

Fernielea Features

Happy Safe Achieving



May 2016

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We are now in our fourth week of a very busy term which has started on a very positive note with Culture Week and chicks hatching in our junior end. There is always a lot to cover this term, along with hopefully many opportunities to work outside, weather permitting!

Children had their class photograph taken a few weeks ago and hopefully you will be pleased with the results. Please return your envelope with your order as soon as possible but must be returned **no later than 3pm on Wednesday 25 May**.

The inservice day on Tuesday 3rd May was very productive; staff were trained in the use of Numicon which is a fabulous Maths resource that will provide the opportunity for challenge and support in Maths and Numeracy for all of our pupils. On the closure day for the Scottish Elections, the staff were developing their understanding on how to improve reading comprehension for all of our children. This will be shared with parents at the start of next term. These training sessions go towards developing areas of our School Improvement Plan.

Staffing

This term we welcome Mrs Margaret Carnie, Miss Christine Cooper and Mrs Cara Coleman as our new Pupil Support Assistants. Everyone has been very welcoming towards them and I hope they enjoy working with us all in Fernielea.

School Reports and Parents' Evening

Many parents returned the response slip commenting on their child's report last term - thank you for this as it allows us to work with you on supporting your child's learning. You should have received information about parents evening on Thursday 12 May. Final appointment times were sent home at the end of last week. Please look out for the slip in your child's book bag!

Fernielea's Chicks

Primary One classes became proud 'parents' of 10 chicks. They hatched from their eggs in their incubator and the children were able to watch and learn how it happens. In total, 4 female and 6 male chicks hatched and the children were involved in looking after them and noting the changes that took place over the 2 weeks they were with us. The



chicks have now been re-homed with one of our Fernielea families and we look forward to updates on their growth. Pictures of the project will be on the blog soon!

Topics for this term

Across the school the main focus is Health and Wellbeing. Each class will have a different aspect of this ensuring all areas of the curriculum are taught. Please have a look at your class newsletter, which is on the class blogs, to check the specifics of the topic. Once again, if you can help with any of these projects please let us know.

Nursery	Ourselves and Living Things
P1	Look at me growing
P2	Human Body
P3	Healthy Food, Healthy Bodies
P3/4	Being Healthy and Fairtrade
P4	Healthy Eating and Fairtrade
P5	Living & Growing, Transport and Building Developments
P5/6	Living & Growing, Changes as we Grow
P6	Changes as we Grow
P7	Changes and Choices

Pupil Council – Latest Developments

This term we will be reviewing/up-dating our Anti-Bullying Policy. All classes will be involved in Anti-bullying lessons and will come together to share ideas and views. We would also like to gain the views of the parents regarding bullying. We would ask for some parents, along with pupil council representatives, to be part of a working party, with. This will help create the new policy. If you are interested, there will be a chance to volunteer your services at the Parents' Evening on 12th May.

Our Playground

We frequently talk to the children about being responsible citizens both in and out of school. Part of this is thinking about others and one of our cycling / scooting rules in school is that from 8.30 - 3.30 children will walk with their bike or scooter in the playground. This avoids unnecessary "crashes".

Please help us with this. Children are more than welcome to come back to school on their bikes or scooters as long as they are responsible. The playground is a great, safe place to learn how to cycle.

As the nights are getting lighter, I am aware that more children are playing in our playground in the evenings. Please remind your child to be safe and again responsible when they are out playing. Sadly we have had some minor acts of vandalism in school at the weekends which we always report to the police. We would also encourage our pupils to be thoughtful and responsible towards our neighbours when playing in the community.

Culture Week

On the second week of term, the children participated in Culture Week. Every class learned about a country and parents and members of our community came into school to share information about specific countries. Some children were dressed in traditional clothing, and also helped to cook Nigerian, Gambian, Scottish and Indian food. We also enjoyed Indian Drumming workshops and even danced Bollywood Zumba! Many parents came in to help and the week was a fantastic success. The P1 - P7 children also went to see the Watoto Children's Choir perform. The children created displays showcasing what they had learned and then shared their experiences in a whole class assembly - "Around the World in 60 Minutes!" Here is just a small selection of photographs from the week. More on the blog soon.



Holiday dates for session 2015 - 2016

The main dates for the holidays next session have been approved by the council. I have added in the inservice days which have now been agreed by the council.

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15 August 2016	Inservice Day - School Closed
16 August 2016	School starts for pupils Term 1
23 & 26 September	September Weekend
10 - 21 October	Holiday
24 October	School starts for pupils Term 2
18 November	Inservice Day - School Closed
23 December	Last day term
26 December - 6 January	Holiday
09 January 2017	School starts for pupils Term 3
13 February	Holiday
14 February	Inservice Day - School Closed
15 February	Inservice Day - School Closed
3 - 17 April	Holiday
18 April	School starts for pupils Term 4
01 May	Holiday
02 May	Inservice Day - School Closed
30 June 2017	Last day of term

Please try to take your holiday during the children's breaks as holidays during term time will usually be classed as unauthorised.

Dates for your diary

12 May	Parents' Evening P1-7 classes
19 May	P7 pupils Transition Visit to Hazlehead Academy
23 - 27 May	P7 Residential Week at Ardeonaig
25 May	Nursery Sports (PM class only - 2.30-3pm) - weather permitting
26 May	Nursery Sports (Am Class only - 10.30-11am) - weather permitting
3 June	ECO Day of Action - A Focus on Water
8 June	School Sports Day P1- 7 - weather permitting
23 June	School closed - Election Day
22 - 24 June	P7 pupils to Hazlehead Academy -3 day visit
30 June	Parent Council Disco
01 July	School Closes for Summer Holidays
15 August 2016	Inservice Day
16 August	School starts for pupils