



Fernielea Features



Happy, safe, achieving



RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS



September 2017

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Well, the dark nights are fairly drawing in! It is hard to believe that the October holidays are just over a week away! It was lovely to see you all at Parents' Evening last week. It was a very positive evening.

Clothing

With the colder days approaching, can I please remind you to ensure that your child takes a coat with them to school as they are out in all but extreme weather. A number of pupils came to school last week with no coat and it was pouring with rain. They were soaked through before school had even started. If your child is reluctant to take a coat - as some of the older children are, make sure they have one in their bag.

Remember - there's no such thing as bad weather - only inappropriate clothing!



School Lunches

We have listened to the comments and suggestions of parents and children and we are making a few changes to the lunchtime arrangements. Previously, in the dinner hall, children had to sit and wait for their class to finish (minimum 15 minutes) before they could go back outside to play. Now we are asking pupils to put their hand up to alert a member of staff that they are finished their lunch and want to go outside. Staff will endeavour to check what children have eaten before allowing them to go out to play. If a child hasn't eaten a lot they will be gently encouraged to have a few more spoonfuls. If the child has a packed lunch they will be asked to take all rubbish home (except for open yogurts/drinks) so that their parent can see what they have/haven't eaten. If a child persistently eats very little - you will be informed by a member of staff.

If your child is a 'fussy' eater, please look at the school lunch menu on the school website and discuss the choices with your child.



Golden Table

On a Friday, in assembly, 5 children will be selected to sit at the Golden Table with a friend of their choice. The children will be chosen in a draw from the box of Golden Tickets awarded to pupils who have followed the Golden Rules outside in the playground. The Pupil Support Assistants (PSAs) issue the tickets. Each ticket is also exchanged for a Good Choice Marble for their class. Each class is aiming to fill their Good Choice Jars in order to earn a class treat. There have been many tickets handed out this week which is very encouraging!

We WON!

Last week, Fernielea School representatives attended the Aberdeen Children and Young Peoples' Awards at the Beach Ballroom. Fernielea was nominated for an award in the Learning Through Technologies category. It was a nerve-wracking wait and we couldn't believe it when they read out, "And the winner is.....Fernielea's Google Ambassadors!"

We were all so excited. Our pupils went onto the stage to collect the award and then they had their photos taken by the press! It was an exciting evening and we are so proud of all of the hard work that Mrs Bennett and last year's P6 Google Ambassadors undertook. They taught pupils from P4-P7 and parents how to make use of Google Tools at school and at home - to access homework.

We received congratulations from many people including Kirsty Blackman (MSP) and even the head of Google UK!



Book Fair

I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents for their continued support with raising funds for the school through purchasing books from the Book Fair. It was great to see so many parents last week. Thank you also to Mrs Smith, our school administrator, and Jenna McKay from our Parent Council for once again helping us by "manning" the book fair. We have raised £777 to spend on books for school which is phenomenal! The money raised will allow us to update the library and purchase new dictionaries for each class.



School Uniform

At Parents' evening we asked parents to let us know more about their experiences of purchasing school uniforms from our new suppliers. It was very informative and on the whole, positive.

Evidently there have been some teething problems with the suppliers but we will ensure that all feedback is shared with both companies.

Coats for Kids

If you have any spare jackets that your child has outgrown, please donate them to school as sometimes children come to school with no jacket or have lost their jacket. We would ask that it is washed and in good condition.

Staffing

Mrs Morrison, PSA will be leaving us at the end of term to go on maternity leave. We look forward to hearing the good news when her baby arrives. We wish her luck !

P7 Residential Trip

Please note that all deposits for the P7 trip to Ardeonaig Outdoor Centre should be paid by Friday 06 October. If there are any issues, please contact Mrs Smith in the school office.

Early Learning Classes - Outdoor area revamp session

On Wednesday 11 October, 3.30-5pm, parents and children are invited to don their old clothes and come to revamp the outdoor area in the Early Learning Classes. There's a play house to build, plants to plant, holes to dig and fences to paint! You will be handsomely rewarded with hot chocolate and a fine piece! All children should be accompanied by an adult.

Parent Council

The Parent Council AGM is taking place at Fernielea School on Thursday 05 October from 7-8pm. Please come along and join in the discussions. You can volunteer to join the committee or just hear about everything they have achieved over the last year.

Harvest Festival

On Friday, P7S are leading the Harvest festival. They have asked families to donate a non-perishable food item which will then go to the Cyrenians Charity that supports homeless families in Aberdeen.

Wet Playtimes

The Eco-committee have decided to organise wet playtime boxes for every class. We are a bit short of games and jigsaws suitable for all ages. If you have any spare games or jigsaws (chess, snakes and ladders etc) which are in good condition, please hand them into the school for the Eco -committee to organise.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Last week the staff brought in baked goodies to raise money for Macmillan. They raised over £70 for the good cause.

Having a Ball!

The P1 classes have been having a ball with their families and Wendy Carrick, our Active Schools Rep. Wendy has led sessions which focus on developing children's motor skills in school and at home. This will help to develop literacy skills in the class too. Each child has been gifted a tennis ball so they can continue to practise their ball skills at home.



Holiday Dates - please note that some dates may change
Holiday dates are also available on the Aberdeen City Council Website.

Date	Event
6 Oct	P7S Harvest Assembly
11 Oct	Parent Council Disco
13 Oct	Term Ends
30 Oct	Term 2 Starts
3 November	P5 Assembly
17 November	Inservice Day - School closed to pupils
1 December	P6B Assembly
13 December	Christmas Concerts AM & PM
18 December	P2 & P3 Christmas Party
19 December	ELC & P1 Christmas Party
20 December	P4 & P5 Christmas Party
21 December	P6 & P7 Christmas Party
22 December	Christmas Church Service - all welcome
22 December	Term 2 Ends
8 Jan 2018	Term 3 Starts
2 February	P6P Assembly
12 February	Holiday
13 February	Inservice Day - school closed to pupils
14 February	Inservice Day - school closed to pupils
23 February	P4/5 Assembly
9 March	P4 Assembly
29 March	P3 Easter Service
Thursday 29 March	Term 3 Ends
16 April	Term 4 Starts
4 May	P2/3 Assembly
7 May	Holiday
8 May	Inservice Day - School closed to pupils
18 May	P2 Assembly
8 June	P1 Assembly (both classes)

Holiday Dates for This Session - are displayed on Aberdeen City Council Website

http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/education_learning/schools/scc_SchoolHols.asp