



ELLON ACADEMY WEEKLY INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS

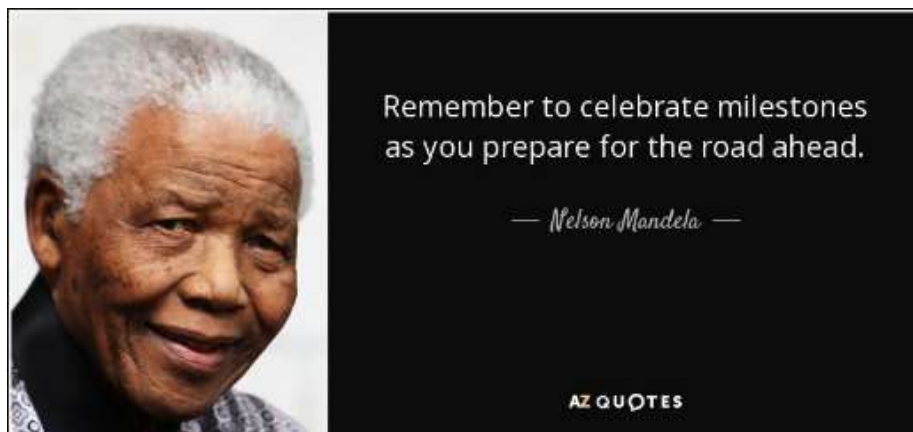
Date: Friday 26th May 2023

Dear parents/carers,

We have had such a busy week here at Ellon Academy with our S6 Prom, Junior Prizegiving, Interdisciplinary Learning Days, S3 Entrepreneurship Days, S3 Build Your Future Days and our Values Day with our Primary 7s. Next week, we are looking forward to our S1 Parents Evening in person and our Senior Prizegiving ceremony.

I hope you continue to enjoy reading about our numerous pupil achievements in this newsletter once again.

Quote of the Week beginning 29.5.23:



Assemblies during study leave:

There will be no assemblies next week so we can set up for our Senior Prizegiving in the Theatre.

Senior Exam Support:

Here is a link to Mrs Leslie's Study Skills presentation and the Ellon Academy Study Guide:

<https://ellonacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/pupils/>

SQA Learner Hub and Exams Guide:

The SQA have launched the SQA learner hub to help learners Get Exam Ready.

📄 Past papers, ✅ Exam timetables, 💬 Study resources

...and much more. Check it out now 🙌 <https://bit.ly/SQA-learnerhub>

SQA - Your Exams guide 2023:

The latest SQA resource covers what you need to know about National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher exams so you can do your very best. It also contains rules which are there to make sure that exams are fair for everyone.

Learn more: https://bit.ly/SQA_YourExams

SQA MyExams App:

Create your own personalised exam schedule with our MyExams app. 14

👁️ Easily view your exam dates, add notes, and connect the app with your other calendars. 🗓️ Get Exam Ready with the SQA learner hub: bit.ly/SQA-learnerhub | [#SQAexams](https://twitter.com/SQAexams)

Here is a link to Ms Booth's SQA Exam presentation:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_s3HskMd4RQWFr8mawOli0C8mVpNyiM8/view

Also, 'Your Exams' covers what you need to know about National 5, Higher and

Advanced Higher exams so you can do your very best. 📖 📱 Download our resource now: bit.ly/SQA-learnerhub | [#SQAexams](https://twitter.com/SQAexams)

This is also a link to all our study and exam information on our website:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_JBWifz79nhtbc_jQgKmJTLFjWCznYeP/view?usp=share_link

Exam Mindset Guide:

e-Sgoil has partnered with the experts at Headstrong to produce a video series that will help learners with their mental health during the exam process, from studying right through to success in the final exams.

Learners - The videos have been created to be user friendly so learners can access them on their own and are grouped under the following Headings: Understanding Your Mind, Understanding Your Stress and Understanding your Study.

Parents/Carers - Parental engagement with the attainment of our learners is vital for their ongoing success. It can be particularly challenging mentally and emotionally for both parents/carers and learners during exams. This can put a strain on relationships, so these videos are designed to equip them with the right strategies and ways of successfully working with their young people. This can help by reducing stress and giving the learners the best possible chance of attaining well and in a healthy way.

Click the link below which will take you to take you directly to the resources:

<https://www.thinglink.com/card/1704817362747785829>

They can also be found on the e-Sgoil website here: <https://e-sgoil.com/s4-6/#ExamMindsetGuide>

Ellon Academy's Mental Health Assistance Guide:

<https://ellonacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Mental-Health-Assistance-YP-Dec-22.pdf>



Student Awards Agency Scotland: (SAAS)

Is your child moving on to Higher Education? Read more below about the upcoming online application workshops SAAS will be offering from the 4 April 2023 up until the 30 June 2023.

These sessions can be attended by students and the parents/legal guardian of a student who is considering starting higher education in the 2023-2024 academic year.

During the online application workshops, we will explain the funding available from the Student Awards Agency Scotland (SAAS) for those planning to undertake higher education courses (HNC/HND/Degree courses). In addition to this, we will provide advice on how to register and create a SAAS online account, and how to submit a funding application. We can provide bespoke advice to attendees should they have any questions about completing their SAAS application.

These sessions can be booked here <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/568210211037>



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

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>).

- Engineering Assistant – Summer Placement – Sparrows Group (closing date: asap)
- Apprentice HGV Mechanic – Leiths (Scotland) Ltd (c/d 26/05/23)
- Apprenticeship Position – Electrical Engineering Design – Worley (c/d 26/05/23)
- Apprenticeship Position – Civil & Structural Engineering Design – Worley (c/d 26/05/23)
- Apprenticeship Position – Piping Engineering Design – Worley (c/d 26/05/23)
- Youth Music Trainee – Shmu Radio (c/d 28/05/23)
- Customer Care Officer – Customer Response – Aberdeen City Council (c/d 28/05/23)
- Modern Apprenticeship – Trainee Customer Service Advisor – Langstane Housing Association (c/d 30/05/23)
- Graduate Apprenticeship: Civil Engineer – Balfour Beatty (c/d 31/05/23)
- Construction Graduate Apprenticeship – Cala Homes (c/d 31/05/23)
- Audit Assistant Graduate Apprentice (CA) – RSM (c/d 31/05/23)
- VAT Assistant Graduate Apprentice – RSM (c/d 31/05/23)
- Trainee Concrete Operatives – Activus Recruitment (c/d 31/05/23)
- Apprentice Calibration Technicians – Scotia Instrumentation (c/d 31/05/23)
- Graduate Apprentice Civil Engineer – Balfour Beatty (c/d 31/05/23)
- Modern Apprentice Landscapes – Aberdeenshire Council (c/d 31/05/23)
- Hospitality Apprenticeship North-East Programme – Various hotels (c/d 31/05/23)
- Apprentice Mechanical Engineering Technician – Fisher Offshore (c/d 02/06/23)
- Engineering Workshop Apprentices – Subsea7 (c/d 06/06/23)
- Assurance Apprenticeship Programme – EY (c/d 12/06/23)
- Apprentice Engineer – Sparrows Offshore Services (c/d 12/06/23)
- Apprentice Draughtsperson – Sparrows Offshore Services (c/d 12/06/23)
- Engineering Apprentice – Offshore Helicopter Services UK (c/d 23/06/23)

- Law Scholarships – CMS (c/d 30/06/23)
- Apprentice Draughtsperson – Sparrows Group (c/d 30/06/23)
- Apprentice Engineer – Sparrows Group (c/d 30/06/23)
- Apprentice Mechanic – A & L Stronach Ltd (c/d 30/06/23)
- Aftersales/Customer Service Apprenticeship – Arnold Clark (c/d 30/06/23)
- Apprentice Mechanic – Arnold Clark (c/d 30/06/23)
- Forestry Pre-Apprenticeship – Ringlink Scotland (c/d 30/06/23)
- Administrative Assistant – FRP Advisory (c/d 30/06/23)
- Craft Modern Apprenticeships – ACE Winches (c/d 30/06/23)
- Business & Modern Apprentice – ACE Winches (c/d 30/06/23)
- Apprentice Draughtspersons – TechnipFMC (c/d 30/06/23)
- Business Administrator (Modern Apprenticeship) – Microcom Training (c/d 15/07/23)
- Finance Customer Service Administrator (Modern Apprenticeship) – Microcom Training (c/d 21/07/23)
- Apprentice HGV Mechanic – Leiths Scotland Ltd (c/d 28/07/23)
- Audit Apprenticeships – KPMG (c/d 11/08/23).

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



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

The Ellon Rotary Club would like to sponsor two candidates to take part in the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, which includes a weeklong residential trip for 16- or 17-year-olds in July 2023.

RYLA is a leadership development course. It is a weeklong, full time residential course. Activities for all participants include hill walking, rock climbing, abseiling, mountain biking, kayaking (river), raft building, swimming, gorge walking, mental and physical team challenges. All as part of a team where you must work together to achieve a goal. Good communication and teamwork are key, and you will be mentored on these aspects, including daily talks from speakers with experience of various team challenges. This is a rare opportunity to experience and learn things about yourself, about working in a team but more importantly about leading and supervising other people. These are the skills employers look for in the workplace.

The girls camp runs from 8th – 15th July, and boys camp runs from 15th – 22nd July and both will take place at the Abernethy Centre in Nethybridge. Applicants must be 16 or 17 at the time of the camp and must be available for the whole week. For more information and to apply to take part, visit <https://ryla1010.com/>.



Ellon Academy S6 Prom 2023

What a wonderful night our S6 leavers had at their Prom on Tuesday evening. The Schivas Steading was an exceptional venue and they posted about our amazing young people this week:



This link will take you to the official photographer's site for ordering photographs:

<https://zoeraephotoaphy.shootproof.com/gallery/prom23/>

Prints start from just £12 and will arrive in 2-3 days and digital downloads are £15 and immediate.



Junior Prizegiving

Here are some of the photos from a very successful Junior Prizegiving this year. Thanks to staff who all gave personal information about each individual prize winner. Very special!

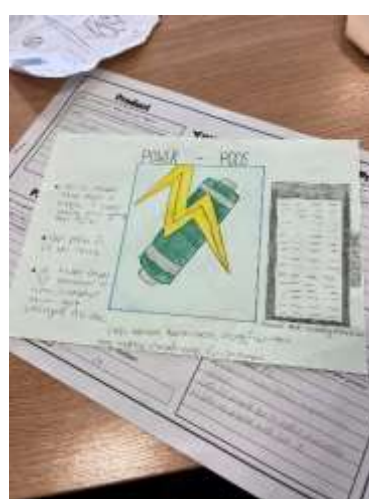






S3 Entrepreneurship and Build Your Future Days:

With the help and inspiration of local Business Partners, our S3 learners had a day of product design, presentation and pitching to a team of judges. Here are some photos of the day's work:



S3 Build Your Future Days:

Our S3 learners spent the day taking part in workshops delivered by a range of local businesses and organisations. During the day, they found out more about the world of work and the skills and qualities that are required in a range of careers by taking part in practical hands-on workshops, including photography, painting and decorating, architecture, events organisation, emergency services, sports and fitness, make-up artistry and drone surveillance.



P7 Values Day:

Pictures of some of our S1 pupils today, who were on their S1 Values Day visits. We look forward to seeing them all after the summer holidays.



S2 Interdisciplinary Learning Days

Here are some photos of our IDL Days for S2 learners this week, with a theme of Scotland/China for our Confucius Classroom:





Pupil Achievement. ASDAN at Ellon Academy:

On Tuesday 23rd May, we held an informal garden party and our senior ASDAN class were awarded their certificates and one S3 pupil received his Grow and Learn ROOTS award.

Special guests Jo Russell and Sandy Grant gave out the certificates and enjoyed speaking with the pupils. Some family members attended along with the junior hub gardening class. Everyone enjoyed games spread throughout the garden, and refreshments. All in all, a lovely afternoon.



Pupil Achievement:

After our fundraising we had the official handover with a “big cheque” to Charlie House staff last week.

£2,500 was collected, and these funds will go towards their Big Build. Congratulations to all involved.

Well done S1 pupils, very proud of you all 🎉



Pupil Achievement:

Well done to the S1 Boys Football Team who won 4-0 this week against Meldrum Academy. This continues the boys' unbeaten league run having played 5 and won 5. The boys did very well to limit the other team's chances whilst creating lots of goal scoring opportunities for themselves. The team play again on Wednesday (31st) at home against Mintlaw Academy as they continue their league title push.

Goal Scorers - Alfie S, Josh S, Kallan H, Finlay T. MOTM - Ewan Black.



Pupil Achievement - S1 Boys Football Team:

Congratulations to James Masson (1F1) who has won our Players Player of the Year vote!

Some of the reasons given by players in our team for voting for James:

- He has been crucial in our team this year and deserves recognition.
- I picked James because he holds the defence together and he's always positive after goals that go in.
- He did well and saved us when we needed him, he's had a good season.
- Very good defender.
- He tries hard and is always determined.
- He is a really good player.

I personally believe James deserves POTY as he attends all training sessions and leads by example setting up and leading the warm-up. In addition, he always tries his hardest in both games and training. During games he is always a positive communicator, he makes game saving tackles and blocks, has good distribution from defence, and organises the team.



Pupil Achievement:

Congratulations to the S2 Boys Football Team who just beat Mintlaw 4-3 in their last game of the season. Struan got us off to a good start by scoring in the first minute after some very good passing play, but Mintlaw came back into it and at one point were 2-1 up, but goals from Burak and Jack restored our lead just before half time. Mintlaw battled hard and eventually drew level again, but the Ellon boys never gave up, and with 2 minutes to go, our player of the year Aaron scored the goal that gave us all 3 points. Well done to all of you, not only for today, but for the whole season. You have never given up, always kept fighting, and always given me your all even when things stood in your way. I can't ask for anymore than that and you are an absolute credit to yourself and the school! Mr MacBeath



PUPIL ACHIEVEMENT:

S2 Boys Football: Aaron M is an enthusiastic, passionate, and hardworking player who leaves everything on the pitch. He has played multiple positions over the season and is always happy to play wherever he can help the team. Due to this approach, he has been a key player to any success we have found this season, and this was clearly noticed by his teammates who have voted Aaron to be the S2 Footballer of the Year 2022-23. Well Done and keep up the hard work!



Pupil Achievement:

Well done to our S1-2 netball team who came fourth at the NASSA netball tournament this week in Inverurie.



Celebrating Success: Drama Club Showcase

We are delighted to announce our end of year Drama Club acting showcase on Thursday the 29th of June. The Showcase is a fantastic opportunity for our students to perform a selection of monologues, duologues, and scenes that they have been working on over the last few weeks. Your support of our students is so welcome and is much appreciated. Tickets are available from the school reception from Monday the 29th May.

Ellon Academy

Proudly Presents



Drama Club SHOWCASE

Doors 6.30PM - Show Starts 7PM

THURSDAY JUNE 29th 2023

Ellon Academy Theatre

Tickets £5 Adults - £3 Concessions

Tickets are available from the school reception

Join us for our end of year Ellon Academy Drama Club Showcase, where pupils from across the school will entertain you with scenes of comedy, music and a little bit of drama.

LIMITED SEATS AVAILABLE!!!

www.ellonacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk



DIGITAL SCHOOLS
AWARDS SCOTLAND



WE ARE A UNICEF GOLD RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL

Children's rights are learned, understood and lived in this school.



Celebrating Success: Ellon Academy Dance Showcase

Sign up to take part in the Ellon Academy Dance Showcase to raise money for EASA.

We are looking for dancers and gymnasts to perform solo or group routines alongside our school Cheer Teams in a showcase for parents, carers, and the community.

Sign up using the link below:

CLOSING DATE 09/06/2023

<https://forms.office.com/e/TsmGTZgWnS>



Also a big thank you to [Bare](#) who have generously donated a Graze Box Voucher and Annie's Tea Room who have donated a voucher! Raffle tickets will be on sale on the night of the showcase, 22/06/23.

Tickets for the show can be bought from the school office (£5 adults, £3 concessions).

If you own or know of any businesses who can donate a prize, please get in touch on here or with the school directly. Thanks Miss Williams.

<https://www.facebook.com/barezerowaste>



Annie's
food to make you smile

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



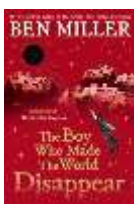
Addie is intrigued by her class topic when they are learning about the victims of witch hunts in her local area. She is bullied due to challenges she faces at school. She spots the similarities between how people treated those accused of witchcraft and how she is treated.

'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

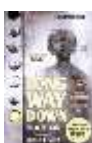
This is a beautiful collection of heroes – some well-known ones and some not so well-known. There is also a great section at the end for the reader to recognise their achievements and perhaps plan what adventures they will have as they grow up. A great one for dipping in and out of for those who can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

S4 PUPILS:

Any S4 pupil who would like to apply to be a prefect in S5 should join Google Classroom 2j33jar then complete the Google Form application. The deadline for applications is the 31st May.

If you have any questions, please see Miss Tomlinson in S19.

If in doubt, apply!

S5 PUPILS:

Any S5 pupil interested in becoming part of the Exec Team 2023/24 should join Google Classroom [5u6rnkn](#) and complete the nomination form. If you have any questions, please see Miss Tomlinson in S19.

ALL PUPILS – CROCHET WORKSHOPS

If you would be interested in learning how to crochet, or you can already crochet, we are planning to hold some crochet workshops in the Library later this term. Please come to the Library during any lunchtime this week to find out more from Mrs Quantrill.

Mrs Murdoch & Mrs Quantrill, School Librarians

SENIOR PUPILS – GOOD LUCK

Message from Cllr Gillian Owen:

As Chair of Education & Children's Services and on behalf of the Education and Children's Services Committee, I wanted to wish all the very best to all pupils who are undertaking SQA exams this term.

LEAVERS – MEDICATION

Can all leavers who have medication stored in First Aid please collect it on the day of their last exam/last day of school. Any medication that is not collected by the beginning of June will be disposed of responsibly.

Mrs Mulgrew & Ms Legarda, First Aid Team

ALL PUPILS – BASKETBALL

Basketball club is now on a Tuesday lunchtime.

Miss Daniel

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 after school on Thursdays.

Mr Price, Miss Moore & Mrs Cozens

ALL GIRLS – FOOTBALL

We have resumed after school on Thursdays.

Mr McLean

ALL GIRLS – NETBALL

We have resumed after school on Thursdays. 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

ALL PUPILS – DUNGEONS & DRAGONS CLUB

Dungeons & Dragons club is 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

Mandarin club has resumed on Thursdays.

Mrs Duffus

ALL PUPILS – CHOIR

Choir will resume in G32 at lunchtime today (Thursday 11th May – starting at 12:35). We will be learning a top-secret song which includes choreography – come along to find out more! New members from any year group are always welcome – no audition or experience necessary! Mrs Nicholson

S1 PUPILS – JUNIOR COACHING AT ELLON TENNIS CLUB

Junior coaching is available at Ellon Tennis Club and the sessions take place at 16:45-17:45 on a Tuesday or 12:30-13:30 on a Saturday. It is a 5-week block, and the Tuesday sessions start on 23rd May (finish on 20th June) and the Saturday sessions start on 20th May (finish on 17th June). There is limited availability, so book early to ensure your place. To book or for further information, please pop down to Reception.

Skills Development Scotland Support at Ellon Academy:



Community Information: Exciting News for Ellon Community!

Our Gym Refurbishment is Here! 🏋️‍♂️

Working in partnership with the school we are thrilled to announce that the gym at Ellon Community Campus has undergone an incredible transformation! Get ready to experience a whole new level of fitness with our revamped facilities. 💪

New Flooring:

Our gym now features state-of-the-art flooring that provides superior support, shock absorption, and comfort. You can enjoy your workouts with confidence, knowing that you have the best environment for your fitness journey.

Expanded Free Weights Section:

We are delighted to introduce an extensive range of free weights, including Olympic bars, to our gym. These additions will allow you to target different muscle groups and customize your strength training routines for optimal results.

Saturday Opening:

To celebrate the completion of our refurbishment, we are thrilled to announce that the gym will be OPEN this Saturday! Don't miss the chance to be one of the first to experience our upgraded facilities first hand.

Booking via the App:

We have made booking your gym sessions easier than ever! Simply download our app from your app store and take advantage of convenient booking options. Secure your preferred workout slots with just a few taps on your phone http://bit.ly/LLA_app

Assistance with New Equipment:

If you need guidance or support with our new equipment, our team is here to help! We highly recommend booking an induction session to familiarise yourself with the equipment and receive personalised guidance from our trained professionals.

We would like to express our gratitude to the Ellon Community for your patience and support throughout the refurbishment process. We are committed to providing you with an exceptional fitness experience, and we believe these upgrades will exceed your expectations.

Join us in celebrating the grand reopening of the gym at Ellon Academy Community Campus! Let's push our limits, achieve our fitness goals, and support one another on this incredible journey.

If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to reach out to our friendly team. Together, let's embrace the new and improved gym experience! 🏋️‍♂️🌟

[Live Life Aberdeenshire](#) and [Aberdeenshire Council Indigo Fitness](#)



Dates For Your Diary

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

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

- SQA Exam Diet/Study Leave for S4/5/6 starts – Mon 24.4.23 and ends Tues 6.6.23.
- S1 Parents Evening (In person) Tues 30.5.23 (4.00 – 6.30pm)
- Senior Prizegiving 2pm – Wed 31.5.23.
- Occasional Day Holiday – Mon 5.6.23
- S4/5 Learners return to school following study leave/Provisional Change of Timetable – Tues 6.6.23.
- Senior Induction – Tues 6.6.23
- Sports Day – Thurs 8.6.23.
- Parent Council Meeting – Wed 14.6.23, 7pm.
- P7 Induction Days – Tues 27th, Wed 28th and Thurs 29th June.
- End of Term 4 – Fri 7.7.23

Parents Evenings Term 4

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

Thank you for your continued support.

P Buchan

Rector 26.5.23