



ELLON ACADEMY WEEKLY INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS

Date: Friday 15th December 2023

Dear parents/carers,

The countdown to Christmas is definitely on this week and as ever, a busy one here at Ellon Academy. We've had our Pupil Senate looking at the renewal of our Green Flag and Eco-School Status, our S6 and Community Resource Hub pupils spreading good cheer and giving Christmas cards and small gifts to the residents in the Ellon care homes this week. We've also had our school Chaplains in school delivering Christmas assemblies to all year groups. Our Higher Modern Languages learners have had oral assessments this week and we had our first prelim exams in Maths today, giving our learners a full exam hall experience. Our Home Economics and PE learners have also had practical assessments this week and our musicians are busy preparing for the Music for Christmas Concert next week.

Our staff have been busy with assessments, the S5/6 Parents/Carers evening and working hard on tracking reports for S1s which will be sent to parents in the New Year.

As ever, our learners continue to impress us every week with all of their various achievements in and out of school and we hope you enjoy our updates and reading about our pupil successes in this week's newsletter.

Also, 2 weeks ago, our Parent Council raised concerns about car parking practices so I have made a short video as a reminder of our car park protocols which will ensure the safety of our learners and drivers too. There is more information on page 21 and to view the video, please click on this link: <https://youtu.be/Y89Gr4ihm-8>

If your child/children have successes you'd like to share with us, please send us an email via the school email address marked FAO Mrs P Buchan, Rector. Any photos you can share with us are always welcome too.
ellon.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk



Quote of the Week beginning Monday 18.12.23:



Assemblies w/b 18.12.23

There are no assemblies w/b Mon 18.12.23.

The next assemblies will be during the first week back after the holidays as follows:

Senior Phase Prelim Assemblies taken by Mr N Corser, DHT during registration for S4 and S5.

Wed 10.01.24 - S4 in the Theatre

Wed 10.01.24 - S6 during period 1 in the Library.

Thurs 11.01.24 - S5 in the Theatre

S4/5/6 Prelim Exams

This year our prelim exams will be slightly different to consider the additional elements brought back to some courses by the SQA following the covid years. Learners sitting National 5 Maths and English will have a full exam hall experience in December as per our school calendar:

- Friday 15th December - National 5 Maths
- Monday 18th December – National 5 English

All other prelim exams will be from w/b Monday 15th January – Fri 26th January 2024 with study leave for learners. More detailed information has been sent by Mr Corser DHT this week, along with the Prelim Timetable 23/24. Here is a link to the letter to parents/carers and the Prelim Timetable Jan '24, issued by Mr Corser DHT this week:

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

You can also view the SQA 'Your National Qualifications 23/24' Booklet on our website:

<https://ellonacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/sqa-information/>



There are also some helpful study guides on our website too. Follow the link below to view:

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

Weekly Merits

Most Merits/Over and Above:

We are pleased to report that the learners to the right are in the top group of learners for merits last week. Moving forward this term, we will be using messages to recognise those learners who are gaining most merits for 'dedication'. At Ellon Academy we look to develop a Growth Mindset and no better way to do this than praising effort. We will continue to celebrate pupils going Over and Above.

There are almost 1200 learners at Ellon Academy and 570 of them have been recognised in total.

The learners to the right have accrued the most merits over the last and will be given their Fast Passes by Mrs Buchan in the sunken social area on Mon 18.12.23 after registration.

Well done everyone!

Emails will be sent home to parents/carers on Friday 15.12.23.

Lilah	M	1C2	5
Georgie	Q	1S1	6
Zuzanna	Z	1S1	5
Jack	D	2C2	3
Lewis	D	2F1	3
Scott	M	2F1	3
Isla	W	2F1	3
Janey	L	2M1	3
Emily	S	2S1	3
Vincent	M	3K1	3
Adrijana	P	3M1	4
Ruby	Q	3S1	3
Lara	B	3S2	3
Jack	C	4F1	2
Sara	G	4S1	2
Connor	D	6C	2



Christmas at Ellon Academy:

Christmas Jumper Day and Open Doors Foodbank Collection 8.12.23

Here are some photos of our Christmas Jumper Day last Friday and thanks so much to the learners, parents, carers, and staff who kindly donated to our Foodbank collection:









Dress As You Please Day – Last day of Term, Thurs 21.12.3:

Pupils and staff can come to school on the last day of term 2, Thursday 21st December, either dressed up or dressed down. This is the one day of the year when you can come in fancy dress or just dress down casually! There will be a 'fancy dress' competition for S6 pupils in the sunken social area during period 2.

We ask that pupils bring a suggested donation of £1 to go towards our Christmas Care Home Visits Week 2023, where our Exec Team and members of our ASL Community Resource Hub visit all the local Care Homes to spread some Christmas cheer. They will be delivering personal gifts and Christmas cards to all residents and providing some Christmas carol singing too! These visits are hugely appreciated by the residents, brightening their day with a gift and card from Ellon Academy pupils at this special time of year.



Christmas Ceilidhs Thurs 21.12.23 (Games Hall)

Period 1 – S4
Period 2 – S2
Period 3 – S3
Period 4 – S1
Periods 5/6 – S5/6



Music for Christmas 2023

Our annual Music for Christmas concert will be on the evening of Tuesday 19.12.23 at 7.30pm in our Theatre. Tickets for this musical extravaganza are now available at the main reception of Ellon Academy Community Campus, priced at £6 (Adults) and £4 (Child/ School pupil/ Concession).

Ellon Academy Music Department
presents
“Music for Christmas”
Tuesday 19 December 2023
Theatre
Ellon Academy Community
Campus

Tickets available from the
Main Reception,
Ellon Academy
£6.00 / £4.00

Featuring musicians and singers from our Orchestra,
Bands, Choir and Instrumental Ensembles.

Spill The Beans – Barsita Coffee Bar now open!

Our new Pupil Led Barista Coffee Bar, Spill the Beans’ is now open for business.

Spill The Beans
Ellon Academy

BUENO MOCHA
Double Espresso topped with thick
vanilla custard, topped with chocolate
sprinkle, with paper and chocolate
ribbon.

NUTELLA MOCHA
Double Espresso topped with thick
vanilla custard, topped with chocolate
sprinkle, with paper and chocolate
ribbon.

HOT & COLD

americano	£2.00
latte	£2.00
cappuccino	£2.00
mocha	£2.50
hot chocolate	£2.00
tea	£1.00

SPECIALS

carrot cake syrup	£0.50
vanilla syrup	£0.50
lemonade syrup	£0.50
pumpkin spice syrup	£0.50
marshmallow cream	£0.50

Small text at the bottom: 'Spill the Beans is a pupil-led initiative. All profits go to the school. © Spill the Beans 2023. All rights reserved.'



Learning at Ellon Academy – Technical Faculty

Our S3s were learning Maths in action, as they were learning about gearing ratios and how to change speeds in mechanical systems.



Ellon Academy Pupil Senate:

The pupil senate comprises of all our Class Rep Pupil Leaders, the Exec Team, House Captains, and Sports Captains and on Tuesday 12th December they met for the afternoon and their focus was the renewal of the Green Flag and Eco Schools status at Ellon Academy.

At the last senate meeting Mr Caskie started the process with discussions around the environment review and what the school could do to achieve Eco Schools status. With Ms Booth and the Recycling Initiative Team's new recycling project in full swing we are confident that the school is already hitting many of the criteria for the Green Flag which also include many of the Global Citizenship projects throughout the year.

During the afternoon session members of the senate working on how to deliver a 'Climate Change' themed lesson/workshop using materials from 'The World's Largest Lesson' and the pupils completed the environmental review form online - this will then be shared at registration classes with class reps who participated in the senate meeting will encouraging as many of their peers to take part.

In March a further meeting of the senate will review the results and come up with an 'Action Plan' for the year which is to link in with the School Improvement Plan. Once this is in place, we can apply for Green Flag status using the evidence we have gathered throughout the year. Well done to Mrs Leslie and Mr Caskie for organising and to all the learners to took part.



Pupil Achievement:

Last weekend the Colony Park Girls Football team had their presentation ceremony to recognise their player's achievements. We are delighted to let you know that Natalie C (5F2) received the Coaches Player of the Year Award and she and her parents were over the moon when Natalie received it. 🥳🏆🏆🏆

Her coaches said, 'Natalie has shown that she is a strong, reliable player who is dedicated to the team and is friendly and welcoming to all the players.'

Natalie is now looking forward to the challenge of the Under 18s league in the forthcoming season. Well done again Natalie! Another fantastic achievement. You're having a great year!



Pupil Achievement:

On Thurs 30.11.23 the Ellon Academy Senior Drama Group staged the play DNA by Dennis Kelly. It was a poignant and thought-provoking play, enjoyed by the audience who attended on the night. Our learners gave convincing and excellent performances, portraying their individual characters extremely well.

Well done everyone - learners and staff who worked hard to produce a wonderful showcase of talent on and off the stage. Thanks to Mrs Geoghan for the photographs.

Learners on stage were Erin B, Finlay N, Chloe C, Niamh W, Brodie C, Rachael C, Clara S, Neve S and Josh C. Thanks also to Rian G and Nathaniel CH for the lighting and sound to to Keira P and Duncan S for Front of House.



Pupil Achievement:

Some of our learners took part in an Active Schools Boccia Tournament last week in Kincorth. A great time had by all!



Pupil Achievement:

As part of the Ellon Academy News Group, Scott, Lewis, and Owen have produced and created their first news podcast completely independently using Scott and Lewis's media training which was delivered last year as part of the SLIF Media project. Their podcast has been shared through the S1 and 2 Library Google Classrooms:

Introducing EA News Group's first ever podcast!

Scott, Lewis and Owen who are members of the Ellon Academy News Group have used their training in the software Audacity and their interest in reporting on current affairs to create their first ever podcast which is attached for you to listen to and learn about some important national, local, and school news stories. They worked hard as a team to find and agree on the stories to be used and they then spent time recording and editing their material to produce this excellent podcast.

They are already busy planning their next one so look out for it here.

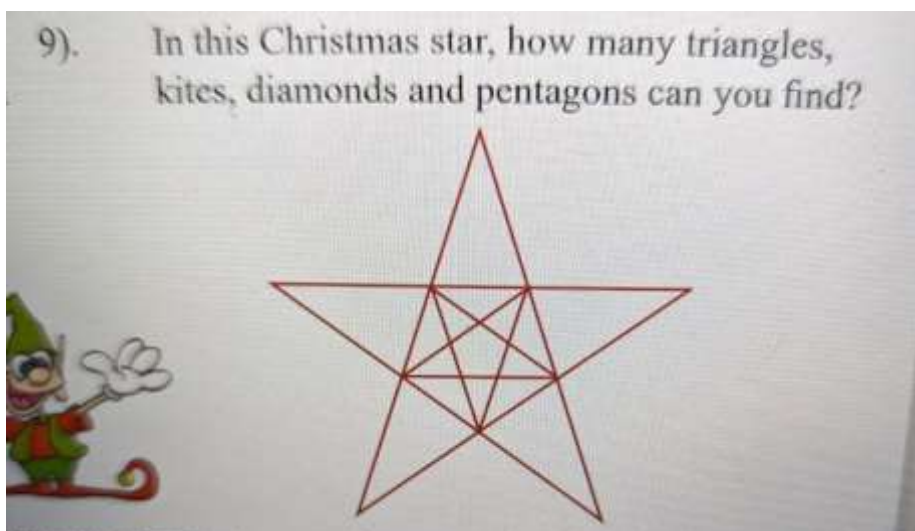
To listen, please click on the link below:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Wf_2oBAdeX7Jtc6b3Em3_h6nq3WyBDiT/view?usp=sharing



Staff Achievement 😊

Oh, how we love a good puzzle in the maths department! Here's Mr. Carey and Mr. Gatehouse pondering this tricky Christmas star puzzle from today! How many triangles, kites, diamonds, and pentagons can you see? 🤔



Pupil Achievement:

U15 Girls Football. Scottish Cup 3rd Round result; Ellon 5-2 Arbroath Academy.

The girls put in an absolutely brilliant performance yesterday against Arbroath to proceed to the 4th Round of the cup, where they now have to play Lasswade, who won the trophy last season! The girls were without a couple of their strongest team, but the girls who stepped in today did themselves proud. It was certainly a team performance and each of the 14 squad more than did their part. The passing football on display at times, was as good as it has been this season. The creative play of Natalie G and the precision of Molly P crossing was superb. Molly played her best ever game for the school. Alisha M, in defence had another outstanding game. The moments of brilliance that swung the game in Ellon's favour though belonged to Myah R, who scored 2 outstanding goals, which will probably not be bettered this season. On both occasions, she danced her way past 3 or 4 defenders as if they weren't there and rifled the ball high into the roof of the net against an Arbroath keeper who was probably player of the match. Ellon went in at half time drawing 2-2 but stepped up another gear in the second half, adding to their tally and eventually winning 5-2.

Goal scorers: Myah R 2, Ava R 1, Chloe W 1, Katie G 1.

Assists: Molly P 1 (if it was possible to give an assist to a goal scorer then Myah would have 2 assists as well)

Players of match: Molly P for her overall contribution and Myah R for her moments of brilliance.

Good luck in the next round, and here's hoping the second half to the season can be half as successful as what it has been up to the Christmas holidays. Mr McLean



If your child/children has/have successes you'd like to share with us, please send us an email via the school email address marked FAO Mrs P Buchan, Rector. Any photos you can share with us are always welcome too.

ellon.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk



In memory of Deryck (DJ) Renton:

Many of you will have fond memories of Mr Renton, former Modern Languages teacher at Ellon Academy who sadly died this summer. He was so proud of his time as a teacher and one of his trademarks was his love of wearing the brightest of ties.

Prior to his death, he asked Miss Tomlinson to honour his memory by doing something meaningful with his vast tie collection to raise money for Cancer Research.

So, if you would like to be the proud owner of a piece of Ellon Academy history, the ties are now live on eBay! Search for "DJ Deryck Renton ties as worn at Ellon Academy" and place a generous bid!"

The ties are loud, very loud, or super-loud! Deryck's ties are currently on display in the Ellon Academy foyer till the end of term. His legacy lives on.



Ellon Academy Study Café

The Study Café is up and running again this year. Come along and study in a warm, safe, and encouraging environment in the Ellon Academy Library afternoon on Thursdays and enjoy free refreshments and snacks to help you relax into your study.

This tremendous advert for our senior S4-S6 Study Cafe was put together by one of our talented Digital Champions in S2, Scott M.

The advert provides information about the StudyCafe, who it is for, what its purpose is, and when it is running.

<https://www.facebook.com/EllonAcademy/videos/2401018523434496>



Here are some helpful websites for study:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/levels/z6gw2hv>

<https://www.e-sgoil.com/>

<https://www.studentinformation.gov.scot/students/higher-education/understanding-qualifications-study-tips>

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers/findpastpaper.htm>

<https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/learning-at-home/supporting-study/>

Car Park Health and Safety at Ellon Academy Community Campus:

We ask that parents and carers remind their children of the following:

New addendum – On rainy days the pupil drop off and pick up times are much busier than usual. Recently, there were some near misses when drivers did not follow the one-way system. Please do so to keep everyone safe!

Here is a video as a reminder of our car park safety protocols: <https://youtu.be/Y89Gr4ihm-8>


To ensure that learners and staff are safe around the school campus, we are reminding learners not to walk/run through the car parks and bus parks. In the morning and after school there are over (approximately) 200 cars, taxis and buses coming in and out of the campus and learners must stick to the footpaths for their own safety and the safety of campus drivers.

We remind parents/carers/relatives who drop off and pick up learners that they should not access the school via the road past the bus shelter and the bus park. This access is reserved for buses and school staff. Please use the turning to the right at the front of the school (before the bus shelter) all learners drop offs and pick-ups.


We also ask that parents/carers continue to use the front facing parking and the one-way system at the front of the school when dropping off and picking up their children from school. Thank you.

Here is a link to the leaflet with car parking information for parents/carers:

<https://ellonacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Car-Park-Parents-Leaflet.pdf>




ELLON ACADEMY COMMUNITY CAMPUS



CAR PARK

PUPIL DROP OFF (7:30 - 9 am)
Parent/Carers are asked to drop pupils off and pick them up in the designated drop off lane/zone and **NOT** to enter any of the assigned car parking spaces.


On leaving the drop off/ zone, Parents/Carers are asked to stick to the one way system by following the road down to the turning circle to the West of the Campus, thus ensuring that the traffic flow is all **one way**. Navigate the turning circle one car at a time and give it a wide berth as it has a tight radius.




PUPIL PICK UP
Parents/Carers should **forward park** in the angled parking bays (the angled design does not allow for reverse parking) then reverse out and continue to follow the road down to the turning circle to the West of the Campus, thus ensuring the traffic flow is all **one way**. Alternatively, park in the Community car park behind the swimming pool.

PARK AND STRIDE
Parents/Carers can also use the Meadows car parking facilities for pupil drop off/pick up. This will help alleviate traffic pressure on campus.


COMMUNITY USE
For access to Swimming, Leisure and Community Resources during the school week and outwith the drop off times for pupils please park in the public spaces beyond the drop off and disabled zones.



DISABLED
These spaces are reserved for blue badge holders and emergency vehicles only. They should not be used for dropping off/picking up.




CYCLING
It is advisable that all pupils who cycle to school are aware of wet and icy conditions, road safety, cycling in the dark and have working lights, visible clothing and cycle helmets. Cyclists should stick to cycle paths and ideally have passed their cycling proficiency test. Cycle stands available on campus.



The Ellon Academy Community Campus Management Team and Parent Council consider the safety and wellbeing of all campus users to be of paramount importance.

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS
Email: ellon.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
Telephone: 01358 720715



Ice Safety:

Our friends at the Fire and Rescue Service Scotland have sent us the following series of posters to remind learners about safety around frozen ponds, lakes, and bodies of water:



STAYING SAFE IN WINTER – ICE SAFETY



KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE FROM THE EDGE. Fallen leaves and snow could obscure the water's boundary and cause slippery surfaces.

STAYING SAFE IN WINTER – ICE SAFETY



ALWAYS SUPERVISE CHILDREN AROUND ICE.

STAYING SAFE IN WINTER – ICE SAFETY



KEEP DOGS ON LEADS AND DON'T THROW BALLS/STICKS FOR THEM NEAR ICE. Never go on to the ice to rescue a dog.

STAYING SAFE IN WINTER – ICE SAFETY



**IN AN EMERGENCY, CALL 999
AND GIVE CALM AND ACCURATE
INFORMATION ABOUT THE
SITUATION AND LOCATION.**

Never go on to the ice to help.

Thanks to Ronnie from the Fire and Rescue Service Scotland for these posters.



Keeping children and teenagers safe online:

'Report Remove'

The NSPCC has developed resources to support learners who have shared explicit photographs of themselves online. Please follow this link for more information:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-reporting/report-remove/>



COVID-19 symptoms and what to do:

As you may be aware, some strains of Covid-19 are on the rise, so this information from the NHS website is for parents/carers. Covid-19 symptoms can include:

- a high temperature or shivering (chills) – a high temperature means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours.
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.
- shortness of breath
- feeling tired or exhausted
- an aching body
- a headache
- a sore throat
- a blocked or runny nose
- loss of appetite
- diarrhoea
- feeling sick or being sick

The symptoms are very similar to symptoms of other illnesses, such as colds and flu.

Most people feel better within a few days or weeks of their first COVID-19 symptoms and make a full recovery within 12 weeks. For some people, it can be a more serious illness and their symptoms can last longer.

What to do if you have symptoms of COVID-19

You may be able to [look after yourself at home if you have COVID-19 or symptoms of COVID-19](#).

Try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people if you or your child have symptoms and either:

- have a high temperature.
- do not feel well enough to go to work, school, childcare, or do your normal activities.

You can go back to your normal activities when you feel better or do not have a high temperature.

If your child has mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or mild cough, and they feel well enough, they can go to school or childcare.

If you are eligible for treatments for COVID-19, you should take an NHS rapid lateral flow test as soon as you get symptoms.

[Find out more about treatments for COVID-19 and who can have them](#)

What to do if you have tested positive

You are no longer required to do a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test if you have symptoms, but if you or your child have tested positive for COVID-19:

- try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day you took your test if you are under 18 years old.
- try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days after the day you took your test if you are 18 years old or over.
- avoid meeting people who are more likely to get seriously ill from viruses, such as people with a weakened immune system, for 10 days after the day you took your test.

[Find out more about who can get a free NHS COVID-19 test](#)

Ask for an urgent GP appointment or get help from NHS 111 if:

- you're worried about your or a child's COVID-19 symptoms or are not sure what to do.
- the symptoms are getting worse or are not getting better.
- you or a child have other signs of illness, such as a rash, loss of appetite, or feeling weak.
- you or a child have a high temperature that last 5 days or more or does not come down with paracetamol.
- a child under 3 months old and has a temperature of 38C or higher, or you think they have a high temperature.
- a child 3 to 6 months old and has a temperature of 39C or higher, or you think they have a high temperature.

It's particularly important to get help if you're at increased risk of getting ill from COVID-19, such as if you're pregnant, aged 60 or over, or have a weakened immune system. You can call 111 or [get help from 111 online](#).

Extra-Curricular Activities:

We are always encouraging our learners to take part in clubs and activities in and out of school to support skills development, so thanks to Mrs Warne for pulling together all the Ellon Academy extra-curricular activities into one booklet for pupils and parents/carers. The booklet can be viewed by following the link to our website below:

<https://ellonacademy.aberdeenshire.sch.uk/extra-curricular-activities/>



Health and Wellbeing Extra-Curricular Timetable for Term 2:

Please note all pupils attending sports clubs/NASSA events must have paid their EASA membership, or they will be unable to attend.

NEW SPORT: Girls Rugby every Monday afterschool with Ellon Rugby Club Development officer ! Come and give it a try!! 🍌🍌🍌

	Lunchtime	Afterschool: Games Hall	Afterschool: Gym B	Afterschool: Gym A	Afterschool: Fitness Suite	Afterschool: Pitches	Alternate Space
Mon		S1-6 Badminton 3:30 – 4:30pm				S1-6 Girls Rugby Active Schools 3:30-4:30pm	
Tues				S4-6 Cheer Miss Daniel, Miss Williams 3:30 – 4:45pm		S1-6 Rugby Mr McCall 3:45 – 4:45pm	S1-6 Girls Hockey Mr Meechan (every second week) 3:30-4:30 pm
Wed		S3-6 Netball Miss Williams 2:40 – 3:45pm		S1-3 Cheer Miss Daniel 2:40 – 4:00pm	S4-6 Fitness Mr McCall 3 – 4pm	Football S1 Mr Meechan S2 Mr Canale S3 Mr MacBeath 3 – 4pm	
Thurs	S1-6 Teen Yoga Mrs Winterbottom	S1-2 Netball Miss Williams 2:40 – 3:45pm		S1-6 Gymnastics Sports Captains 2:40 – 3:45pm		S1-6 Girl's football Mr McLean 3 – 4pm	Staff Yoga Mrs Winterbottom 2:40 – 3:45pm
Fri		S1-6 Basketball Sports Captains 2:40 – 3:45pm		Staff Badminton 2:40-3:45pm			

Bright Red Publishing - Bag a Bargain Bespoke for Ellon Academy parents/carers!

Bright Red Publishing is Scotland's leading independent educational publisher and home of top Study Guides and Course Books for Scottish Qualifications Authority exams (some of which have been written by our very own Mr MacBeath!) Star!

In conjunction with the school, we have secured a discount code for all to use – ELLON30. If you are ordering a study guide to help support your or your child's studies, please use the discount code ELLON30 to secure 30% off any purchase.

There catalogue can be found here, where you will find many study guides that we offer here at Ellon Academy.

<https://www.brightredpublishing.co.uk/Shop>



Pupil Information:

ALL PUPILS – WEEKLY MERITS

Congratulations to all learners who are routinely receiving messages home for the weekly merits and over and above's and/or termly House certificates too. During Term 2, most year groups are preparing for assessments and practising for SQA exams. As a school, we promote a growth mindset and 'can do' attitude. For that reason, we will be sending messages home to those pupils who are being recognised for their hard work and dedication. Working hard and giving it your best effort is the key to success this term. Good luck!
Senior Leadership Team

ALL PUPILS – PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

The competition is open to all year groups and the theme this year is CHRISTMAS! House points are up for grabs to the House with the most entries and House points and prizes will be given for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place too. Grab a submission form from the Art department to enter!
Miss Geoghan

ALL GIRLS – NEWBURGH THISTLE FOOTBALL (UNDER 14s)

In preparation for next season, Newburgh Thistle are looking for girls born in 2010 & 2011 to join their U14 squad. For further details, please contact Kirsty MacRae on 07903 351969.
Training is on a Monday & Thursday in Mintlaw & Cruden Bay
Progressive Platinum Legacy Award Club
Coaches are PVG, First Aid & SFA Accredited
Mr McLean

S1/2 PUPILS – CODING CLUB

A new coding club is now running on a Monday and Wednesday in the Library after school. Come along and learn how to code, program digital/electronic devices and have fun with some robotic equipment, including robotic LEGO!
Monday 15:40-17:00
Wednesday 14:50-16:00
If you're interested, please let a Digital Champion know or speak to Mr Armstrong (PT Digital Learning) because you'll need a letter and consent form for an after-school activity.
Mr Armstrong

ALL PUPILS – LIBRARY BOOK SALE

We have a wonderful selection of new and nearly new books for sale in the Library. Great for Christmas presents and a gift-wrapping service is available too!
Rummage box/trolley - 20p
Paperbacks - 50p
Hardbacks - £1.00
Mrs Murdoch, School Librarian

For your information:

Staffing information:

Miss Watt, PT Guidance:

After 49 years of dedicated service to Ellon Academy, Miss May Watt will be retiring this Christmas. We wish Miss Watt every health and happiness for the future and thank her for her continued and enduring commitment to Ellon Academy, and in particular the learners, parents, and carers of Sinclair House over the years. All Sinclair House pupils are attending a special House Assembly this morning, so Miss Watt can tell all of her pupils at the same time.

As Sinclair House parents will be aware, Mrs Lyndsey Donald has been Acting PT Guidance 2 days per week for the past few years, and after competitive interviews this week, Mrs Donald will continue as PT Guidance on a full-time basis from January 2024 to ensure continuity for learners in the important transitions to come in the New Year. The permanent PT Guidance post will be advertised in March 2024.

Wishing Mrs Donald all the very best in her full-time role.

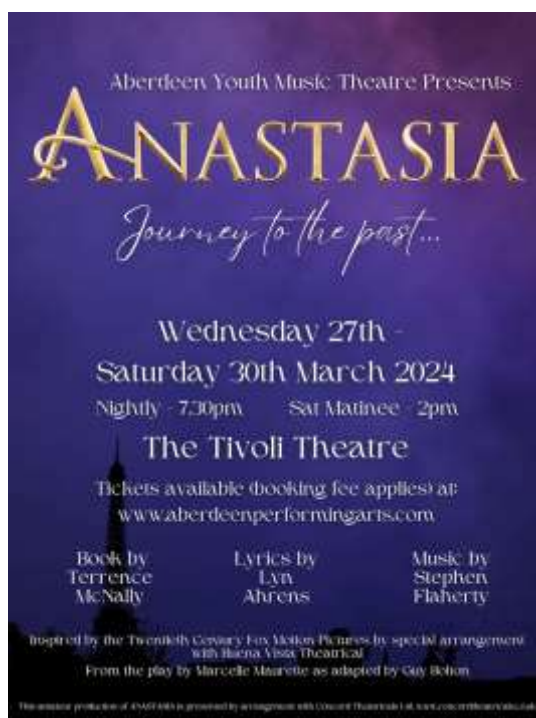
Maths Teacher appointment:

We are delighted to inform parents/carers that we have been successful in appointing an experienced Maths Teacher for Ellon Academy, Ms A Czuchnicka who will be joining us in the New Year.

Community Information:

Tickets are now on sale for Anastasia by Aberdeen Youth Music Theatre for next March. Our very own Laura J 2S1 and Isla M S6 are in leading roles.

They are available from the box office, but Laura J 2S1 can get them from AYMT at a discounted rate and no booking fee. If you are interested in getting tickets, please send us an email via the school email address marked FAO Mrs P Buchan, Rector. ellon.aca@aberdeenshire.gov.uk



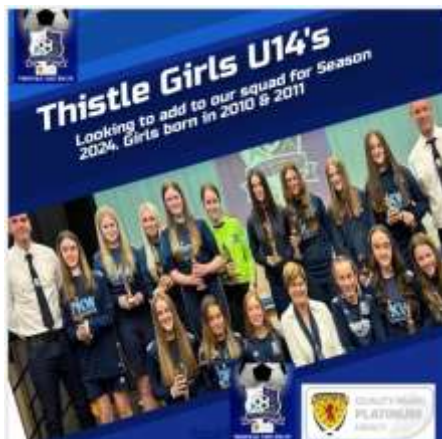
Thistle Youth FC

#GirlsU14PlayersWanted | **Girls born in 2011, 2010 Wanted**

In preparation for next season, we are looking for girls born in 2010 & 2011 to join our U14 squad:

- ⚽ Training Mon & Thur in Mintlaw & Cruden Bay
- ⚽ Progressive Platinum Legacy Award Club
- ⚽ PVG, First Aid & SFA Accredited coaches
- ⚽ For further details contact Kirsty MacRae on 07903 351969

#OneClubOneGoal



Dates For Your Diary

Term 2:

Weekly from 22.11.23	Christmas lunches in the canteen (S5/6 – 20.12.23)
From Mon 4.12.23	S6 can wear Christmas Jumpers
Mon 18.12.23	National 5 English (S4/5/6) Prelim in Games Hall (Exam experience)
Tues 19.12.23	Music for Christmas Concert – 7.30pm
Thurs 21.12.23	Christmas Ceilidh and Staff Karaoke
Thurs 21.12.23	Dress Down Up and Dress Down Day
Thurs 21.12.23	End of Term 2 (Fri 22.12.23 is an Occasional Day holiday for the Ellon Cluster)

Term 3:

Mon 8.1.24	Term 3 begins.
w/b 15.1.24	S1 Reports issued.
Mon 15.1.24	Senior phase prelims/study leave begins.
Wed 17.1.24	S1 Parents Evening (in-person) 4-6.30pm.
Fri 26.1.24	Senior phase prelims/study leave ends.

The Ellon Academy School Calendar for session 23/24 is available to view on our school website by following the link below.

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

Thank you for your continued support and we hope our Ellon Academy families and friends have a lovely weekend.

P Buchan

Rector 15.12.23