

February 2023

Newsletter

2022/23



Fernelea Features

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@FerneleaSchool

Fernelea School

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Head Teacher: Mrs Lisa Walker



February already – Spring is in the air!

This term has progressed so fast already. We have had visitors in school and we are all starting to venture out and about in the school community more now that the weather is improving – it'll probably snow tomorrow now that I have said this! It is still cold so please ensure that your child – especially the P7s—have a jacket with them so they can go outside to play and learn, and enjoy themselves. We have some spare jackets in the foyer on our clothes recycling rail. Please help yourself to anything that is there and if you have items to donate, please hand them to the office.

Reminder to all Parents

If your child forgets something – do not bring it in as your child will manage without it. It will allow your child to develop their problem solving skills and we would never see a child go without. We have lots of coats, waterproofs, and equipment which can be borrowed. Cups will be provided if they forget their water bottle and a healthy snack can be provided if they forget their snack. Lunch will always be provided if they forget their packed lunch.

Don't worry – whatever your child has forgotten they will be fine.

The **only** exception to this is vital medication (phone school first).

Staffing

This term we are saying farewell to a number of staff but for lovely reasons. First of all Mrs Torrens, our Principal Teacher of Early Years has started her maternity leave and we look forward to hearing of the safe arrival of her baby very soon. Mrs Middleton in P1 will be leaving us today also, to start her maternity leave. We wish her well and look forward to meeting her little one soon. Sadly, one member of staff will be leaving soon to enjoy his well-earned retirement – our fabulous and hugely valued Janitor – Mr King. He will leave us at the end of term and we are very sad to see him go. He will be sorely missed. We wish him all the best on his new adventures.

P4 Swimming

Primary 4 started their swimming lessons in January and they are doing very, very well. They are having lessons at Tullos Pool and we have seen brave and resilient pupils jumping in when they were initially too scared to and some putting their faces in the water for the very first time. It is always great to see children learning new skills and achieving things they thought were too hard or too scary.

Swimming is fun – I have learned to do back crawl without a floatie.

Ife P4I

I put my entire head in the water – actually my whole body and I can play rock, paper, scissors underwater with Daniel now!

Jason P4I

I learned to swim backwards.

Kayla P4I

HAPPY SAFE ACHIEVING



Community

I was very fortunate to have a tour of the new housing development on the site of the old Summerhill Academy which is under the management of CHAP construction. The development was very impressive and a lot of care has been taken to ensure that the site is eco-friendly and a positive addition to the school community. CHAP kindly donated paper to our school for our pupils to make use of.

It was good to see inside the accommodation that some of our families will be living in. We wish all the new residents well and welcome them to Fernielea Community.

Health Promoting School

We would like to remind all parents that children should be provided with a water bottle to allow them safe and hygienic access to fresh drinking water in school. Bottles should not contain juice of any kind as this is not healthy in relation to dental health and physical health. This is still an issue, and it is very important that parents ensure that children only have water in their class bottles. [Advice from Childsmile can be found here.](#)

PE Update

This term children learned Scottish social dances in preparation for our Burns Celebration which was a whole school ceilidh on 25th January. We danced, sang and recited poetry all afternoon. We even piped in the Haggis and the P7s gave an outstanding address to the Haggis.

Recently the children have been learning about gymnastics and they have been rolling, tumbling, balancing and jumping! Some are jumping off equipment and being incredibly daring.

Next, the children will be learning ball skills which means that Mrs Webster will be super insistent about ALL piercings being removed not taped. Anyone with new piercings will be permitted to tape their piercing and they will have activities modified to ensure their safety. Please get into the habit of removing piercings at home on PE days.

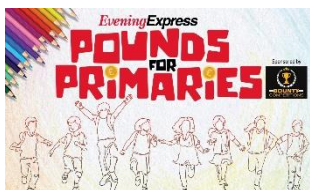
A reminder that PE kit needs to be in school all week to ensure that children are properly dressed for activities. Some children have arrived in wellington boots to take part in gymnastics and then have to borrow shoes. Please ensure they have suitable clothing and footwear available to use in school. If you need some support to supply a suitable PE kit for your child, please let us know.

Pounds For Primaries – Evening Express

We are collecting the Pounds for Primaries vouchers in the Evening Express this year. They are published in the paper from 4 February to 4 March and if we get 250 tokens then the school is awarded £100! There is a collection box in the front reception – please ask relatives and friends to donate their tokens to us at Fernielea. Thank you for your support.

Serica Energy – Food Skills

We have been very fortunate to receive an incredibly generous donation of 2 cooking units for the use of pupils and families as part of a food skills initiative we are going to be running in partnership with SERICA Energy. They have kitted us out with 2 full units and all of the accessories required and we cannot wait to start making use of them. A huge thank you to our business partners.



HAPPY SAFE ACHIEVING

Culture Week – Who is Fernielea?

During the week beginning 20th March, we are hosting a culture week at Fernielea School to celebrate the diversity and uniqueness of our community. Parents and families will be invited to come into school to share aspects of their culture with the children. We have an African drumming workshop organised and cooking skills to name a few. Children will be investigating the question – Who is Fernielea? If you would like to volunteer to share any aspect of your culture with the children please complete the form below and someone will be in touch with you.

[Fernielea Culture Week Volunteer Form](#)

You could share food, recipes, dances, songs, poems, stories, traditions, national dress. As children may be tasting different foods in class, if you haven't already informed us of any dietary requirements your child has, please can you contact the school office with details.

We are so excited to have families join in the fun and learning with us.

Learning in P7

This term is always a very exciting term in P7. They learn about Scotland and what it was like to be in Aberdeen during the Second World War. They have been learning about the use of gasmasks, shelters, the news of that time and how people were encouraged to help the nation through the use of propaganda posters.

Next week there will be a spy in the school and the staff will be on a mission to find out who they are!

Here is what some of the P7s have been learning:

I have really liked learning about the shelters because people used them to protect themselves and they were in their back gardens or in schools! Today I made an Anderson shelter.

Sienna P7

I really liked learning about how they used gasmasks – they had to put them on after they heard the siren. I enjoyed making my own replica mask and box.

Star P7

I really liked learning about all the different leaders and why they went into a war.

Isla-Rose P7

Dates for Your Diary	
Thursday 23 rd February	Parent Consultation 2
Tuesday 28 th February	Potential Strike Day – potentially closed to P1-P7 only
Wednesday 1 st March	Potential Strike Day – potentially closed to P1-P7 only
Thursday 2 nd March	World Book Day – details to follow soon

HAPPY SAFE ACHIEVING

Friday 3 rd March	P4 Fairtrade Assembly – P4 parents welcome to attend 9.10-9.30am
Wednesday 8 th March	Parent Council Disco
Friday 17 th March	Comic Relief – details to follow soon
Friday 31 st March	P3 Easter Assembly – P3 parents welcome to attend 9.10-9.30am
Friday 31 st March	Term 3 Ends (Whole School)
Monday 10 th April	Term starts – ELC-AM and ELC-PM only
Monday 17 th April	Term 4 starts – P1 – P7 and ELC-9-3
Tuesday 18 th April	P7 residential trip
Monday 1 st May	Holiday – school closed to all pupils including all ELC
Tuesday 2 nd May	Inservice Day – school closed to all pupils including all ELC
Monday 8 th May	Holiday - school closed to all pupils including all ELC for the Coronation
Tuesday 9 th May	School photographer – class photos
Wednesday 31 st May	P1-7 Sports Day PM
Wednesday 7 th June	Reserve Sports Day – PM
Thursday 8 th June	Parent Consultation 3
Friday 9 th June	Parent Council Summer Fair
Thursday 22 nd June	Parent Council School Disco
Thursday 6 th July	P7 Leavers' Assembly 1.30pm
Friday 7 th July	End of Term 4 - P1 – P7 and ELC-9-3
Wednesday 19 th July – Friday 28 th July	ELC-AM and ELC-PM closed for holidays
Monday 31 st July	Nursery re-opens for ELC-AM and ELC-PM classes only
Thursday 17 th August	Last day of term for ELC-AM and ELC-PM
Monday 21 st August	Inservice Day 1
Tuesday 22 nd August	Term 1 2023/24 starts

Information regarding School Term dates can be found here:

[HOLIDAY DATES](#)

You can select the academic years from the selections on the page.

HAPPY SAFE ACHIEVING