

Fernielea Features

Happy Safe Achieving



February 2016

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Welcome back to a Busy Spring Term

After a few weeks in school, the holidays seem like a long and distant memory! I hope you and your family had an enjoyable time over the holidays. As you know Mrs Webb has begun a secondment with Education Scotland. She asked if a message of thanks could be passed to the school community.

"I would like to thank all the parents and children for their kind wishes and gifts at the end of last term. I must say I was overwhelmed by your generosity. I have been extremely busy in my post as an Attainment Advisor for Education Scotland, however I have kept in touch with staff in school and have been hearing about some of the exciting events over the last month. I visit the website regularly and the photos from the school ceilidh and the visits to the Toby for a Scottish breakfast looked very enjoyable! I was also delighted to hear that a number of parents came to the E-Safety event organised as part of our ICT safety awareness. This is a very important area and just yesterday I was watching information on the national news to make parents aware of the current issues. Thank you to Miss Forno for her coordination."

Parking Safety

There are a number of concerns regarding parents parking in the kitchen car park which is accessed via Stronsay Place. This car park is for staff use only and for delivery vehicles and this is indicated by new signage. It is extremely dangerous to park in this car park as it is a Health and Safety issue because it prevents kitchen staff from parking safely, without blocking emergency exits and there are delivery vehicles requiring access at all times. If you have a difficulty and require to park in the main school car park, please contact us and this can be arranged if appropriate. Once again Rev Shewan has kindly offered the car park in the church - please be respectful and do not park on the grass in the church grounds.



Staffing

Joanne Dugan, one of our Pupil Support Assistants, is sadly leaving us, but it is exciting that she is at long last going to put her hard earned degree to good use helping families in Aberdeen. Her last day will be on Friday 12th February. She has worked in Fernielea for many years and she has supported children all across the school and in the playground. We wish her well in her new position.

Topics

This term all the classes will be studying different aspects of Scotland - the history and geography as part of our Social Studies focused work. It links with the focus on our language and traditions. Scottish language has a significant part to play in the language curriculum. All children were once again asked to learn, by heart, a Scottish poem for our Burns Celebrations which was held in school. They were fantastic and many children performed their poems in front of the whole school!

Nursery	Where we Live
Primary 1	Scotland through Balamory
Primary 2	Scotland Through Katie Morag
Primary 3	Aberdeen / Apardion
Primary 4	The Vikings
Primary 5	Mary Queen of Scots
Primary 5/6	The Scottish Wars of Independence
Primary 6	The Victorians / Europe
Primary 7	Scotland in World War II



The children will be asked over the term to study an area in greater depth - a personal research topic. This will be on an aspect of their topic which interests them and may be part of their homework.

This will give our children more choice in aspects of their learning and hopefully lead to greater independence in their work.

Birthdays

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to everyone for their support in helping us to encourage healthy choices regarding sending birthday cakes in school. The children have their birthdays recognised in their class and get a birthday sticker. We ask that you do not send in alternative food items ie small sweets, cake bars etc. The Pupil Council decided that we will celebrate everyone's birthdays together in June, as a whole school.

Charities Committee News

Thank you to all of those who donated money at the end of the Christmas Concerts. A fantastic £367.16 was collected! The chosen charity was the



British Heart Foundation.

Instead of sending Christmas cards, Staff also donated to the charity. The amount raised was £34.00 - so an incredible total of £401.16 was donated to The British Heart Foundation .

Planned Activities



Thursday 3rd March - World Book Day

Your child is invited to **dress as their favourite book character** - no charge will be made. The committee will also be organising a book swap on the same day. Children are encouraged to bring in a book they no longer read that is in good condition and age appropriate for school children. They can then select from others and take home a different one. This encourages re-use and recycling of books and allows children to see the range available. Any remaining books will then be sold for 10p each on Friday 4th March in the front foyer and the proceeds donated to Book Aid.

P6 Victorian Trip

The P6 class went on a trip around Aberdeen to learn about the Victorians. We looked at Victorian buildings - churches, schools, banks and houses. Mr Patterson taught us how to figure out if a house was built in Victorian times. Most of them were built from granite or sandstone and had decorative features like finials and bay windows.

It was very cold but we still learned a lot.

We also visited the Maritime Museum and handled things from the past like real furs, toys, stiff collars and cuffs.

By Chloe and Oliwier P6



P7 World War 2 Trip

The P7 class have been learning about World War 2 and we visited the Gordon Highlanders' Museum. We saw medals and weapons and found out lots of information about what it was like during the war. Then we went to meet Mr Patterson who took us to see a real concrete air-raid shelter. We got to go inside and listen to a recording of a lady who had to go into that shelter during air-raids. Mr Patterson let us hear a real air-raid siren. It was loud! The shelter was cramped and damp. We also got to use an old fashioned water pump to practise putting out an imaginary fire. We travelled around the streets and looked for evidence from the past. It was a cold but we still had a good time.

By Kiera and Milly P7



Dates for your diary

15 February	Half Term Holiday - School Closed
16 February	Inservice Day - School Closed
17 February	Inservice Day - School Closed
3 March	World Book Day - dress as your favourite book character & Book Swap
4 March	Book Aid Book Sale - 10p a book
25 March	School Closed - Good Friday
1 April	Last day of term
18 April	School Starts for Summer Term
28 April	School Photographer
2 May	May Day Holiday - School Closed
3 May	Inservice Day - School Closed
5 May	Elections - School Closed
12 May	Parents' Evening and Half Price Book Fair
2 June	School Sports
3 June	School Sports
30 June	Parent Council Disco
1 July	Last day of term
15 August	Inservice Day - School Closed
16 August	School Starts for pupils
23 September	September Holiday weekend - School Closed
26 September	September Holiday weekend - School Closed
7 October	Last day of Autumn Term
24 October	School Starts for pupils
23 December	Last day of Winter Term

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