

December 2021

Newsletter 2

2021/22



Fernelea Features

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@FerneleaSchool

Fernelea School

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Head Teacher: Mrs Lisa Walker



Winter Has Arrived!

The snow has arrived and the children are delighted. A definite festive spirit is in the air. The classes have all worked hard to make themed displays for the dining hall so the hall is looking beautiful for the Christmas Lunch on Thursday 9th December. The tree is up and there's tinsel sparkling everywhere. The staff made an extra special effort this year to make it special for the children.

Just a reminder that PE will be outdoors unless there is inclement weather – this is still the recommendation of the Scottish Government for keeping your child safe. Please send your child to school in warm clothing and footwear suitable for doing PE in the colder weather.

Community Litter Pick

With a focus on being outdoors, we have been given the opportunity to help the community by participating in a community litter pick at Hazlehead Park on Saturday 4th December. If you would like to help the community please come along to Hazlehead Academy (Groats Road entrance) for 10.15am. All equipment will be provided. It's a good way to get the children out and about and away from their screens whilst demonstrating how to be a responsible citizen.

Restrictions Update

Thank you all for being so supportive in wearing face coverings when picking up and dropping off. Restrictions are still in place for the safety of your children and our staff. We look forward to the easing of restrictions in the future. The children just take everything in their stride and have shown such resilience throughout.

We would remind all families that if anyone in the household is waiting for PCR test results no one from the household can attend school. This also applies if someone is displaying symptoms of COVID – the symptomatic person should immediately isolate along with all other members of the household, be tested and you must all wait until the PCR test is negative. Please follow national guidelines for self-isolation. We are challenged daily on this and we would urge parents and carers to seek medical advice from NHS 24 or their GP if they are at all unsure.

Staffing

We would like to say a fond Fernielea farewell today to Miss Morrison who has been in the role of Acting PT for Inclusion for the past year, and was the PT of Early Years during the year previous to that. Miss Morrison's last day is today and we wish her well in her next teaching adventure. We are welcoming back Mrs Amato (PT Inclusion) from maternity leave on Monday 6th December.

Reminder to all Parents

Parents are not permitted on school grounds except for Nursery & P1 parents at drop off and pick up times only or by prior arrangement by the school.

If your child forgets something – do not bring it in as you will not be allowed access to the school. Whatever your child has forgotten they will be fine. We always feed children and there's plenty water and clothing in school. The only exception to this is vital medication (phone school first).



HAPPY SAFE ACHIEVING



Christmas

We are carrying on with Christmas arrangements this year in the safest way possible to ensure that all pupils have a wonderful Christmas time at Fernielea. We will still be doing most of the things that we usually do except of course the Christmas performances for parents and local senior citizens. This year each class will be filming Christmas performances which will be shared with parents. **Those pupils who do not have photographic permission to be filmed and shared on the school website and social media will sadly not appear in the performances** but they will still fully participate – just not be shown. If you would like to update photo permissions so that your child will be in their class video please call the school office to do so on 01224 318533. They are all busy practising and the corridors are full of the beautiful sound of children singing – you will not be disappointed!

A few dates for your diary (with more to come):

Christmas Jumper/Christmas Lunch Day – Thursday 9th December

End of Term – Tuesday 21st December

Christmas Party Dates

Our P7 pupils are organising the parties this year again as part of their finance and enterprise project. They have been very busy gathering the views of the classes to make sure the parties are the best yet!

Children can wear party clothes to school on their party day but please ensure they are still wrapped up warm and wearing suitable clothing and footwear for going out to play at break and lunchtime.

ELC, P1, P1/2 & P2	Monday 13 th December
P3A & P3B	Tuesday 14 th December
P4, P5A & P5B	Wednesday 15 th December
P6, P6/7 and P7	Thursday 16 th December

Christmas Panto

M & M productions would normally come into school to perform a panto for the pupils, but as this is not possible this year, we have been given access to the online Aberdeen Arts Centre Panto instead. We'd like to thank the Parent Council as they have very kindly agreed to fund this as there is a small charge per pupil. Every class will have a Christmassy session watching the Panto with their classmates with some treats which have also been provided by the Parent Council.

Santa

Every year we are very lucky to have a visit from Santa for our nursery and P1 classes. Covid has not stopped this much-loved tradition – Santa will definitely be seen around the school but in a slightly different and Covid-safe way! Keep your eyes peeled for signs of Santa!

Gifts

Every year, families are very generous and pop in gifts for the staff which is very thoughtful. Like last year we would like to suggest that instead of this, families donate to a local food bank instead. We are aware that lots of our families are finding this period of time very challenging financially and we'd prefer that the money was spent on yourselves or put towards a worthy cause. Aberdeen food drops can be



Reminder to all Parents

All adults must wear a face covering or mask at pick up and drop off times.

All adults must adhere to

2m distancing at all times

at the gates – especially at the end of the day.

HAPPY SAFE ACHIEVING

found in Tesco Woodend, CFINE at 2-4 Poynerook Road, Aberdeen or at Kings Community Church.



Christmas Cards

As we are a green flag ECO School, this seems to be the perfect opportunity to review the exchanging of Christmas cards. Like last year, we are asking that children do not take Christmas cards into school except perhaps one card for the whole class. This will cut down on paper waste and also ensure that we are keeping ourselves as safe as possible. As such, there will be no postbox in school this year. Please do not ask for lists of names for cards because this request will be politely declined.

HAPPY SAFE ACHIEVING