

Fettercairn Primary Newsletter



March 2017

Issue No. 34

This term has been very busy but thoroughly enjoyable. The school has been a hive of activity these past few weeks. It is a real credit to the staff and you, the parents who support us that we are able to achieve so much and provide the children with such a variety of opportunities and experiences.

Ian Clarke
Head Teacher

Charity

This term the children raised £148.61 For Red Nose day. Thank you to all who donated.

Robert Burns Awards

We started the term with our Annual Burns competition which as noted was very successful and the winners represented the school at the Fettercairn Burns' Club dinner, with no problems and I would like to thank Mrs Hay for giving up her time to be the school representative. Again the Fettercairn Burns Club donated £100 this year to purchase some Scots Language books. Alongside this we had our Ceilidh, which was incredibly attended and enjoyed by all. This year's winners were:

Primary 1	Katie Alexander
Primary 2	Sophia Leon
Primary 3	Findlay Armstrong
Primary 4	Boudewijn Koning
Primary 5	Melina Pavlantis
Primary 6	Helena Gibbons-Wood
Primary 7	Kevin Smith

Overall Winner Helena Gibbons-Wood

Parking

Please take extra care when picking up and dropping off your children and allow for pedestrians to use the pavement. Please could I ask that the bus lane is kept clear and that when parking we respect the needs of our neighbours. It would of great help if parents could park in the square and walk up to the school to pick up the children. /

Staff Training

This Term the staff have been working new pupil profiles to look at children's holistic achievement. The staff had two days training on CALM theory, which was excellent and enabled us to reflect on our practice in regards to behaviour management. They also attended a moderation event with all the teachers from the Mearns Cluster. We are continuing to work on our school curriculum in terms of coverage, progression and benchmarks. The staff also attended a course on Profiling and using 'Microsoft OneNote' as a tool for the upper stages of Primary. We are in the process of evaluating ourselves and looking at our areas for development, which will help feed into School Improvement plan.

Extra-Curricular Activities

This term we have had a Morning Multi-sports Club, a Lunchtime Cross-Country running club, and an After-school football club as well. All of which will continue next term except the football club as the children have asked for a dodgeball club. This will take place on a Monday after school from 3.15pm – 4.15pm for P1-7. Please watch out for the letters. The Cross-Country events will go ahead again this term, which are now fully organised by Active Schools. The children have continued their dance and performance clubs and Jodie from P7 started a choir.

School Uniform and PE

School uniform is an important part of our school as it helps with the school ethos and gives the children a sense of belonging. It is also important when we are out with the children they are easily recognisable in crowded places. However recently we have seen a number of children not being in school uniform. It would help us a lot if the children could come to school in uniform.

Also the staff and I have noticed a number of children not bringing an appropriate change of clothing to take part in PE lessons. It is very important that the children either bring with them a change of clothing for PE or they can leave their PE clothes in a bag on their peg. Please can you check with your child that they have their PE kits and that they have a change of footwear.

Finally it is also really important that all clothes are marked with your child's name. It is amazing how many jumpers we can no longer find owners for.

Entering The School

Morning times can be a very busy place in a school and especially at 9am when we are trying to get the children into class from the playground and ready to start the day. If for any reason parents need to enter the school please could you wait until the children have entered the building or try to come in before school starts. However it is important for a child's own resilience, confidence and taking responsibility that any messages or letters should be brought in by the child. Thanks for your co-operation in this matter./

Activities This Term

This term we celebrated World Book day with the Where's Wally Theme and had an Enterprise day, which again was well attended and the work produced by the children and the parents was great. We also held a book swap event and this year we had hundreds of books for the children to swap and have. After this we had two speakers - Jeannie Bruce (School Nurse) and Natalie Cooper (CLD). Thanks to those who were able to attend. I also arranged for the Travelling Art Gallery to visit Fettercairn on Friday 17th March. The children really enjoyed this. The children sold red Noses for Comic Relief and dressed as they pleased. On Thursday 30th March I will be running a mini-enterprise day for the Nursery (with P1/2 included) and finally this term we have our Annual Talent Show on Friday 31st March at 2pm, which I hope some of you can attend.

Absences

We would like to remind you all that if your child is not going to be in school for any reason it is essential that you ring the school (Tel No. 01561 340250) between 8.45a.m and 9.30a.m Monday - Thursday (as Mrs Johnstone, School Administrator is in to take messages and the answer machine is available) to let us know that they are safe. It is the policy of Aberdeenshire Council that if we don't hear from you then we do have to start calling you or your emergency contacts to confirm that the pupil is indeed safe. **Please do not use Class Dojo to pass this message on.**

Please keep your child off school if they are not well enough to attend, no matter how much they want to come. School is not a good place for children when they aren't well. **Remember too that if your child has sickness / upset tummy then 48hrs must be left between the last bout and them returning to school.** Also take care when visiting the school with siblings who are unwell, please do not let them mix with the other children. This is to prevent other children from getting ill. If you know that your child is going to be absent due to an appointment please could you let us know in writing beforehand, where possible. PLEASE BE AWARE THE SCHOOL OFFICE IS CLOSED ON FRIDAYS.

Fettercairn Parent Council Newsletter – March 2017

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS: Our new email address is up and running and is as follows:
fettercairnpc@gmail.com

CONSTITUTION: Our constitution has been reviewed and updated. Anyone requiring a copy please send an email to above address. A copy is also available on our noticeboard in the adult lounge.

END OF TERM/FAREWELL P7 DISCO: We have booked DAB Entertainment and Isabelle pop up grub for our forthcoming disco on **FRIDAY 23rd JUNE from 6pm-9pm**. Look out for further information coming your way next term.

SOUP AND SWEET: Preparations have started for our bi annual soup and sweet event which this year will be held on **SATURDAY 18th NOVEMBER 2017**. As most of you are aware this is our major fundraising event and this year alongside the event we have arranged for a family photographer to pop along and take family/individual portraits as well as a "Santa's Grotto". Again further information to follow in due course but meanwhile if you know of anyone who would be interested in a stall please let us know./

FETTERCAIRN GALA DAY: It's a knockout competition and a few stalls are being organised by the Parent Council for Gala Day on **SATURDAY 3rd JUNE**. If you are able to help on the day, even for just a short while, please let us know.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: **TUESDAY 9th MAY @ 7pm in the adult lounge. All welcome.**

USEFUL INFORMATION

EasyFundraising

Earn cash for us when you shop online by logging on first to the EasyFundraising website (www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fettercairnpc) This is free and simple to use with over 2000 retailers including Amazon, Ebay, Argos, etc. It also offers exclusive retailer voucher codes so you can save money when you shop.

This is a really easy FREE way to donate to our funds when you do your normal online shopping. Please tell your friends and families too as the more members we have the more money we make!!

BUZZZIN BEES GROUP

A group for Bumps, Babies and Bairns is held in the Adult Lounge every **Wednesday morning from 10am - 11.30am**. Tea/Coffee is provided for the parents/carers and juice and snack are provided along with stories, singing and games. For more information please contact Jessica Pollock on 01561 340357 (jessiebabev@hotmail.co.uk).

Dates for your Diaries

Friday 31st March – School closes for Easter at 3.15pm

Tuesday 18th April – School re-opens 9am

Monday 1st May – School Closed – May Day

Friday 30th June – School closes for summer at 3.15pm

Tuesday 22nd August – School re-opens 9am (change from holiday list)

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Future Correspondence

I would prefer to receive school information via email and I give you permission to send

school correspondence to my email address _____

Name _____ Signed _____ Date _____