

Fernielea Features

Happy, safe, achieving



November 2016

Tel: 01224 318533

Welcome back to Term 2. I hope you all had a relaxing October break. We are now in a very busy term with many different projects taking place involving the children. We are continuing to visit Rosewell House Nursing Home and Summerhill Lodge Nursing Home to share our stories that we have written; sing songs; play games and chat to the residents. It is very quickly becoming the highlight of our week!

We also came back to **THE MOST EXCITING NEWS!**

Fernielea has been awarded its first ever

GREEN FLAG award! The ECO Committee are delighted as are all of the pupils and staff. It is a huge achievement. We were congratulated on the many ECO activities that take place every year and the fact that many ECO Schools principles are embedded in everything we do. We will now begin the process of flagpole shopping so that we can display our Green Flag outside our school with pride!



Now that the colder weather is here please ensure you dress your child warmly and appropriately for all weather conditions as we always try to get the children out for fresh air at break times. If your child is wearing wellington boots to school, please may they have shoes to change into - wellies are not the most comfortable footwear for the whole day! Thanks!

School Uniform

John Lewis has informed us that they will no longer be supplying Fernielea's school uniform. We have therefore begun the process of securing a new supplier which is easy for you all to access, that offers good quality and reasonable prices. We will be offering 2 suppliers, one of which will be Koolskools, a company that supplies Fairtrade Cotton School Uniforms. The ECO committee had enquired about the possibility of using Koolskools and we were pleasantly surprised by the quality and cost. The Fairtrade uniform will only be available online and will be delivered to your home. Information about the Fairtrade uniform is on www.koolskools.co.uk More information will be provided nearer the time of the launch in December.

Email Fernielea@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Website www.fernielea.aberdeen.sch.uk

Staffing

At the end of last term we said goodbye to Miss Philip as she moved to a new position. We wish her well in her new position. Miss Jackson is now teaching the P5/6 class. She taught P2 last year and worked with all of the P5/6 children previously when she taught PE so she is well known to them all.

The European Christmas Decoration Exchange Project

This term P4 are taking part in an exciting project: The European Christmas Decoration Exchange Project. So while it is maybe a little early to be getting ready for Christmas, P4 have already started making Christmas decorations to send to 30 different schools across Europe! Our decorations will be sent to Poland, Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Italy and France to name a few. Along with the decoration, we will be sending an information booklet about Aberdeen and how we celebrate Christmas here in Scotland. Then in December we will receive decorations from these same 30 countries which we will display on our school Christmas Tree.

We are looking forward to finding out about these countries and how they celebrate Christmas as well as receiving hand-made decorations from across Europe.

Community Survey

P1-7 Pupils were given the opportunity to discuss and evaluate the community they live and learn in. They were asked to work within a group, with children from different classes, to rate aspects of the school, playground and community. They were rating them HOT or NOT. The sessions went really well and good quality responses and discussions took place. The information is being collated so that it can help us formulate a plan on how we can begin to make differences in our school community.

Some of the main things that were rated as HOT (things they liked) were:

clubs after school, the green spaces, trips, clubs/activities in the community, having a garden to play in, delicious school dinners.

Some of the things that were rated as NOT (things they didn't like) were: not being able to sleep because of noisy neighbours, dog mess, litter, not enough parking, flooding, bullying, people who damage things in our community.

As you can see the children identified a huge range of positive and negative issues that we can consider further.

Flood Management Project

Next week, the P5/6 class will begin to work with Marina who is a Dee Catchment Development Officer. They will look at the school grounds and begin to plan and address the flood issues that we currently experience at Fernielea. Marina will also work with other classes over the course of Terms 2 and 3. The Aberdeen City Council Flood Engineers will also be working with the children. Plans to upgrade our playground are being considered in order to manage the flooding that impacts on us year on year. Further information about the project will be shared over the course of the year and you will also be invited to be involved, so please be prepared to join in!

Poppies

Next week, P5 will be selling Poppies for Remembrance. Poppies can be 'bought' in return for a donation. P5 pupils will go round each class in the mornings giving everyone the chance to buy a poppy. Safety pins will be provided to secure the poppies. P5 are performing their Remembrance assembly on Friday 11 November and parents from P5 are welcome to attend.



Parent Council

Our Parent Council AGM was held on 27th October and was attended by a small number of parents. An overview of the year in terms of fundraising and achievements was shared by the Chair and the Treasurer and an overview of the school's progress and the highlights of the year were shared by Mrs Walker. Several new members were voted onto the Parent Council which is fantastic news - but remember that you do not have to be a fully-fledged member of the Parent Council to volunteer your help for events over the course of the year. The next big event coming up is the Christmas Fair on 1 December. It is always a very busy event so volunteers would be greatly appreciated - even if it is just to help set up, tidy up or to help for an hour. Contact the Parent Council via private message on their Facebook page if you want to volunteer.

Coffee in the Library Sessions

Our first coffee in the Library session on Early Reading was a great success and was well received by the parents who attended. Mrs Fjellroth and Mrs Craig shared information about how children learn to read and how parents can support their child at home. Comments from parents included:

I found the meeting very rewarding.

I found the meeting very helpful, informative and inspiring.

It should be continued!

The reason we started the Coffee in the Library Sessions was due to parent's responses on the Parents' Evening Questionnaires in May 2016 requesting support in Reading, Maths and Numeracy, Health and Sexual Health Education, Internet Safety and Positive Behaviour Management.

This session so far, we have held an Internet Safety Awareness event for parents at Hazlehead Academy, an Early Reading workshop and a Reading for P3-7 workshop. We have also planned an Anti-bullying workshop for parents that will hopefully be held on the evening of November 30th. We require a minimum of 30 parents for the workshop to run so please look out for the letter that will be coming out soon.

P7 Absafe Trip

Primary 7 had a fantastic day at the charity run Absafe building. The purpose of the visit was to raise their awareness of how to keep safe in various different settings - in the home, building sites, railways, roads etc. They had a fantastic day solving problems and working together as a team.



Dates for your diary - please note that some dates may change

*Please note that the November In-Service Day is FRIDAY 18 November 2016 (NOT Monday 14 as previously published).

Date	Activity
11 November	P5 Remembrance Assembly
18 November	In-service Day - School Closed*
25 November	P5/6 Assembly
30 November	Respect Me - Anti-Bullying Event for parents
1 December	Parent Council Christmas Fair
23 December	P3 Leading the Christmas Service at Summerhill Church
23 December	Last day of Term
9 January 2017	School Starts
3 February	P6 Assembly
13 February	Holiday - School Closed
14 February	In-service Day School Closed
15 February	In-service Day School Closed
24 February	P4 Assembly
2 March	World Book Day
10 March	P3/4 Assembly
20-24 March	World of Work Week
24 March	Red Nose Day
31 March	Easter Service
31 March	Last day of Term
18 April 2017	School Starts
1 May	Holiday School Closed
2 May	In-service Day School Closed
5 May	P2 Assembly
19 May	P1/2 Assembly
22 May	P7 Residential Trip to Ardeonaig
9 June	P1 Assembly
12-16 June	Community Week
29 June	Leavers' Assembly
30 June	Last Day of Term
21 August 2017	In-service Day School Closed
22 August 2017	School Starts