



ELLON ACADEMY WEEKLY INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS

Date: Thursday 28th March 2024

Dear parents/carers,

Firstly, welcome to our P7 parents/carers.

We hope you enjoy reading our weekly newsletter which we will send to our feeder primaries until the summer break.

Here we are again at the end of the busiest of busy terms.

Staff and pupils have been working hard and need a well-deserved break.

We return to school as on Monday 15th April for the start of Term 4 and our S4/5/6 learners will have one final full week of teaching before the SQA Exam diet and study leave begins on Monday 22nd April.



Also, we have noticed some learners' standard of dress has slipped somewhat. We see learners in black tops and t-shirts, white trainers, and a very small minority not in uniform at all. We ask that parents/carers support our school uniform and encourage your children to take pride in their school by wearing the uniform as per our expectations.

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. 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 Mon 15.4.24:



Assemblies:

Mr Corser will be taking Senior Phase SQA assemblies during the first week of the new term during registration as follows:

- Tues 16.4.24 S4
- Wed 17.4.24 S6
- Thurs 18.4.23 S5

Parent Council Up-date:

The next Parent Council meeting will be on Tuesday 11th June at 7pm in person at Ellon Academy.

Our new Chairperson Mr James Simpson is keen for more parents to join us that evening.

The Parent Council also want to welcome P7 parents and remind them to answer the security questions if they would like to access the Ellon Academy Parent Council Facebook page.

Thank you.



Most Merits:

Due to this being a short week this week we have identified the most merits for learners in each year group. Well done and they can collect their Fast Passes from Mrs Buchan after registration in the sunken social area on Mon 15.3.24.

Well done all!

Fraser	P	1S2
Eva	M	2C1
Ruby	Q	3S1
Jack	C	4F1
Findlay	B	5F1
Kayleigh	F	5F1
Sean	M	6K1

NESCoL College Course End Dates:

Foundation Apprenticeships: Week commencing 24 June.

HNC Business: Week commencing 17 June.

All other courses*: Week commencing 15 April.

Foundation Apprentices and HNC students will be expected to attend College throughout study leave. If an FA is still on placement during this time, they should also continue to attend this. If an FA or HNC student is unable to attend due to an exam coinciding with their class/placement, they should let their lecturer (plus their FA Officer and employer where necessary) know.

Dress Down Day – Wed 27.3.24:

Our Dress Down Day yesterday raised a magnificent £1788 for Friends of Anchor in memory of Mr Alan Murdoch, Maths Teacher who died earlier this year. A huge thank you to all who so kindly donated.



S1 ENTERPRISE – CHARLIE HOUSE MARATHON

As part of our S1 Enterprise course, pupils have been raising money for our chosen charity, Charlie House, by running a marathon! Well, it turns out to be many marathons as pupils have covered a total of 701 km, which equates to over 435 miles and almost 17 full marathons. Well done to all pupils who took part. A very impressive performance.



Life is precious

Over the last few weeks, pupils have been working on social enterprises and charities during their Enterprise lessons. Representatives from Charlie House will be visiting Ellon Academy after the Easter break to tell pupils first-hand about the important work that they do. Pupils will take part in a number of practical workshops.

Sponsor forms were issued to all pupils a number of weeks ago. Pupils were 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. Sponsor money/forms should be returned as soon as possible to their Enterprise teacher.

Big thanks to Mr Lawson and the Health & Wellbeing faculty for helping in this venture. Also, thank you to Ms Kyle (Technician) for braving the cold and heading out as the “official photographer”.

Photos have been uploaded to Ellon Academy’s Facebook page. Keep a look out on social media and weekly news for further updates.

Mrs Ewen, PT Business Education



Pupil Achievement:

The 6 Ellon boys who represented Aberdeenshire schools today in the U18 national final. Fantastic achievement for our lads and for Aberdeenshire!

Senior Trophy Final: Unbelievable comeback from our seniors this afternoon to come back from being 4-0 down after 20 minutes to win the Senior Trophy Final on penalties and become only the third Aberdeenshire team to win the trophy.

Second half goals from Alberts, Buckle, McKay & McCormick took the game to a penalty shootout where a brilliant save from Hopkinson and all 5 of our takers holding their nerve meant a dramatic comeback was complete.

The boys once again showed a brilliant attitude throughout and showed a great team spirit to recover from a slow start. Well done to all the players, what a comeback and what a feeling! Champions 2024!



Pupil Achievement:

Under 15 Boys Football result:

Well done to the S3 football team who have progressed into the North of Scotland Semi Finals after a 4-1 win against Millburn Academy. Even though it seemed they were also battling the wind at times, Ellon quickly dominated possession and took control of the game. There was some excellent football on display, showing a real team performance and everyone made sure they won their own individual battles. Every single person should be really proud of how they played today. Well done.

Goals came from Aaron M - with a beautiful pass defence splitting through to him for him to round the keeper and knock it in the net. Then Owen stepped up to fill his quota with 2 - one of which seemed from an impossible angle, and Burak was our third scorer. After Owens floating corner came off the bar, his bullet header left the keeper with no chance.



Pupil Achievement:

Pictures of this week's U14 league football match, which finished Ellon 2-2 Inverurie.



Pupil Achievement:

After 8 group games undefeated, followed by a quarter final win, and a semifinal win, Ellon narrowly lost out in the final game. However, we are proud of our Runner Up medal – an amazing achievement considering there were 148 teams at this event!

The girls gave their absolute best this national final and this is the 2nd year they have been the second-best team in the whole of Scotland! An unbelievable effort from each and every one of them.

Goal scorers today: Grace S x 8, Millie B x 4, Emily S x 4, Natalie G x 1, Ava R x 1, Myah R x 1, Nicole I x 1.

Players of tournament Emily S and Amber S, with Myah R not far behind. Well done to them all.



Pupil Achievement – Music for Spring Concert 2024

Last night, Wed 27th March, a full audience were treated to a wonderful showcase of musical talent. Our pupils were performing in Concert Band, Orchestra, String Orchestra, Folk Group, Choir, Jazz Band Seriously Blue and soloists, all who gave excellent performances.

Our backstage helpers also did so well with lighting and sound:

- Lewis Dunn – Lighting.
- Scott MacPherson - Sound

Here is the programme:

Orchestra	Bourree from Water Music Suite No.1 by G.F Handel Scherzo from Symphony No.4 in D minor by R. Schumann
String Orchestra	Forever Autumn from Jeff Wayne's War of the Worlds
Flute Solo	Rondo from Three Miniatures for Flute and Piano – Soloist Emily A – S6
Choir	Excerpts from Disney Dazzle by Menken, Allen and Rice Believer by Imagine Dragons and arranged by Mrs M Nicholson, Music Teacher
Piano Solo	Maple Leaf Rag by Scott Joplin, played by Abigail H
Concert Band	Sway by Pablo Ruiz All the Jazz by Fred Ebb and John Kander
Folk Group	Nelson Mandel's Welcome to Glasgow, The Price of a Pig, Lewis and Molly's Gamekeeper's Cottage/Tree of Luck
Seriously Blue	Georgia on My Mind
Saxophone Solo	Theme from Poirot by Christopher Gunning, played by Keirah F
Orchestra	Scenes from Carmen Suite No.1 – Prelude, Aragonaise, Les Toreadors by G Bizet

Thanks to:

- Music Instructors:
 - Tommy Boyle (Percussion)
 - Kat Cahill (Cello/Double Bass)
 - Joe Hibbs (Violin/Viola)
 - Hannah Hilton (Woodwind)
 - Ewan Kellock (Guitar)
 - Fabrizio Oddo (Brass)
 - Dawn Smith (Piano)
- Music Teachers – Mr E Armstrong, Mrs L O'Connor (PT Creative Arts) Mrs M Nicholson
- Mr D Birse, PT Creative Arts

Next musical event is Music for Christmas 2024



Pupil Achievement: Interhouse Cheer

Well done to McDonald house who won the interhouse cheer competition yesterday with their Grease performance 🏆👏

It was a tough competition, and all of the houses should be proud of their performances.

More pictures to follow after the holidays. 📷

Full Results: 1st – McDonald, 2nd - Keith and Sinclair, 3rd – Cheyne, 4th – Forbes.



Aberdeenshire Council Good News:

Ellon Academy is featuring in this term's Aberdeenshire Council Good News bulletin! Click on the link to view.

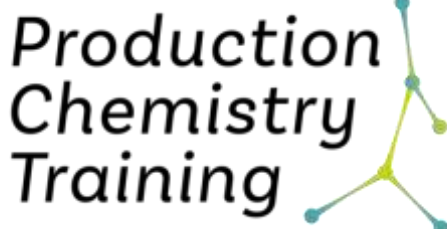
[Achievements in ECS - 21 March 2024 \(cloud.microsoft\)](#)

S4 Mock Interviews

Over the past month, the majority of our S4 learners have taken part in mock interviews with a whole range of experts from a wide variety of careers.

As part of the interview, all pupils were offered some verbal feedback on their responses and conduct throughout the meeting, and we hope that pupils will be able to make use of this feedback when taking part in “real” interview experiences in the future. Generally, there has been a huge amount of praise for our pupils on their confidence and ability to carry themselves throughout the interview, and for their keen preparation and research ahead of the interview.

We continue to be incredibly grateful for all of the support that has been offered by our local business community that allows us to provide experiences such as these and look forward to repeating the mock interview experience in the session.



Senior Study and Exam Support:

Study Skills Support:

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

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

Lunchtime and after school help clubs:

Faculties continue to offer support via help clubs for all senior phase learners.

Bright Red:

Get quizzical with our N5 Revision Cards for Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, and Physics! 📖

These cards are great for studying in the run up to exams, as they focus on those tricky questions that students historically get wrong. Visit our website for more info! <https://www.brightredpublishing.co.uk/shop/revision-cards>



STUDY CAFÉ at Ellon Academy

Thank you very much to the Co-op who have been supplying our students with snacks and drinks during our Study Café. Our pupils have been very grateful for the Co-op snacks and drinks which have been helping them with their studies. Study Café is back and will be running every Thursday from now until study leave! It is being held in the library from 14:45-15:45 to offer pupils a safe and quiet place to study and prepare for their final exams. As always, snacks/refreshments will be available to keep pupils fuelled to study. Please see Mr Caskie or Mrs Murdoch if you have any questions.



Here are some helpful websites for study:

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

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

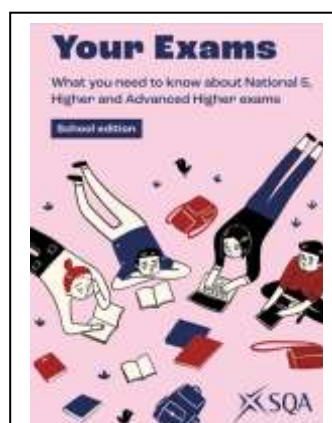
<https://www.studentinformation.gov.scot/students/higher-education/understanding-qualifications-study-tips>

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

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

SQA Exam Information:

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/100863.html>



SQA Exam Timetable:

<file:///C:/Users/pbuchan/Downloads/nq-2024-exam-timetable.pdf>

Please note that the Ellon Academy SQA exam timetable may vary to accommodate school bus times and additional assessment arrangements. Use this link as a guide only and your child will receive their individual timetable after the Easter break.

MyExams app

Create a personal timetable, view your exam schedule, add notes, and add to other calendars.

- [Download MyExams from the App Store.](#)
- [Download MyExams for Android.](#)

Personal timetable builder

Don't fancy an app? You can also create your own timetable using our online version.

Build your own [online timetable](#)

MyStudyPlan app

Organise your revision by creating your own study plan.

- [Download MyStudyPlan from the App Store.](#)
- [Download MyStudyPlan for Android.](#)



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/>

**Pupil information:****ALL PUPILS – BREAKTIMES IN THE LIBRARY**

Reminders for all pupils:

- The library is open at breaktimes for borrowing, returning and renewing library items, reading and printing.
- The library is a RED ZONE at break time – no phones.
- Pupils should have their snack before coming to the library at breaktime.

ALL PUPILS – TABLE TENNIS CLUB

If you want to get involved in playing some Table Tennis, come to gym A on a Wednesday at lunchtime.

Open to all pupils.

Start Date : Wednesday 20th March.

Time: Lunch Break

Location: GYM A

Mr Hatfield

ALL S5 PUPILS - Exec Team 24/25!

Any S5 pupil interested in being part of the Exec Team next year should join Google Classroom ik5qzva and fill in the nomination form. The deadline is 19th April., last day before exam leave. Any questions, please see Miss Tomlinson in S19 or any member of the current team.

ALL PUPILS – MANDARIN LESSONS

Mandarin lessons have started again on Wednesdays and will run until study leave. They are being held in S42 during lunchtime every Wednesday. Pupils who have a place on the trip to China in July 2024 must attend because they need to have completed at least 10 hours of Mandarin before we leave. However, other interested pupils are also welcome to attend the lessons! Please see Mrs Duffus for more information. Mrs Duffus

Community Information:

Live Life Aberdeenshire:

Looking for something fun and Egg-citing over the Easter Holidays to keep your Bunny's happy?

Look no further at LLA we have crafted an exceptional Easter Programme designed to entertain children and teens. From sports sessions to arts and crafts sessions, ASN and outdoor activities, we have something for everyone, regardless of age or interest.

To secure your spot, simply log in as your child on our app or visit our website to check availability and make your booking.

Please remember to log in with your child's account otherwise the sessions will be full.

Website:

<https://www.livelifeberdeenshire.org.uk/easter-programme/>



The Leith School of Art Young Artists' Workshops which will be running on Saturdays 2nd March and 27th April, as well as a week-long Summer School. It would be great if you could pass this information on to any staff or parents/guardians who may be interested.

LEITH
ART

YOUNG ARTISTS' COURSES:

YOUNG ARTISTS' WORKSHOP
FOR 9-12 YEAR OLDS:
PRINTMAKING
2 MARCH 2024
£90

YOUNG ARTISTS' WORKSHOP
FOR 9-12 YEAR OLDS:
PASTELS
27 APRIL 2024
£90

YOUNG ARTISTS' SUMMER SCHOOL
FOR 11-15 YEAR OLDS
22 - 26 JULY 2024
£425

BOOK NOW VIA OUR WEBSITE:
www.leithschoolofart.co.uk | 011 201 5161 | enquiries@leithschoolofart.co.uk

A

Children and Young People
Mental Health Awareness
Workshops
(for parents and carers)

SAMH

Want to learn about
children and young
people's mental health?

Find some tips on how
to speak to your child
about their feelings?

If yes, then come along to our FREE 90 minute workshops:

- Mental health awareness
- Understanding and managing stress and anxiety
- Listening to and supporting my child
- Managing my wellbeing

Our workshops are information sessions and
parent/carer's are not expected to share
personal stories. We will however be giving
out lots of useful information and support
tools.

To book a space
visit the QR code
or click the link
below

These workshops are part of our
wider work within some
Mental Health Awareness. If you would
like to find out more contact:
Natalie Ingleton
Team for All Practitioner
T: 0757788811
E: natalie.ingleton@samh.org.uk

Ellon Meadows Football Club
2008s

Ellon Meadows 2008s is looking for players to strengthen its squad
playing in the 08's B league.
All coaches are DfA qualified, PVG checked and are First Aid trained.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE RING:
07739 759890

Ellon Meadows Football Club
info@ellonmeadowsfc.co.uk

Buchan Girls
United Fc

Players Wanted!

Looking for players to join our U16's team

- Born 2008/2009
- All experience welcome
- Training in Peterhead every Thursday 4-6pm
- Looking for all outfield players and a goalkeeper
- We are currently away to start our 2024 season

Interested?
Contact our coach Louise at - 07833723056

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The Period Place

The following events are up and coming and will be organised by the charity 'The Period Place'.

The Period Place a Charity presents

Mothers & Daughters

🕒 2PM - 4PM
📅 4th May, 2024
📍 The Kirk Center, Station Road, Ellon AB41 9AE

Health & wellbeing Intimate care chat.
Stress & Mental health mgt

Raffle draw to win Tricia First Period Kit

Mum & daughter photoshoot.

Girls ages 9-14

Register at Eventbrite

- Resource persons: GP, Medical practitioner
- **FREE** but registration is required.
- Refreshments available.

Partners >>  

Enquiries: email info@theperiodplace.co.uk
website: theperiodplace.co.uk



WALK TO GIVE HER A VOICE

You are not Walking alone

WALK & TALK ABOUT PERIOD RELATED ISSUES

4K WALK **FREE**

YOUR STEPS CAN HELP A GIRL

📍 Esplanade, Aberdeen Deach
📅 25th May 2024

Powered by: 

Get Free Doctor's Advice

Register at <https://walk4her.theperiodplace.co.uk>



Scan Me

Enquiries: info@theperiodplace.co.uk

WALK TO GIVE HER A VOICE

Walk to end period shame & stigma

WALK TO END PERIOD POVERTY

2K WALK FOR SCHOOLS YOUR STEPS CAN HELP A GIRL

Date: **28th May 2024**

Powered by: 

Enquiries: info@theperiodplace.co.uk

Schools Register at <https://walk4her.theperiodplace.co.uk/schools/>



SCAN ME

Live Life Aberdeenshire – Ellon Pool

Attention, parents, and guardians!

Get ready for fun-filled moments of adventure and unforgettable memories. Live Life Aberdeenshire is delighted to present the programme for Easter Holidays. From sports sessions to arts and crafts workshops, ASN activities, and outdoor activities, we have something for everyone, regardless of age or interest. Do not let your kids and teens spend these Holidays glued to screens. Instead, provide them the opportunity to have fun and stay active with our fantastic programme! To secure your spot, simply log in as your child on our app or visit our website to check availability and make your booking.

Website: <https://www.livelifeaberdeenshire.org.uk/easter-programme/>

App: http://bit.ly/LLA_app



Dates for Your Diary:

Thurs 28.3.24 Last day of Term 3.

Term 4:

Mon 15.4.24	Term 4 begins.
Mon 22.4.24	Start of SQA Exams and Study Leave for S4/5/6
Mon 6.5.24	May Day Holiday
w/b 20.5.24	S1 Final Reports issue this week.
Wed 22.5.24	Junior and Senior Prizegiving Ceremonies
Thurs 23.5.24	P7 Values Day
Fri 24.5.24	S6 Prom
Mon/Tues 27/28 th May	S3 Build Your Future/Entrepreneurship Days
Wed 29 th – Fri 31 st May	S1/2/3 Activities Days
Fri 31.5.24	S2/3 Tracking Report (2) issue.
Mon 3.6.24	Provisional change of timetable
Thurs 6.6.24	Sports Day
25 th , 26 th 27 th June	P7 Induction Days
Thurs 27.6.24	Drama Showcase – 7pm Theatre
Fri 5.7.24	Dress Down Day/End of Term



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/>

Last week, I told my staff that I will be retiring from my post as Headteacher of Ellon Academy at the end of the summer term. I consider myself very fortunate and privileged to have worked with some wonderful young people, talented staff and supportive parents and carers and I wish to say a special 'thank you' to you for your continued support.

Aberdeenshire Council will shortly be advertising the post and I have every confidence that they will appoint an excellent candidate who will continue to work with all stakeholders to bring further success to Ellon Academy. I look forward to continuing to work with you until my retiral date of Friday 5th July 2024.

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



P Buchan

Rector 28.03.24