



Fishermoss School

Term 3 Newsletter March 2024

'Being the best we can be'
Respect-Honesty-Responsibility-Kindness-Hardworking



Dear Parents/Carers

This past term we have welcomed several Aberdeen University teaching students for placements at Fishermoss, one being a former pupil which is always encouraging. Our thanks to Miss Sang Primary 1, Mrs McDonald Primary 1/2, Mrs Muir Primary 3, Mrs McRae Primary 5 & Mrs Middleton Primary 6 for all their support and encouragement of our young aspiring teachers.

We also recently welcomed a group of 6th Year students from Portlethen Academy who are all former Fishermoss pupils! They formed a panel for a 'Question & Answer' workshop to support our Primary 7 pupils as they prepare for their transition from Primary to Secondary school.

Primary 7 Pupils Abernethy Outdoor Centre Adventure.....



A highlight in the school calendar is a visit to **Abernethy Outdoor Centre, Nethybridge** with our **Primary 7 pupils** for a week's residential experience. Earlier this month, 32 of our Primary 7 pupils were our 2024 Abernethy Adventurers who were great ambassadors for their Fishermoss Family. They made the most of every opportunity and all of them achieved great things! Ziplining, adventure course, canoeing, climbing wall, daily swims, group challenges and bush craft skills just scratches the surface of what our Abernethy Adventure was all about! We even managed to squish in fun visits to Landmark in Carrbridge on the way there and back, making the most of travel days! Accompanying them were Miss Sangster Primary 6/7 class teacher, Mrs Shepherd Pupil Support Assistant, Mrs McRae who currently teaches Primary 5 and their Head Teacher. We were all impressed by the way they conducted themselves and how they looked out for each other. They should be proud of their achievements.

Comic Relief Day

As one of the UK's biggest fundraising events, Comic Relief Day brings the entire nation together to raise cash and change lives. Fishermoss School played its part with a 'Dress as you please Day' raising **£227.16** Fishermoss families also supported **The Larder**, Portlethen by taking in items of food. Your **kindness** was very much appreciated and your support of others less fortunate is always humbling. Well done Primary 2/3 and Primary 3 for all your work organising this event and sorting the food for 'The Larder'. Thank you to all who were able to contribute. An amazing response!

Some Curriculum News from this Term!

Our '**Show & Tell Curriculum Event**' held on 21st February was an opportunity for parents to visit their child's/children's classroom(s) to find out more about the experiences their child is having at school. Our pupils had a lead role in this event and were responsible for sharing their learning. We had a fantastic turnout with a total of 80% of pupils and 206 families represented which was approximately 300 parents coming into school for this event! This is significant support from our Fishermoss Family which is greatly appreciated.

Earlier this term our school welcomed **Aberdeenshire Life Education Centre (ALEC)**. ALEC is part of **Coram Life Education**, a charity providing a Health & Well-being Education Programme. **All children from Primary 1 to Primary 7** attended a workshop where topics included **My Wonderful Body, It's Great to Be Me, Feelings, All About Me and Friends etc.** These workshops complement our school's Health and Wellbeing Programme.

All **Primary 6** pupils participated in **Playleader Training** with our **Active Schools Coordinator** and a former Fishermoss pupil who is now a Robert Gordon's University (RGU) student. These sessions took place over 6 weeks. Congratulations to all pupils for passing! They will have the opportunity to use their skills next term with another RGU student leading them in playground leadership with our younger pupils.

Primary 6 and **Primary 7** have experienced **Physical Education** delivered by **Aberdeen Football Club Community Trust**. These sessions have been delivered by **Portlethen Academy** pupils. They focused on teamwork and endurance through different fitness exercises and games. We greatly value opportunities to work with Portlethen Academy pupils and to support their development of leadership skills.... many will be former pupils whom we champion!

Primary 1/2 & Primary 5 have been buddying up this term and enjoyed an adventure at the local **Moss**, amongst other fun activities together!



All pupils received a **£1 World Book Day** token this term which entitled them to a free **£1 World Book Day** book from participating stores such as ASDA and various bookshops.

Primary 7 have participated in an **Eco Schools** live lesson all about **the impact of vapes and e cigarettes on the environment**.

Primary 6/7 took part in an **Education Scotland** code along session all about **Artificial Intelligence**.

Active Schools have been running **multi sports** opportunities at school for pupils on Thursday mornings this term. This is being delivered by two of our school mums. **Primary 4 & Primary 7** experienced badminton taster sessions this term, also arranged by our Active Schools Coordinator.

Recent Achievements!



Two **Primary 7** teams were put forward to the Portlethen District Primary Schools **Rotary Quiz**. Both teams did extremely well competing against Newtonhill, Hillside and Portlethen. Congratulations to **Isla Davis, Cole Jamieson, Jamie Middleton & William Miller** who came **3rd**. Well done also to **Layla Mitchell, Ellie Gray, Joe Thomson & Campbell Murray**. All are to be commended for their **hard work** and effort preparing for the quiz. This was one of many transition events our Primary 7 pupils will experience. All Primary 7 pupils from across the cluster joined together at Portlethen Academy for this event.

Euroquiz is an annual project open to all **Primary 6** pupils across Scotland, which sees teams working together to broaden their knowledge of Europe and the wider world. Subjects covered include languages, history, geography, culture and European affairs. Heats take place in local authorities, with the winning teams progressing to the National Euroquiz Final held in the Debating Chamber of the Scottish Parliament in June. **All Fisher Moss Primary 6 pupils** participated in the preliminaries of the **Euro Quiz**. They cooperated in teams of 3 or 4 to complete 4 rounds of questions. Our two top scoring teams were comprised of **Jayden Taylor, Innis Mathers, Jodie Ferguson, Sasha Rimsa, Harley Horne, Bradley Burnett, Freddie Docherty & Charlie Tait**. Unfortunately, we fell just short of qualifying for the next round. The competition was extremely high! Everyone taking part must be congratulated for an excellent effort, their hard work and enthusiasm!

Celebrities at Fisher Moss as Pupils Hit our TV Screens

Following our recent Eco Schools flag success story, we were approached by Eco Schools Scotland to create footage for the BBC Live Lessons Team. For this auspicious occasion, Primary 7 pupils **Faith Mitchell, Isla Davis, Brynn Murphy & Kyle Wemyss** prepared scripts and created supporting film footage. We are most grateful to Mrs McRae, one of our class teachers who has a lead role in all things digital at Fisher Moss, for her significant support to make this happen. They all had a very tight schedule to get their filming done, with the added challenge of snow in the mix, but they did a splendid job. We are so very proud of them all. If you would like to see them in action, they feature on BBC Live Lesson, Deadly Shark Science Live Episode which went out 19th February. We hope you enjoy the show!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/live-lessons/deadly-mission-shark-science-live-lesson/z4fh3qt>

Businesses supporting Fisher Moss School!

We have greatly appreciated the support of businesses that some of our parents work for this term. Our sincere thanks to parents who have gone out of their way to get support and resources for our school through their workplaces.

All **Primary 6** pupils attended 'The Safe' based in The Gordon Barracks, Aberdeen as part of our Health & Wellbeing Curriculum! A visit to 'The Safe' is like no other field trip. The facility is a one-stop safety shop that takes visitors on an **unforgettable safety adventure** that gives real-life context to the learning experience. It is an interactive facility, where the Absafe team deliver engaging, fun and informative sessions that teach young people about everyday hazards and how to deal with them, including Road safety, Railway safety, Home Safety, Fire Safety, Solvent Misuse, Anti-social behaviour, Cyberbullying and Security. We are extremely grateful to **Hunting Energy Services** who fully funded this trip.



John Lawrie Metals have kindly donated litter pickers and gloves. Pupils in our P6 class wrote a letter explaining in detail the need for more sustainable gloves and more litter pickers, in conjunction with P5. These are welcome resources to support us with our Eco Schools work!



Amazon Food for Thought Campaign.....Amazon's local community ambassador offered us the chance as a school to register our interest in their "Food for Thought" campaign. The "Food for Thought" campaign aims to provide a full year of fresh fruit to schools. Several of our parents work at the Amazon site and wanted to lend a hand in a small way to their local community. We have very much benefitted as a school from support from Amazon. We are receiving 100 pieces of fresh fruit weekly, and these are available for pupils in P3/4-P7 in the senior part of the school. We are operating it like a fruit bowl at home where pupils can help themselves if they need a snack for break. If staff are aware of younger pupils who are short of a play piece they also benefit too! It is anticipated that the fruit supply will last for 12 months which is a great support.

Lethan Care Home delivered Easter bonnets that residents had decorated as a gift to Fishermoss pupils. Our Primary 7 pupils visited residents in February to entertain them with items from their Burns themed Assembly!



February In-Service Days-Improvement Planning

Teaching and support staff were involved in a range of Professional Learning Activities linked with our School Improvement Plan, with an emphasis on the wellbeing, equality and inclusion of all learners as global citizens. We continued our work on Inclusive Classrooms and we also focused on Rights Respecting Schools & Pastoral Notes.

Assemblies

We have enjoyed seeing many of our pupils take the lead in class assemblies this term and it has been great for them to perform to an audience of parents and family members.

Primary 7 & Primary 6/7 gave a very Scottish themed assembly providing a flavour of what happens at a **Burns Supper**. We enjoyed singing, poetry, drama sketches, dance and their very amusing toasts, or 'roasts' as they called them, to the lassies and laddies! With this being, for many of them, their last class assembly at Primary School they certainly showcased a wide range of skills and talent developed over the years.

Primary 4 also had a Scottish themed Assembly, where they confidently showcased their learning. They are worthy of a career with the Scottish Tourist Board. It was great to see many aspects of the curriculum covered in their presentation.

Primary 3 shared all they have been learning in their class project on The Egyptians. We got a real feel for what life was like living in Ancient Egypt. An all-round confident performance with singing and drama in the mix! They should be proud of all their work!

Primary 2 finished off our class assemblies for the term with an assembly on **Castles**. Their performance and presentation skills were beyond anything you would expect from Primary 2 pupils! Super singing, dancing and artwork shared in addition to their amazing ability to memorise their words! They clearly had a lot of fun learning in this topic.



All classes from Primary 1 to Primary 7 shared what they had learned about Fairtrade and what it means to the global community. There were strong links made to people's rights. We hope our pupils have been spreading the Fair-Trade message at home too!

We have welcomed visitors to our assemblies this past term.....Mrs Storey one of our teachers led an assembly on Autism, we also held a Global Warrior Assembly where we celebrated our 7th Eco Schools Green Flag and we have enjoyed Learning Celebration assemblies too. We concluded the term with an assembly focus on why we celebrate Easter!

Rights Respecting Schools Award

We are in the process of further developing our pupils' learning about, and promoting, Children's Rights. Rights being things that we need to survive, grow and develop. The United Nation's Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) lists these rights in the form of 'Articles'. Countries around the world follow the UNCRC in a commitment to protecting children by realising their rights. In Scotland, the UNCRC is being incorporated into law, and it underpins our wellbeing approach. Schools are expected to explore children's rights as part of learning and teaching. There are many ways Fishermoss School highlights the rights of the child and to help recognise our progress we are signed up to UNICEF's Rights Respecting School Award programme. Fishermoss is currently applying for a Bronze Award which means that our school has shown that we are committed to respecting children's rights. We have also created our Action Plan for a Silver Award and are working hard to show that we know and understand rights and encourage adults and children alike to respect the rights of others.

Every class in Fishermoss School has an individual Class Charter. Each class decided on a group of articles which were deemed 'most relevant', even though no one right is more important than another. A charter helps us reflect on what we need, and actions to take in class, to ensure everyone feels that their rights are met. Each class has collaboratively designed and created a display. Below you can see some examples of class charters which you hopefully spotted at our Curriculum Show & Tell event.



Congratulations!



We are delighted to share the happy news that Miss Sang, our teachers, got married! She will continue to be known as Miss Sang at school until the summer as she feels it will be too complicated for her Primary 1 class to start calling her something different. Her Sunday name however will be Mrs Scott! Congratulations to the happy couple who have been together for 26 years!

Finally, please do see below **dates for your diary** for Term 4. In response to parental feedback, which we very much value, we have reinstated providing two possible dates for Sports Day in the hope that we get good weather for one of them! The weather is out with our control, but we remain eternally optimistic. Please do see dates below for significant events next term.

Daffodils and crocuses appearing in our school grounds are a welcome sign of Spring and new life.

Wishing you all a lovely Spring Holiday!

Mrs Margaret M Ferguson
Head Teacher



Dates for your diary-Term 4 Session 2023-2024

March/April

Fri 29th March - Fri 12th - School Closed for Easter Holidays

Mon 15th April - Term 4 begins for pupils and staff.

Wed 17th April - PSC Meeting Fishermoss Staffroom @ 5:30pm

May

Mon 6th -Bank Holiday-School closed to pupils and staff.

Wed 8th - Primary 1 Induction for Parents 6:30pm (August 2024 Primary 1 intake)-Details to follow.

Wed 8th to Fri 10th - Pupil Reports emailed to Parents.

Wed 22nd - Parent/Teacher Consultations 6-8:30pm-details to follow.

Thu 23rd - Parent/Teacher Consultations 3:45-6:15pm-details to follow.

June

Fri 7th - 'Dress as You Please Day' for our School Summer Fayre-details to follow.

Sat 8th- School Summer Fayre 11-2pm @ Fishermoss

Wed 12th to Fri 14th - P7 pupils' Induction Days @ Portlethen Academy

Tue 18th - 10:30am Primary 1 to Primary 7 Whole School Sports Event @ Bourtree Park & Lunchtime Family Picnic @ Fishermoss School Grounds-weather permitting-Take 1!

Thu 20th - Primary 7 Leavers' Ceilidh 7-9:30pm @ Fishermoss -details to follow.

Tue 25th - 10:30am Primary 1 to Primary 7 whole School Sports Event @ Bourtree Park & Lunchtime Family Picnic @ Fishermoss School Grounds-if weather prevents it happening on the 18th-Take 2!

Wed 26th - Fishermoss Family Community Clean Up! Pop along anytime between 4-6:30pm to join us.

July

Mon 1st - PSC End of School Year Summer Discos-details to follow!

Wed 3rd - 9:30am P7 Leavers Assembly @ Fishermoss - Primary 7 parents invited to attend.

Fri 5th - Last day of term. Pupils return Tuesday 20th August.