

# Fernielea Features

June 2016



If you have any comments about any of the information please let us know

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## Summer Approaches....

This term is always really busy and I don't know where the year has gone! This being our third last week, once again I am proud to say we have had another very successful year at Fernielea School. Our P7 pupils are busy rehearsing their end of term show and then they will be going out to visit their new secondary schools. We are looking forward to welcoming our new P1 and Early Learning Class pupils after summer. Children throughout the school have worked hard and have made good progress academically. I hope the Summer holidays are full of sunshine and that everyone can enjoy some quality family time together.

## Classes for Next Session and Staffing updates

I know many of you are now thinking about your child's class for next year. The classes have now been composed and children will be meeting their new class teacher next week. We will start the year with 11 classes, the same as we have had this year. Due to the high number of pupils wishing to attend our school, some of our classes are nearly full next session. I am confident your child will be happy with their new teacher. Mrs Kathleen Reynolds (or Ritchie as some of you may remember her) our Early Years Practitioner in the Red Early Learning Class, will be retiring this summer after 22 years here at Fernielea. I would like to thank Mrs Reynolds for all her hard work over the years, working with many parents and children - including some who now have their own children in our Early Learning Classes! We will be saying good luck to Mrs Eloff who goes on maternity leave at the end of term and welcome back to Mrs Craig and Mrs Lamb who will both be returning from maternity leave. Next session we welcome two new teachers, Miss Stephanie Philip and Miss Catriona Bain. Over the holidays, Miss Hodge will be getting married, and will be returning as Mrs Torrens. We hope the sun shines on her wedding day. I would like to thank all the staff for their hard work once again and hope that they too have a very relaxing holiday!

## School Uniform Swap

The Eco Council and Parent Council will hold a Uniform swap on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June** between 2pm and 3pm in the school hall. If you have any uniform items to donate that are in good, clean condition please drop them off at the front of the school on the morning of Monday 27<sup>th</sup> or Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June. The items will be laid out for you to see and take away if they are suitable. Teas and coffees will be provided by the Parent Council.

## Sports Day Results P1-7

We managed to get our Sports Day completed on our chosen day this year and it was a fantastic afternoon for everyone! The rain stayed away and the children seemed to enjoy themselves. It was great to see so many parents and friends join us, it makes such a difference to have you all cheering the children on. Edinburgh ended up as overall winners.

1<sup>st</sup> Place     **Edinburgh**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place     **Stirling**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place     **Fraser**  
4<sup>th</sup> Place     **Crathes**



## Nursery Sports Day

The boys and girls of both nurseries had a very enjoyable time at their Sports Days. Again, there was a large crowd of supporters cheering the children on in the afternoon and in the morning. Thank you so much.



## Den Day

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June, the whole school will spend time outside building dens with their classmates. They will work co-operatively to create them and then spend time in them. This is to raise money for Save the Children. Children can wear comfortable, outdoor clothes which are suitable for the weather on the day. Each child will be asked for a donation of £1.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY OLD CLEAN BLANKETS/SHEETS, TARPAULINS, BOXES, CARDBOARD, PEGS, WASHING LINES, please bring them in to school this week so that we all have things to build with.**



All items will be recycled after the activity.

## Cashless Card System

The introduction of the new cashless card system for school lunches has been delayed and will hopefully now be introduced in September. You will receive information prior to implementation.

## Parking

Again I am writing to advise parents to park safely around the school. I have been contacted by Police Scotland who are also concerned about the unsafe practices that have been reported to them. Do not park on yellow lines at any time and do not park on the pavement. It is for your child's safety! Can I also remind you that the small car park and main car park are strictly for staff only. I would also like to share my disappointment that cars are being parked on the grass areas in the Summerhill Church car park. Rev Shewan kindly allows parents to park there but the grass is being damaged by inconsiderate parking.

## Summer Reading Challenge

Next school session, our aim is to encourage more children to read for enjoyment. We will be doing this in many different ways but a good way to start is to encourage as many pupils as possible to participate in the Summer Reading Challenge. It is organised by our local libraries and TESCO and it is a programme of activities and challenges for which the children can earn certificates and prizes. The main theme this year is Roald Dahl stories. We will share this information with the children in assembly before the end of term. The Challenge website is [www.bigfriendlyread.org.uk](http://www.bigfriendlyread.org.uk). Alternatively you can find out more at your local library or at [www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/Library](http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/Library). It looks like great fun and it will give your child the opportunity to keep progressing their reading skills over the summer holidays.

## School Uniform

Over the holidays I know almost everyone will be purchasing new school uniform. May I remind you that our school uniform is available to order on-line from John Lewis - [www.johnlewis.com](http://www.johnlewis.com) Examples for sizing etc. are available in the John Lewis Department Store in George Street where you can also use their on-line ordering service. A school fleece is also available. Shoe bags and replacement book bags are available from the school office. The wearing of school uniform promotes pride in the school and illustrates that we are all an equal part of Fernielea. The Fernielea School uniform is:

### GIRLS

School sweatshirt  
White blouse or school polo-shirt.  
Black or grey skirt/trousers.  
Black low heeled shoes.

### BOYS

School sweatshirt  
White shirt or school polo-shirt.  
Black or grey trousers.  
Black school shoes.

All school clothing should be clearly labelled with your **child's name**. It's surprising the amount of "lost property" we are left with at the end of each term.

If you think you are entitled to a clothing grant (see information below) please ask Mrs Smith in the school office for a form - or alternatively you can access it on the city council website. [http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/community\\_life\\_leisure/grants\\_and\\_funding/grant\\_maintenance.asp](http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/community_life_leisure/grants_and_funding/grant_maintenance.asp)

## Clothing Grant - Who is entitled to a clothing grant?

You may be eligible for a school clothing and footwear grant if you are in receipt of any of the following:

- Income Support,
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance AND/OR any income related element of Employment and Support Allowance (ESA),
- Child Tax Credit but not Working Tax with an annual income of less than £16,105 or Universal Credit
- Both maximum Child Tax Credit and maximum Working Tax Credit with an annual income of less than £6420
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Housing Benefit AND/OR Council Tax Benefit (25% single adult discount does not apply)

## Free School Meals - Who is entitled to free school meals?

All P1 - P3 pupils are automatically entitled to free school meals. If your child is moving to P4 or above, they may be eligible for free school meals if their parents or carers are in receipt of one of the following:

Income Support

Income-based Job seekers Allowance (JSA)

Any income related element of Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)

Child Tax Credit (CTC) but not Working Tax Credit (WTC), with an income under £16105

Both maximum Child Tax Credit (CTC) and maximum Working Tax Credit (WTC) with an income under £6420.

Support under Part V1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Universal Credit

If you think your child is entitled to free school meals, please contact the school office for an application form.

## School Birthday Celebration

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> we will also be celebrating the whole school's birthday. We no longer allow birthday cakes in school for individual birthdays so the Pupil Council decided that we should celebrate everyone's birthday on the same day as the school's. The school's actual birthday is 22<sup>nd</sup> June but we are busy meeting our new teachers on that day so we are celebrating it on Den Day to make the day even more exciting!



## Dates until the end of term

15 June	NED Show P1-7 (letters issued)
17 June	P4 Fairtrade Assembly Den Day £1 donation for Save the Children - casual dress for outdoors School Birthday Celebrations for pupils
20 June	P3 & P4 Trip to Hazlehead Park - Play on the Longest Day P5 Trip to Alford Transport Museum
22 - 24 June	P7 pupils to Hazlehead Academy -3 day visit
22 June	Moving Up Day where pupils meet their new teacher
23 June	Election Day - (School closed to pupils)
28 June	P2 Trip to The St Nicholas City Centre Garden Eco Committee's Uniform Swap, 2-3pm in the hall; coffees & teas provided
30 June	P1 trip to Easter Anguston Farm P7 Leavers' Show to Parents Nursery Disco (during school hours) P1-7 Parent Council Summer Disco
01 July	Last day of term
15 August	In-service day (School closed to pupils)
16 August	<b>School re-opens for pupils</b>