



# Fernielea Features



Happy, safe, achieving



RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS



March 2018

Twitter @FernieleaSchool

Tel: 01224 318533

What a difference an hour makes! The light nights are here and it certainly puts a spring in your step! We can't believe it is the end of March and the end of Term 3 already! We hope you have a wonderful Spring break and we will see you all re-energised on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April.

## Staffing

We would like to say congratulations to Mrs Amato who is now our permanent Principal Teacher. We are all delighted for her!

In February, Mrs Lamb welcomed her beautiful baby daughter, Daisy, into the world! The children were very excited to hear the news. We can't wait to meet Daisy when she comes for her first Fernielea visit. Congratulations to the Lamb family!

We have also welcomed 2 new Pupil Support Assistants to Fernielea, Mr Hardy and Mrs Bruce. Mr Hardy is working with P5 & P4/5 and Mrs Bruce is working with P4. The children and staff have extended a warm Fernielea Welcome to them both.

We also welcomed back Mrs Imrie who is teaching in P1C. Mrs Imrie has worked in Fernielea School over the past 23 years and is delighted to be back with us.

## School Car Park

There are a few parents who are repeatedly risking the lives of their children by allowing them to run across the car park before, after or during school hours when they drop them off or pick them up. The children are small and difficult to see from a driver's point of view. It is VERY unsafe to allow children in the car park. There is a SAFE designated pedestrian walkway at both ends of the school which should be used to SAFELY drop your child off or pick them up. Thank you.

## Easter Celebration

P3 are leading the Easter celebration in our assembly hall tomorrow morning at 9.30am. Rev Shewan will be joining us. The P3 class, Mrs Leslie and Mrs Lumsden have worked very hard to ensure that their assembly will be the perfect end to Term 3. You are welcome to join us.



Email [Fernielea@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:Fernielea@aberdeencity.gov.uk)

Website [www.fernielea.aberdeen.sch.uk](http://www.fernielea.aberdeen.sch.uk)

## Parent Council Update

Members of the Parent Council went to the National Parent Forum of Scotland Annual Conference held in Edinburgh. This was a day of learning about parental involvement and engagement giving us all an opportunity to come together, share ideas and learn from each other, finding out that we are not alone when it comes to parental engagement.

We listened to keynote speakers who explained and discussed that parental involvement is about supporting your child and their learning through various routes; encouraging partnerships between school and parents to work together with schools opening their doors and inviting parents in, as they are the most powerful allies in a child's education. It was reinforced throughout the day, that when parents are involved in their child's education, it benefits children, families and schools, resulting in the child doing better.

We attended several workshops:

- 'Fathers Network Scotland' - highlighting the benefits of involving dads in education and offering suggestions and insight to actively support Dads to be part of their child's education.
- 'RespectMe' - Scotland's Anti-bullying service offering parents the opportunity to work alongside schools to influence policies and sharing practical skills to help parents support children who are bullied and those who display bullying behaviours.
- 'Children's Aid' - examining and discussing effective strategies to actively engage parents as partners in education.
- 'Enquire' - advice and information on how schools and families can work together to ensure children with additional support needs get the support they need.

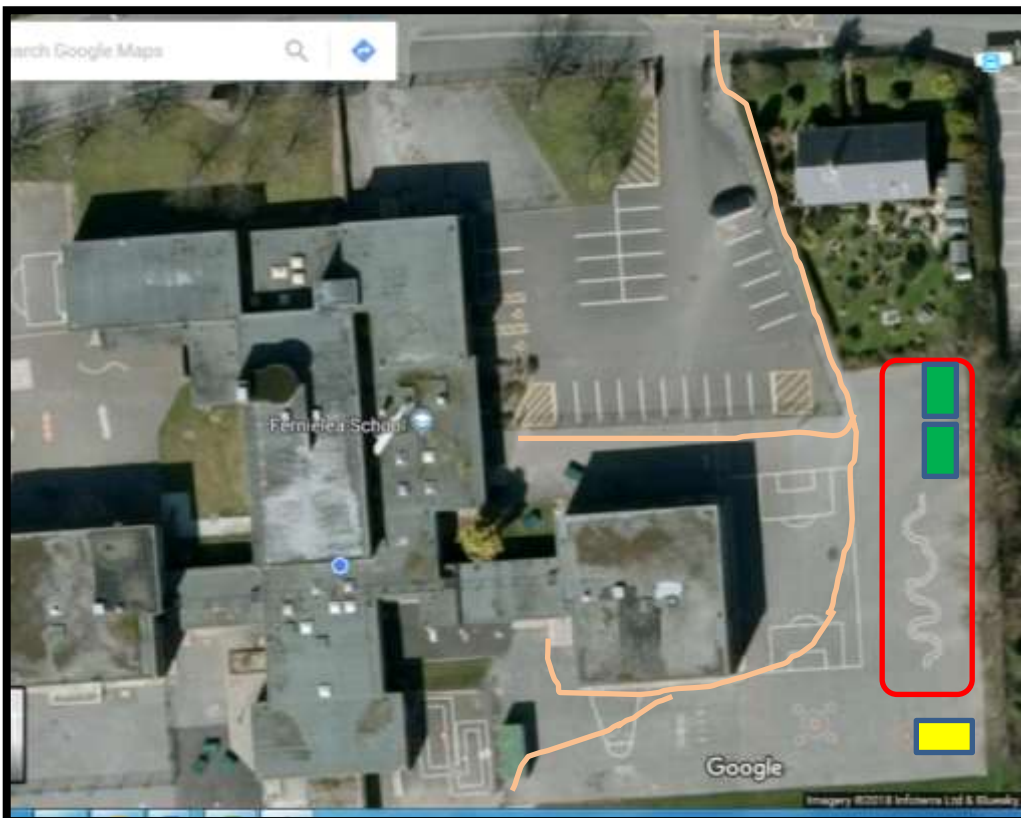
We came away feeling inspired, motivated and very passionate about being involved and engaged in our child's education. We learned that "we" as parents have a space and a place within school and that your child is actually really keen for you to be involved.

If you want to find out more about joining Fernielea Parent Council please contact us - our email address is: [pfernielea@aberdeen.npfs.org.uk](mailto:pfernielea@aberdeen.npfs.org.uk)



## Scooting/Cycling in School

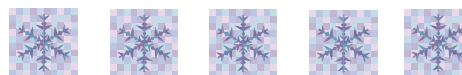
After the Easter holidays, there will be a safe scoot zone being trialled in the P3-7 playground for **P3-7 only**. It will allow children to scoot in the playground within the designated zone only. This will be a trial for 2 weeks and we will seek feedback from pupils and their families after the 2 weeks have ended. The pupil council and parent council will be consulted about the trial and whether or not this can continue for the rest of the term. As we are looking to increase pedestrian safety, children will be expected to remain in the scooter zone displaying responsible scooting behaviours. **Children should be wearing a helmet to school if they are entering the scooter zone.** There will be **no exceptions** to this. Thank you.



## Community Squad

This term, we introduced our Community Squad. Every week, children sign up to volunteer their time, usually during Wednesday lunchbreak, to do something to enhance or support the school community. The volunteers have had great fun washing the bike shelters, washing windows and they will be weeding, planting, litter picking and even upcycling furniture. Some P7s have already learned how to sand a chair, tighten up screws to stop it wobbling and they then decorated the chair so that the children in the nursery could use it in their new shed. Everything the volunteers do allows them to develop skills for life and encourages them to keep going to ensure a task is finished. They learn how to work with others to achieve an end goal. When children volunteer they record it on their time sheet and when they have volunteered 5 times, they are awarded the Bronze Volunteering Award, 10 times for Silver and 15 times for Gold. All volunteers will be rewarded with a tea party at the end of term to say 'thank you for helping our community'. Next term we will be asking if any adults would like to volunteer too. Have a look on the school Twitter and blog for pictures from our Community Squad.

## Adverse Weather and School Closures



Thank you very much for your patience over the period of adverse weather. We were very relieved that we were able to open every day. Some parents were informing us that they didn't receive the Groupcall messages that were sent out to all parents. This usually happens when the number we hold in school for you isn't up to date, so please ensure that emergency contact details are updated every time you change your phone number.

There are 6 ways in which we communicate information with parents and carers in times of adverse weather.

- School Closure Information Line (0870 054 1999 PIN No. 011320 )
- Groupcall - text to all parents
- Aberdeen City Council Website (<https://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/services/education-and-childcare/school-closures-and-transport-disruptions> )
- Northsound Radio
- Twitter (@FernieleaSchool)
- Parent Council Facebook page

### Holiday Dates - please note that some dates may change

Holiday dates are also available on the Aberdeen City Council Website.

Date	Event
29 March	P3 Easter Service 9.30am at Fernielea School
Thurs 29 March	Term 3 Ends
16 April	Term 4 Starts
24 April	Photographer - Class Photos
4 May	P2/3 Assembly
7 May	Holiday
8 May	Inservice Day - School closed to pupils
10 May	Parents' Evening - Book Fair
18 May	P2 Assembly
21-25 May	P7 Residential Trip
31 May	P1 Induction Meeting
5 June	New to Nursery Meeting for Parents
8 June	P1 Assembly (both classes)
27 June	1.30pm SHANARRI SHOW - P1-6 pupils (families welcome to attend)
27-29 June	P7 3 Day Visit to Hazlehead Academy
5 July	P7 Leavers' Assembly (PM)
6 July	Term 4 Ends

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