

September 2019

Newsletter 1

2019/20



Fernielea Features

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@FernieleaSchool



Fernielea School

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Head Teacher: Mrs Lisa Walker

Welcome Back!

Welcome back to school! We have had a very positive start to the year and the children have been very busy ensuring that everyone is 'happy, safe and achieving'.

Staffing

This year, we welcome 4 new members of staff to Fernielea. Miss Tara Wilson has joined us to teach P3; Miss Rosie Simpson has joined us to teach P6S and Mrs Pamela Webster has joined us to teach PE on a Wed-Friday. Mrs Wood has joined as School Support Assistant in the office. We warmly welcome our new colleagues.

Sadly, at the end of term Mrs Beedie moved on to a new position in Aberdeen. We wish her well in her new school.

School Holiday Pattern

Final Consultation on Summer School Holidays 2021- 2025

In May 2019 the Education Operations Committee considered the public feedback on the school holiday pattern. They approved retaining the general pattern of school holidays of previous years with the exception of bringing the summer holidays forward by one week. The Committee requested that further consultation should be sought to agree when the summer holidays should start from 2020-21 to 2024-25.

We are seeking the views of all parents, school staff and children and young people.

We ask school staff and parents to provide responses via this link <https://forms.gle/vJBQzyuem3pdNuvo7> and would request that class/form teachers record collated responses from their classes using a simple 'hands up' approach here: <https://forms.gle/nSjvh5e1n9MmPXjz7> The survey is open from Monday 9th September 2019 until Friday 20th September 2019.



Darcy Bussell Dance Fit Competition

On the first day of the School holidays, our P6 pupils performed in the Dance Fit competition in front of Dame Darcey Bussell. Fernielea School were chosen as the winners! We were delighted so many of the class managed to participate.

Parent Council AGM

The Parent Council is a very important part of the school community. Without them we wouldn't be able to have all of the lovely events that take place across the year and there would be no parent voice in Fernielea. Please come along to the AGM on 3 October from 7-8pm in the school hall. You don't have to be an office bearer but it would be good to recruit more people onto the volunteer group and have at least one parent/carer per year group. See you then!



Our House Captains and Vice Captains

Crathes	Edinburgh	Fraser	Stirling
<u>House Captain</u> Rosie	<u>House Captain</u> Rebeckah	<u>House Captain</u> Jessica	<u>House Captain</u> Chloe
<u>Vice Captain</u> Hanna	<u>Vice Captain</u> Ellie	<u>Vice Captain</u> Kaiden	<u>Vice Captain</u> Aaron

Congratulations to our new House and Vice House Captains. They gave amazing speeches that showcased the high standard of candidates. The winning candidates were Rosie, Rebekah, Jessica and Chloe. Over the course of the year House Group Meetings/Activities will take place – planned

and led by the House Captains.

School Uniform

It was such a welcome sight to see almost all pupils returning in school uniform. Well done! The children feel such a part of the school and some commented that they “felt brand new” with their uniforms on.

We have a stock of second hand uniforms available for parents/carers to access. We also have winter coats and gym kits. We are looking for a wardrobe rail for the spare uniform which will be located at the front of the school for a Uniform Recycling area (Uni-Cycle). If anyone has one they no longer require or knows of where we could access one we would be happy to collect it.

Car Park Access

Parents/carers are not permitted to use the car park. All cars must be parked on the road safely, and the pedestrian path used. Too many parents are walking their children through the car park. **It is not safe!** Parking in the disabled bays is for BLUE BADGE holders only. If you park in these, you will be asked to move. Nursery parents are not permitted to enter the car park at any time – even when dropping off children at lunch time.

Lost/Forgotten Items

There has been a huge increase in parents coming into school to give their child items they have forgotten. The office is extremely busy and sometimes the items don't get to your child immediately. Please can we ask that you help your child to develop their organisation and problem solving skills and their sense of responsibility by not coming in with forgotten items. We thank you for your support in this matter.

Sponsored Event

This year we are holding a sponsored event to raise money for the school and for the senior citizens' Christmas Tea Party. The children were asked to come up with an event that they would enjoy. They have chosen to have a sponsored 'Bounce & Slide' where they will be bouncing and sliding down a huge inflatable slide throughout the day. Their reasoning was:

- It's healthy
- It's fun
- We can do it indoors and outdoors

We plan to hold the event in the last week of Term 1. Sponsor forms will be handed out this week. Look out for them in bags.

Health & Wellbeing

As part of being a Health Promoting School, a few years ago the pupils were asked to make changes which would positively impact on their health. The Pupil Council suggested:

- No fizzy drinks
- Only water allowed in classes
- Parent Council to help by providing all new P1 pupils with a water bottle
- No birthday cakes or birthday treats to be brought into school.
- More sporting clubs and taster sessions to take place
- Outdoor learning to be a big part of their learning
- All classes getting 2 hours of PE a week

These have been very successful changes and the Health and Wellbeing pupil voice group will be reviewing these changes and looking for further ways to improve their Health & Wellbeing. Consideration will be made to improving their Mental and Emotional Health and Wellbeing. All pupils in P1-7 recently completed a Health & Wellbeing survey so that the focus can be determined.

P4/5	11 October
P5	8 November
P2/3	29 November
P1 & P6L	20 December – Summerhill Church
P6S	7 February
P4	28 February
P3	3 April
P7	3 July – Leavers' Assembly

Class Assemblies

Every year, pupils ask their parents to come in to see their class assembly. It is an opportunity for the children to share their learning with parents. Class assemblies this year are as noted on the adjacent table. Please note – these can be subject to change but we will give you as much notice as possible.

Attendance

At the start of every session parents and carers are reminded that at least 95% attendance is expected for every pupil. Any attendance below this will seriously affect the chances of your child fulfilling their educational potential. If your child is ill, then, of course they must stay at home – especially if they are vomiting (48 hours clear). Holidays during term time are always recorded as unauthorised absences. If your child is absent from school it is your responsibility to inform the school of their absence – telling a member of staff at the door or asking a brother or sister to tell the teacher is not suitable, messages can sometimes not be passed on when given at busy times. Please call the office or hand in a letter. All absent children who are unaccounted for will have a text message sent to their primary carer requesting that they call the school. If your child is off for 3 days and no call is made to school the Child Missing in Education procedure is started and the Home School Liaison Officer will make contact with you.



Upcoming Dates

Friday 20th September – September Holiday Weekend – School Closed

Monday 23rd September – September Holiday Weekend – School Closed

Tuesday 24th September – Book Fair arrives

Thursday 26th September - Parent/Family Consultations

Thursday 3rd October – Parent Council AGM

Friday 11 October – P4/5 Assembly – 9.10am