progress, especially given self-study is not my child strength.

Our takeaway next steps following parents/carers' feedback:

- ✓ To tailor the questions more specifically to the year group concerned.
- ✓ To be clearer with staff regarding setting homework tasks on Google Classroom.
- ✓ To make it clear that parents/carers can bring their child with them so they can also participate in the meeting with their teachers.
- ✓ To make sure parents/carers know to go to the faculty waiting areas.
- ✓ To add water stations to the parents/carer's tea/coffee offer in the staff centre.

Thank you for your valuable feedback.

### **Ellon Academy Parent Council:**

The next meeting of the Ellon Academy Parent Council is on Wednesday 8.3.23 in person, in room F51 at Ellon Academy, from 7.00pm – 8.30pm.

Alternatively, you can join the meeting online via Zoom, using the link below:

Ellon Academy Parent Council is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: March Parent Council Meeting

Time: Mar 8, 2023 07:00 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84542894771...>

Meeting ID: 845 4289 4771

Passcode: 457261



## The National Sleep Helpline - The Importance of Sleep

This resource can help parents, children, and young people to learn more about their sleep and develop better bedtime routines. Sleep is essential to brain function, by helping children and young people to sleep better, which can help them to succeed in school. In response to caller feedback, The National Sleep Helpline have recently changed their opening hours to include a morning session. The poster below details the new opening times, and more information would be brilliant if you could share this resource with families at your school.

At any given time up to 40% of adults and 50% of children (this rises to 80% with a SEND diagnosis) have difficulties with their sleep. Yet in a recent survey, almost 60% of adults felt there was a lack of support for sleep issues. Sleep problems can leave people feeling isolated and lonely.

The free helpline is run by trained sleep advisors, many of whom are specialists in working with SEND. We can talk to young people directly, or parents (we can also talk to adults, including older people, about their sleep issues).

The helpline is open 5 times a week, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday evenings 7-9pm, and Wednesday mornings 9-11am. The number is 03303 530 541.



You can read more here: <https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/national-sleep-helpline/>

## 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>).

- Apprentice Stonemason – Harper & Allan Masonry Ltd (c/d 06/03/23)
- Electromechanical Apprenticeships – Deebridge 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>.



**NORTH EAST**

Developing the  
Young Workforce

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](http://www.ringlinkscotland.co.uk/pre-apprenticeship)  
Application by email to [gail@ringlinkscotland.co.uk](mailto:gail@ringlinkscotland.co.uk)
- Trainee Technician – Reservoir Group (c/d ASAP).  
Application by email to [maureen.smith@reservoirgroup.com](mailto:maureen.smith@reservoirgroup.com)

### **S3-S6 – Scottish National Apprenticeship Week**

To celebrate the Scottish National Apprenticeship Week (6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> 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>.

### **Activities Week 2023**

As per the minutes of the last Parent Council meeting on 30.11.22:

*The Aberdeenshire Council Work Experience Unit no longer has the capacity to send whole secondary school year groups out on Work Experience because they now must focus on securing work placements for the increasing number of senior pupils on Foundation Apprenticeships.*

This leaves us with a significant problem in that Activities Week is usually for S1/2 learners and we can only do this and have the staff capacity to do this when all S3 learners are out on work experience. In the past this has freed up staff to take S1/2 pupils out of school or to provide in-house experiences for 450 learners.

With S3s not going out on Work Experience, this year we will have over 600 learners in school, and we do not have the staff capacity to provide trips/activities for that number of pupils.

As an alternative, this year we are planning Interdisciplinary activities/projects for S1/2 learners during class time (This approach has no cost to families, which is our consideration within the current cost of living crisis) and a bespoke programme called 'Build Your Future' for S3 learners, which will involve a day out of school.

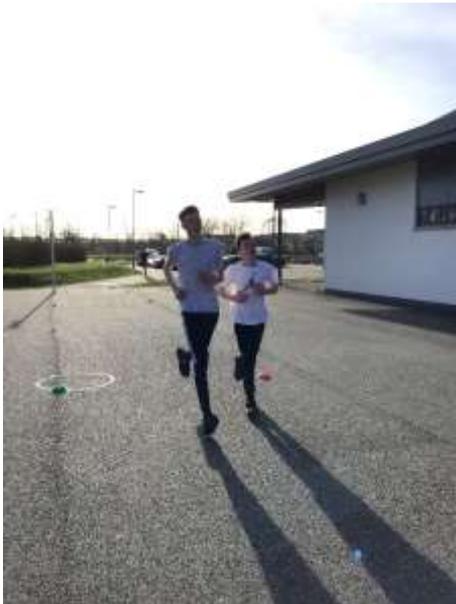
Plans so far for S3 Build Your Future are:

- Day 1 - S3 Entrepreneurship Day
- Day 2 – S3 Visit to Robert Gordon University
- Day 3 – S3 Work Related Activities Day

This will be communicated to parents in due course when we know for sure what we can deliver.

**Pupil Achievement – Senior Cross Country:**

Well done all!



**Pupil Achievement:** NASSA X Country: 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023

A huge well done to all competitors who took part in NASSA X Country at The Gordon Schools, Huntly. All competitors ran so well in some cold and windy conditions. Results are below:

**S1 girls**

Emily T came 1<sup>st</sup> place, Katie G came 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

The team came 1<sup>st</sup> place overall (Emily, Katie, Molly, Isla, and Sarah)

**S2 girls**

Nicole I came 2<sup>nd</sup> place. The team came 3<sup>rd</sup> overall (Nicole, Natalie, Eilidh, Mya)

**S3 girls**

Rachel B came 3<sup>rd</sup> place. The team came 3<sup>rd</sup> overall (Rachel, Emma, Abigail, Hannah and Chloe)

**Senior girls**

Hannah T came 1<sup>st</sup> place. Ella C came 2<sup>nd</sup> place.

The team came 1<sup>st</sup> place overall (Hannah, Ella, Alyssa, Eilidh, Sarah and Lexie)

**S1 Boys**

The team came 1<sup>st</sup> place overall (took 1<sup>st</sup> place overall Ryan M, Alasdair, Alfie, Finlay, Ryan G and Ewan)

**S2 Boys**

Burak E came 2<sup>nd</sup> place. The team came 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall (Burak, Struan, Owen, Archie, Lewis N and Lewis P)

**S3 Boys**

Harris C came 2<sup>nd</sup> place. The team came 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall (Harris, Thomas, Patrick, Aiden, and Jason)

**Senior Boys**

The team came 6<sup>th</sup> overall (Callum, Ross, Liam, and Findlay)

Overall, the girls were 1<sup>st</sup>, and the boys were 3<sup>rd</sup>. Very well done!  
Here are some of the competitors who are available for a photo!



### Staffing Up-dates:

Mrs K Geoghan Art Teacher will join us on Monday 24.4.23 as we say a fond farewell to Miss R Milton on Friday 17.3.23.

### 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 McNicol

- 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.



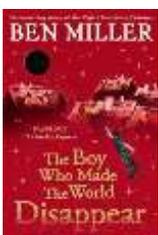
'I Know You Did It' by Sue Wallman

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

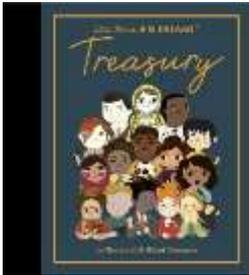
Harrison has a terrible temper. An unusual entertainer gives him his very own black hole. He starts to put things which annoy him in it – he soon regrets some of his decisions though!



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

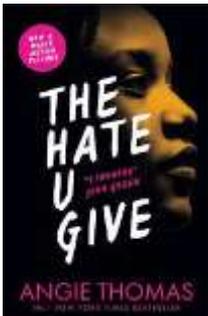
This is a beautiful collection of heroes – some well-known ones and some not so well-known. There is also a great section at the end for the reader to recognise their achievements and perhaps plan what adventures they will have as they grow up.

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



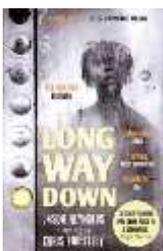
### 'The Hate U Give' by Angie Thomas

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 easy to read. Another one for those who perhaps struggle to find the time to read.



### Pupil Notices:

#### ALL PUPILS – FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

'Fairtrade Fortnight' has been held every year since 1997 and is an opportunity to celebrate all the good work that Fairtrade does across the globe. It is also a time to raise awareness for those who still need support. In 2023, 'Fairtrade Fortnight' will focus on the growing challenges that climate change brings to farmers and workers in the communities Fairtrade works with. Ellon Academy has been a Fairtrade school since 2010 and was one of the first schools in Scotland to achieve this. This week pupils should look out for:

- \*Fairtrade themed lessons in some of your classes
- \*Fairly traded breakfast drinks & food in the canteen before Registration
- \*Fairtrade stall in the snack bar at lunchtime on Friday, selling fairly traded banana splits, chocolate and snacks. (Cash only) Mr Paterson

### **ALL PUPILS – UNCLAIMED LOST PROPERTY**

If pupils have lost any kit or uniform in the PE Department, please come along and claim it by Friday 3rd March. Any items left after this date will be donated to charity.  
PE Department

### **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

### **All Pupils**

'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 PUPILS – BADMINTON**

Badminton is now back to normal and open to all pupils on Mondays. Please see Mr S 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

### **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)

## Introducing your SDS advisers

### • Career Advice | Employability

- We offer support with career guidance, employability to help pupils and leavers plan their next steps. This could be speaking about different options, support with college applications, CV support, etc.
- If you are a parent or carer and would like to speak with an adviser or to arrange an appointment, please get in touch using the contacts below:

#### Ellon Academy

Susan Ritchie & Kirsty Hannon



susan.ritchie@sds.co.uk



kirsty.hannon@sds.co.uk



#### Ellon Post School

Amy Healy



amy.healy@sds.co.uk

Skills Development Scotland (SDS) is delivering a national webinar for senior phase pupils, parents, and carers on **How to apply for a Scottish Apprenticeship** on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of March (note content is the same in both sessions so people can select the date that best suits them).

The session will include a panel discussion with SDS Careers adviser, Apprentice employer and an Apprenticeship offering their experiences and advice.

[#ScotAppWeek23](#).

Find out about apprenticeships and get tips on the application process.

Sign up  <https://fal.cn/3vZK8>

Skills Development Scotland (SDS) is also delivering a national webinar '**How to have meaningful career conversations**' on **Thursday 23 March** at 6.30pm.

Parents and carers can join the webinar to hear about the value and benefits of having career conversations and get some practical hints and tips on how to approach these.

<https://Meaningfulcareerconversationswithyoungpeople.eventbrite.co.uk>

Register here:

<https://Meaningfulcareerconversationswithyoungpeople.eventbrite.co.uk>

## For parents/carers' information:

### Scottish Child Payment Factsheet

Scottish Child Payment Factsheet, which can be accessed by clicking this link <https://ellonacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/parent-zone/> which provides an overview of the forthcoming changes to Scottish Child Payment.

Full list of resources is available [here](#).

For further information please email [NationalEngagementandPartnershipTeam@socialsecurity.gov.scot](mailto:NationalEngagementandPartnershipTeam@socialsecurity.gov.scot)

### Parent/Carer Sessions: Tackling Poverty and Inequalities Team

Please see poster attached for sharing across your networks and service users for Parent/Carer sessions being delivered by the Tackling Poverty and Inequalities team across Aberdeenshire in March.

Facebook post: <https://www.facebook.com/AberdeenshireTP>

The Tackling Poverty & Inequalities Team are delivering Money & Wellbeing sessions to Parents and Carers

These will be free online sessions via Teams. We have six sessions available and each session will focus on a different area of Aberdeenshire (see map below for your area). For more information and to register a place please follow the links below

**Dates in March:**

Tues 7th - Kincardine and Mearns	<a href="#">Link to book this session</a>
Weds 8th - Marr	<a href="#">Link to book this session</a>
Thurs 9th - Garloch	<a href="#">Link to book this session</a>
Tues 14th - Banff & Buchan	<a href="#">Link to book this session</a>
Weds 15th - Formartine	<a href="#">Link to book this session</a>
Thurs 16th - Buchan	<a href="#">Link to book this session</a>

The poster includes a map of Aberdeenshire divided into six regions: Kincardine and Mearns, Marr, Garloch, Banff & Buchan, Formartine, and Buchan. A small globe icon with 'TP&I' is in the top right corner.

For further information please contact Caroline Hastings, Project Officer Tackling Poverty & Inequalities [caroline.hastings@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:caroline.hastings@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

### Dates For Your Diary

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

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

- World Book Day – Fri 3.3.23
- Comic Relief Day – Fri 17.3.23
- 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 – S4 Course Choice Preferences Google Form submission deadline – 3.3.23

S4 – S5 Course Choices Key Dates:

- w/b 27<sup>th</sup> 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 3.3.23