

Fetterangus Flier

Issue 08 04 June 2013

Open Day Success

Thanks to everyone who attended the School Open Day last week. The altered format focused more on what happens outwith the classroom and celebrated the breadth of experiences and achievements that the pupils have enjoyed during the Session. In-class learning continues to be very important but the additional activities play an equally significant part in the pupils'

Argh Me Hearties!

The older class had a thoroughly enjoyable voyage to His Majesty's Theatre to take part in the Scottish Opera workshop on the Pirates of Penzance. The story was explained, the key musical items were performed and cast members explained the scenery changes and the costumes. The highlight for our group was the wearing of one of our scarves on stage by crew member Frank who performed for us live at school on a previous visit to the village.

Aberdeenshire Survey

Aberdeenshire Council are currently conducting a survey of parental views on Enhanced Provision for pupils requiring high levels of support. This is a very important issue and one that will have implications for local provision. The on-line address for taking part is;
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/R9LNLYR>

Inverurie Performance

Pupils from P4-7 took part in the Aberdeenshire Primary Drama Festival. The non-competitive event was staged in Inverurie Town Hall and gave the children the opportunity to perform to an audience of fellow pupils from all the participating schools. Our 'turn' was the culmination of a term's work coordinated by Mrs Potts-Violettes (Drama) and Miss Breton (Music). Drawing on the class theme of Technology, the piece offered an artistic impression of how technology has shaped and influenced human beings from Early-Man to the present day. Guests joining us for our end of year assembly on Thurs 4th July (9:30) will get an opportunity to see the performance.

Welcome to Fetterangus

Staff and pupils were happy to welcome Emily Anderson into our P4 group when she joined us for the last two weeks of term, having moved into the village from Longside. We look forward to working with Emily in the years ahead and wish her the very best for her time at Fetterangus. Similar good wishes go to Michael Will who joined our P1 group earlier in the year.

Moving On

As always at this time of year we have mixed emotions. We are celebrating and reflecting upon the achievements of the year but we are required to say farewell to our P7 pupils. To Robert and Carla who have been with us from the outset, to Jay who joined us in P5 and to Hannah, Katie and Amy who arrived at the beginning of the year we extend our very best wishes for their move to secondary school. All six have contributed a great deal to the school, musically, sportingly and socially and we hope that they take with them fond memories of their times at Fetterangus school. They will always be most welcome visitors.

Family Fun Event

Arrangements are in place for the FSEC / Parent Council Family Fun event to be held between 5pm and 7pm on Wed. 3rd July. Aimed at encouraging parental involvement the event will have hot dogs, a bouncy castle, face painting and a number of joint sporting activities. All pupils taking part must be accompanied by an adult.

Home School Communication

Improving communication between school and home is an area that we are constantly seeking to improve to ensure messages and information are shared effectively.

Recent discussion with the Parent Council will result in an upgrading of the school web-site which has gone largely unchanged for a number of years.

On top of that, through Council, we are exploring the possible adoption of social media as an additional method of communicating with the use of Twitter in particular emerging as a possibility. Parents will be kept fully informed of any progress and we will continue to use more traditional methods of sharing information for those that so wish.

Class arrangements for Session 2013-14

Looking at the anticipated P1 intake and the potential arrival of one or two additional pupils, the class arrangements for next session will see the downstairs class being made up of Primaries 1-3 with Primaries 4-7 being taught upstairs.

It is our intention however, to be much more flexible with the structure of learning experiences next year and whilst both classes will have an identifiable teacher in charge i.e. Mrs Black (P1-3) and Mrs Purdie / Mr Black (P4-7), there will be more 'whole school' teaching activities involving all the teaching staff. Hopefully this will address some of the transition issues that can occur and make for more effective learning experiences for all the pupils.

Dinner Prices

Please note that the cost of a school dinner is rising to £2 after the summer.

Thanks to everyone who has supported the School over the last 12 months. We wish all our readers an enjoyable summer.

Inspiring Aberdeenshire

The School Music Group concluded their performances for the year by opening the Inspiring Aberdeenshire awards ceremony in Aboyne at the beginning of June. Although playing only a short set, being invited to perform at the event was a significant recognition of the Group's ability and certainly brought Fetterangus School very much to the fore.

The event was a celebration of achievements within Aberdeenshire and was attended by high-ranking Councillors and Council officials. The performance was very well received.

The previous month, the Group performed at the Buchan heritage Festival and once again, their performance and musicianship was noted.

The first booking of next session is already in the calendar and the Group will be performing at a Presbytery ceremony hosted by Rev. Kirk at the beginning of September.

The Group continues to play a significant role in the life of the School and it is always so encouraging to have as many of our former pupils still so actively involved.

On Your Marks....

A full and enthusiastic team of athletes took to the Longside field at the beginning of June to compete in the annual inter-schools athletics event. Most successful athlete on the night was Emily Strachan who recorded first places in both of her races. Other top three finishes were recorded by Hannah Michie, Reegan Whyte, Carla Ewart, Amy Sloan and Annie McCarthy with many others scoring points towards the overall team total. Well done to everyone who took part and thanks to parents and family for providing transport and for being such enthusiastic supporters.

Equally keenly contested was our own School Sports. Once again, a large group of parents witnessed lots of fun and good competitive action, resulting in one of the closest House Championships in years, with two Houses separated by only one half point going into the final event. The result will be announced at the Assembly on Thursday morning, to which all are invited. (9:30 a.m.)

Holiday Watering

Thanks to all those who have indicated a willingness to help maintain and water the school garden over the holidays. Your assistance is appreciated by the Garden Group.