



## ELLON ACADEMY WEEKLY INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS

Date: Friday 17th May 2024

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Dear parents/carers,

This week we look forward to a number of special calendar events at Ellon Academy.

On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May, we will hold our next Pupil Senate meeting where our class reps will be looking at how we retain our Green Flag Eco School Status. On Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May we look forward to celebrating pupil successes at our Junior and Senior Prizegiving Ceremonies. On Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May we welcome our P7 pupils to Ellon Academy for their Values Day and on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May, our S6 will be having their Prom Night. All significant and memorable events in the life of the school.

Also, thank you to parents/carers for your patience in our attempt to relax the school uniform as a result of warmer weather. However, some learners are not complying with the guidelines set out below and we ask for parental support to ensure that pupils turn up to school dressed in an appropriate manner for a school/working environment whilst considering the increasing temperatures in and out of school. Next week, DHT Heads of House will follow up pupils who may be struggling to fit in with these guidelines.

# Relaxed Uniform during warmer weather:

SLT have agreed that pupils will be permitted to wear shorts during the expected spell of warmer weather. Pupils are asked to continue to wear usual shirts and ties and are reminded that this relaxation is not a reason to come to school in beachwear, it means shorts that are appropriate for school wear. Therefore, to clarify, no football strips, very short Lycra shorts (these are inappropriate and can be a flame risk), strappy tops or cropped bra style tops. Thank you, SLT.

## **School Blazers:**

We will shortly be planning to secure blazers for who seniors want to buy one for next year. However, a good number of our departing S6 wish to donate their old blazer so someone else can get the good of it. This is commendable, so we ask if any school leaver wants to do the same, then they can be handed in to the school office. We will do our best to ensure they someone else gets the benefit. Thank You.

# **Charlie House S1 Fundraising:**

We are delighted to let you know that the recent S1 Fundraiser, jointly organised by our Business and Health and Wellbeing Faculties raised a wonderful total of £3,211.70. Charlie House will be putting our donation towards their **Big Build** and a further 12 bricks (with "Ellon Academy" printed on them) will be included in their new build in Aberdeen, giving a permanent acknowledgement of our S1's achievement (in addition to the 10 bricks financed last session). Thank you to our amazing pupils and families.



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 Monday 20.5.24:



## Assemblies:

There are no planned assemblies weeks beginning 13<sup>th,</sup> 20<sup>th</sup>, or 27<sup>th</sup> May due to the theatre being set up and used for range of events over the next 2 weeks and Activities Days week beginning 27<sup>th</sup> May.

## **Most Merits:**

Here are the pupils who have accrued the most merits this week:

Well done, and they can collect their Fast Passes from Mrs Buchan after registration in the sunken social area on Mon 20.5.24.

## Well done all!

Brooke	T	1F2
Georgie	Q	1S1
Freya	D	1S2
William	Т	<b>1S2</b>
Charlotte	W	2F1
Brooke	D	2M1
Isla	0	2M2
Abby	Р	3C1
Jayden	S	3F2
Daniel	Т	3F2
Ruby	Q	3S1

# Parent Council Up-date:

The next Parent Council meeting will be on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> 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.

## S3 Build Your Future Sessions - Mon 27th and Tues 28th May:

During the afternoons of Monday 27th and Tuesday 28th May, all S3 classes will take part in our

**Build Your Future activities.** 

Throughout the afternoon of Monday 27th May, 3C1, 3K1, 3F1 and 3S1 will take part in one of our career workshops. These workshops, offered by a range of local employers, are designed to give you a taste of an industry which you might be interested in pursuing in the future. During the afternoon of Tuesday 28th May, 3F2, 3M1, 3M2 and 3S2 will be invited to take part in a similar selection of career workshops.

A Google Form has been shared to the Google Classroom for your registration class. Please read through the options available, and complete the form, choosing your first and second preference from the activities on offer. Every attempt will be made to allocate you to either your first or second preference,



however some of the workshops on offer have a strict limit on the number of pupils who can take part and you may be allocated a different activity. Please complete this form before 5 pm on Friday 17th May.

These workshops are designed to give our S3 pupils an introduction to the world of work. The activities on offer will allow pupils to get a taste of a career they might be interested in while finding out more about which skills and qualities are important within those industries.

Mr Abberley-Nicoll, Principal Teacher Developing the Young Workforce.

## Junior and Senior Prizegiving - Wed 22.5.24

Congratulations to the pupils who have been nominated to receive awards at the Junior and Senior Prizegiving ceremonies next week on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

There will be a rehearsal for all prize winners on <u>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May</u> as follows:

- All pupils should register with their teachers before attending the rehearsal with Mr Corser in the Theare at the following times:
  - o Junior Prizegiving Rehearsal Tues 21st May Periods 1 and 2
  - Senior Prizegiving Rehearsal Tues 21<sup>st</sup> May Periods 3 and 4

All pupils should attend their rehearsal <u>in full school uniform, including black footwear</u> as an official photographer from Pixel8 Photography will be there to take individual prize winner photographs and parents/carers will have an option to buy these if they so wish.

## **Senior Prizegiving:**

This ceremony will be held on Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 9.15 for a 9.30am prompt start.

Pupils attending can leave their bags and jackets in G4 (next to Mrs Buchan's office).

Mr C McLean will be taking photographs during the ceremony therefore, pupils should wear <u>full school uniform</u> <u>including black footwear</u> and there will be opportunities to take family photographs in the sunken social area after the ceremony where refreshments and celebration cake will be served.

# **Junior Prizegiving:**

This ceremony will be on Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 11.45 for a 12.00pm prompt start.

Junior prizewinners will be released from class at 11.40am and a 'grab and go' lunch will be available to them in the canteen if they so wish. Junior prizewinners can also leave their bags and jackets in G4 (next to Mrs Buchan's office).

Mr C McLean will be taking photographs during the ceremony, therefore, pupils should wear <u>full school uniform</u> <u>including black footwear</u> there will be opportunities to take family photographs in the sunken social area after the ceremony where refreshments and celebration cake will be served.

We look forward to congratulating all prize winners on their awards next week and hearing our musicians perform at the ceremonies.

## **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



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/



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

# **SQA Exam Timetable:**

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

Pleases 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.

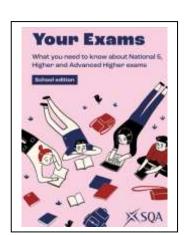
Build your own online timetable

# MyStudyPlan app

Organise your revision by creating your own study plan.

<u>Download MyStudyPlan from the App Store</u>.





Download MyStudyPlan for Android.

## **Helping your Teens with Exam Stress:**

Parent Club resources are now available to help parents & carers to support their teens with the stress of exams. Nobody likes exams. But some teens find them particularly stressful and difficult, especially S4s who may be sitting exams for the first time this year.

Parent Club has tips and advice for parents & carers to help them support their teen if they are struggling to cope with exam stress - along with what to do if it all gets a bit too much.

You can find out more on the Parent Club website:-

https://www.parentclub.scot/articles/how-cope-exam-stress

## Message from Rachael Jarvis, Canteen Supervisor:

Please could parents/carers ensure that pupils on study leave have funds on their accounts to pay for food/drinks and any debt they may have. Any pupils not returning after study leave need to have all payments cleared and no debt left at the kitchen. Thank R Jarvis.

# Calling all Higher Art and Photography pupils! 🥕

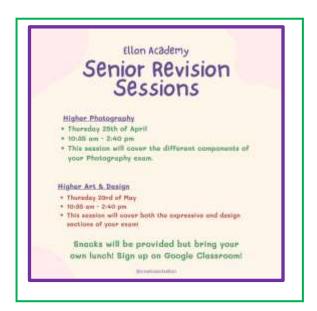


Revision sessions will take place during study leave in the Art Department with Miss Geoghan.

These sessions will cover the various areas of your exam for Higher Photography and Higher Art & Design. Attendance is highly recommended. Final

If you are attending a session, put your name on the sign-up sheet in Miss Geoghan's classroom or on Google Classroom.

- All pupils must sign in and sign out at the office when they arrive and leave school during study leave.
- All pupils must be in school uniform when they attend the revision day.
- Snacks will be provided by Miss Geoghan, but you will need to bring your own lunch.



# Digi24 – Digital Champions Leadership Conference

We were delighted to host a Digi2 Conference yesterday for our superdouper Digital Champions in S1, S2 and S3. Watch this space for lots of photos and info next week!

# Important Information for Parents/Carers from National Crime Agency Alert - Financially Motivated Sexual Extortion

The following information has been provided to schools by the National Crime Agency in order to raise your awareness of this issue and outline how to address it should you become aware of situation involving a child in your care. In school we will be reminding the children of how to use the internet safely and about the importance of speaking to a trusted adult if they find themselves in a situation where they feel uncomfortable or that worries them.

All schools in the UK have recently been sent information from the National Crime Agency, raising awareness of the recent rise in reporting of financially motivated sexual extortion (a type of online blackmail often known in the media as 'sextortion'). Children and young people worldwide are being targeted.

This type of crime involves an adult offender (often from an organised crime group based overseas) threatening to release nude or semi-nude images and/or videos of a child or young person, unless they pay money, or meet another financial demand, such as purchasing a pre-paid gift card.

Victims of any age and gender can be targets, however a large proportion of cases have involved male victims aged 14-18.

A child or young person is never to blame if they have been a victim. Offenders will have tricked, groomed and/or manipulated them into sharing an image.

Find out more about online blackmail on CEOP Education's parents and carers website.

# Talking to your child/young person:

It's important to have frequent, open, and non-judgemental conversations with your child about relationships, sex and being online to build trust and support them if something goes wrong. Financially motivated sexual extortion should be included in those conversations. Here are some tips about how to approach this:

- Chat regularly about their life online: have ongoing conversations with them about their life and time online. Continue to take an interest as they grow, explore new apps and sites together and talk in a balanced way, considering the benefits and the potential harms.
- Talk about where to find information about relationships and sex: organisations like <u>CEOP Education</u>,
   <u>Childline</u> and <u>Brook</u> have age-appropriate advice topics such as sexual communication and image sharing.
   This will help your child to understand what unhealthy relationships look like, such as applying pressure and blackmail; and give them trusted sources of information to explore these topics.
- Review privacy settings: talk to your child about the importance of using privacy settings on their
  accounts to restrict who can contact them. Read CEOP Education's advice on <a href="https://example.com/how-to-talk-your-child-about-their-privacy-settings">how to talk your child about their privacy-settings</a>.
- Make sure they know where to go for support: let them know that they can come to you with any
  concerns and won't be judged. It's also important to make them aware of other trusted adults or sources
  of support, if they feel they can't talk to you, such as Childline.
- Make sure they know where to report and remind your child how you can help them to report an incident
  to the police or using the CEOP Safety Centre. Let them now that if a nude or semi-nude of them has been
  shared without their consent, they can take these 3 steps to try and get them removed:
  - 1. Use <u>Report Remove</u>, a tool from Childline and the Internet Watch Foundation. Your child can use this to remove images that have been shared or might be shared.
  - 2. Use <u>Take It Down</u>, a tool from the National Centre for Missing and Exploited Children. Your child can use this to remove or stop the online sharing of images or videos.
  - 3. Report directly to the platform or app that the incident has occurred on. For advice on how to report to major social media platforms, visit <u>Internet Matters</u>.

To learn more about what resources are available to help you support your child, visit the <u>UK Safer Internet</u> <u>Centre</u>.

## What can I do if this has happened to my child?

If your child tells you that someone is trying to trick, threaten or blackmail them online:

- Don't pay, do stop contact and block: you may be tempted to pay, but there is no guarantee that this will stop the threats. As the offender's motive is to get money, once you have shown you can pay, they will likely ask for more and blackmail may continue. If you have paid, don't panic but don't pay anything more. Help your child to stop all communication with the offender and block them on any accounts that they have been contacted on.
- Avoid deleting anything: try not to delete anything that could be used as evidence such as messages, images, and bank account details.
- Report to the police or CEOP: call 101 or 999 if there is an immediate risk of harm to your child. Or you can use the <u>CEOP Safety Centre</u> to report any online blackmail attempts.

If it has already happened and your child has shared an image and sent money to someone exploiting them:

- Reassure them that they've done the right thing by telling you: make sure they know they are not to blame for what has happened and they have done the right thing to ask for your help.
- Children and young people's mental health may be negatively impacted by experiences of exploitation; you can find advice on looking after your child's mental health from the NHS.
- Report to the police or CEOP: call 101 or 999 if there is an immediate risk of harm to your child. Or you
  can use the <u>CEOP Safety Centre</u> to report an incident. If your child is 18 and over, call 101 or 999 if they
  are at risk of immediate harm.
- Report any images or videos that have been shared: help your child to remove images that are online or prevent images being shared online by following these three steps:
  - 1. Use <u>Report Remove</u>, a tool from Childline and the Internet Watch Foundation. Your child can use this to remove images that have been shared or might be shared.
  - 2. Use <u>Take It Down</u>, a tool from the National Centre for Missing and Exploited Children. Your child can use this to remove or stop the online sharing of images or videos.
  - 3. Report directly to the platform or app that the incident has occurred on. For advice on how to report to major social media platforms, visit <u>Internet Matters</u>.



# **Pupil Achievement:**

Last week our S3 Geographers set off on an Urban field trip to Aberdeen.

They looked at the inner city, the Central Business District, and the suburbs. They also managed a look around Marischal Square and the Art Gallery.

Miss Tomlinson reported that the pupils were great, and they had a lovely day.



# **Pupil Achievement:**

U15 Girls Aberdeenshire Cup Final. Ellon 5-2 Kemnay.

We are so proud of our girls this week, as they retained the North of Scotland cup that they won last year. The girls put in an excellent performance, in a roasting hot night in Rothienorman, against a very good Kemnay side, who made it a very difficult first half for our girls.

Ellon found themselves 0-1 down after only 5 mins, but Millie B soon equalised. Ellon went 2-1 in front after brilliant play by Myah R, who set up her sister Ava R to fire Ellon into a 2-1 lead. Kemnay equalised just before half time with a wonderful lob from outside the box. Half time saw the sides all level at 2-2. A tactical switch, which left some of our girls shaking their heads at in disbelief, saw Alisha M playing further up the park. The gamble paid off and she powered in a header from a Myah R corner to put Ellon 3-2 in front. More good play from Alisha set up Chloe W to add a 4th, before Alisha scored her 2nd of the evening and completed the scoring. An excellent squad performance, where every player played their part, and all contributed at vital stages of the game.

Players of match - Millie B's contribution and control of midfield was second to none on the pitch again. Alisha M also had a very strong performance alongside Emily S and had a hand in all 3 of our second half goals. So, Millie and Alisha share player of the match. A special mention too to Edie I who had a very good game when she came on and Neve A, who played her best game yet for the school. Also, Myah R's footwork is a joy to watch! That's one trophy won, the league will be played to a climax soon and we have 2 games left against Turriff next Wednesday and also Inverurie. There is also the North of Scotland final to be played, against either Inverurie or Turriff. Could be a very, very good season. Well done all!



## **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

## S1/2 PUPILS – NETBALL CLUB

Due to the Games Hall being used for exams, Junior Netball will now take place in Gym B on the following dates:

Thurs 23.5.24 - S1 only

Miss Williams and Miss Morgan

## S1/2/3 PUPILS - BADMINTON CLUB

Due to the Games Hall being used for exams, only Gym A and Gym B will be available for Badminton Club. This means we will have to revert to a year group rota (due to numbers). Please get in touch if you have any questions:

Mon 20.5.24 - S2/S3 only

Mon 27.5.24 - S1 only

Miss Morgan and Mr Hatfield

## **S2 PUPILS – FOOTBALL**

Football training will now take place every Tuesday on the grass pitches (15:30-16:30). Please keep an eye on Google Classroom for updates regarding training sessions and future games. Mr Caskie

## **ALL PUPILS**

The Garden Club will resume on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May – all welcome. Miss Swallow.

# Fund Raising for Maggie's

Rachael C 5K1, her mum and brother have signed up to participate in Maggie's Culture Crawl this year, taking place on June 21st. They will be walking 6 miles around different areas of Aberdeen, which will be awesome! These different areas will include food/ drink/ entertainment etc, so it adds to the experience! Maggie's provides support for those affected with Cancer, whether it be emotional, practical, physical, financial support, or for those with younger children, and other family members. As part of this exciting opportunity, they have to do a wee spot of fundraising!

They have a Mint Aero Chocolate Hamper for £2.00 per square.

A Galaxy Chocolate Hamper to be raffled off, £2.00 per square.

3 different Sweetie Bouquets to be raffled off, £2.00 per square.

Two x 1000-piece jigsaw + a 2025 Calendar to be raffled off- £ 2.00 per square.

Payment can be made through our Just Giving page @



https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/SusanClark2024?utm\_campaign=lc\_frp\_share\_transaction\_fundraiser\_p\_age\_launched&utm\_content=678913f2-e675-4adf-93b4-368064d44e4d&utm\_medium=email&utm\_source=postoffice&utm\_term=1708890116649

Or PayPal / Bank Transfer/ cash.

Thank you.



## **University of Aberdeen**

# **Medicine Information Evening for Parents and Carers**

## FAO Parents/ Carers of pupils interested in Medicine.

The University of Aberdeen School of Medicine would like to invite parents and carers to their upcoming Medicine Information Evening on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June. This is targeted at parents and carers of secondary school pupils who are considering studying Medicine at University.

The event will feature a range of key speakers including Doctors, Medical Students, and the Admissions Lead for Medicine. We will discuss some of the main aspects of a degree in medicine, career opportunities, and subject requirements. We will also share information on the application and selection process for medical school.

#### **Event location and times**

The information evening will be held at the Suttie Centre, Foresterhill Campus in Aberdeen. Registration will open at 17:30 for an 18:00 start. We anticipate the session to end at 20:00.

#### **Event Programme**

The evening will feature a range of speakers including medical professionals, current students, and the Admissions Lead for Medicine. The programme will be released one week prior to the event.

#### How can I book?

Booking is open now online at <a href="https://gck.fm/ombpw">https://gck.fm/ombpw</a>

When booking please select if you would like to bring any additional guests. Young people are also welcome but please include them as a guest. If you select 0 guests, this will give a place to the person filling in the form only. The maximum number of guests allowed is 2 as spaces are limited. We will operate a waitlist if the event is fully booked.

## **Getting to the Suttie Centre**

The Suttie Centre is labelled as building 13 on the campus map at

https://www.abdn.ac.uk/about/documents/Foresterhill-Campus.pdf. The nearest bus stops are on Ashgrove Road West or at the main reception of ARI. Free parking is available in the University Car park for the purposes of this event, accessed via Ashgrove Road West from 5pm onwards. There is no need to display a permit in the university car park after business hours. More information on getting to the Suttie Centre can be found at https://www.abdn.ac.uk/suttie-centre/getting-here/index.php.

# I can't make the event. Are there other opportunities to visit?

Our next Open Day for Medicine will be on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2024. Booking is now open at www.abdn.ac.uk/openday.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

We look forward to welcoming you to the University of Aberdeen.

Kind regards,

Anna

On behalf of University of Aberdeen School of Medicine, Medical Science, and Nutrition

## Anna Johnston

Lead Access & Articulation Officer

Directorate of External Relations University of Aberdeen +44 (0)1224 273117 www.abdn.ac.uk



## \*\*EASA RAFFLE\*\*

This year's EASA Raffle will take place at the Dance Showcase on Thursday the 27th of June. Tickets for the raffle will be available to buy on the night at the showcase.

Last year we raised an amazing £1347 for EASA and this money has gone towards equipment, uniforms, and subsidising bus costs.



# **SAAS** information for Parents/Carers:

Do you know a young person heading to college or university?

We recommend applying early for 2024-25 courses to ensure funding is in place prior to their course starting. For information on types of funding, eligibility and how to apply, visit <a href="www.saas.gov.uk">www.saas.gov.uk</a>. #StartWithSAAS



# **Introducing Enterprising Aberdeenshire:**





# **Dates for Your Diary:**

Term 4:

w/b 20.5.24 Uniform checks

Mon 20.5.24 Ellon Academy Pupil Senate - Library w/b 20.5.24 S1 Final Reports issue this week.

Wed 22.5.24 Junior (11.45am for 12pm) and Senior (9.15am for 9.30am) Prizegiving Ceremonies

Thurs 23.5.24 P7 Values Day Fri 24.5.24 S6 Prom - Lochter

Mon/Tues 27/28th May S3 Build Your Future/Entrepreneurship Days

Wed 29<sup>th</sup> – Fri 31<sup>st</sup> May S1/2/3 Activities Days

Fri 31.5.24 S2/3 Tracking Report (2) issue.

Mon 3.6.24 Change of timetable

Thurs 6.6.24 Sports Day

Tues 11.6.24 Parent Council Meeting (In-person at Ellon Academy), 7.00pm – 8.30pm

25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> June P7 Induction Days Wed 26.6.24 P7 Parents Evening

Thurs 27.6.24 Dance Showcase – 7pm Theatre
Tues 2.7.24 Drama Showcase – 7.30pm 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/

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

P Buchan

Rector 17.5.24