



## FERNHILL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

April 2017

Due to all our work supporting Fairtrade, Fernhill School has successfully achieved its third and final Fairtrade award making us a FairAchiever school. These awards have taken a lot of work and dedication from the Fairtrade team and we aim to keep up all of our hard work supporting this worthwhile organisation. We host regular Fairtrade bake sales, have stalls at events such as the Christmas Fayre and also have a tuck shop. Pupils in Fernhill learn about Fairtrade in Geography and two S3 pupils held a whole school assembly to increase awareness as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award. Well done team Fernhill!



**FAIRTRADE**



Parents and Friends of Fernhill,

## Head Teacher's Welcome

*It's lovely to see pleasant weather suddenly but please keep our senior students, and also S1 and S3 who have their internal exams at this time, in your thoughts and prayers as they take their SQA examinations. I always think it makes applying yourself for study a little more challenging when the sun is shining!*

*As you will see in these pages, although April has been a very short month school wise, as ever our school is a hive of varied activities, notably with some of our younger pupils receiving Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time - and now looking forward to receiving the sacrament of Holy Communion and Confirmation. Another notable success for school in that we are officially a Fair Achiever school! Many thanks to Miss Byrne and all staff and pupils whose enthusiasm and commitment has helped us to gain this prestigious award.*

*Furthermore as we move towards the end of our current session preparations are well underway to ensure a positive start to our new session in August, and our induction days have been carefully set up to familiarise our upcoming pupils with the culture and systems of our school, to ensure they settle in securely and successfully in August!*

*Finally, a key date for your diary is our Summer Concert on Tuesday 20th June, which I'm sure will be a sell out, cascading as it does the range of scope of artistic, musical, literary and acting talent within Fernhill School-! It promises to be an exciting and enjoyable finale to another fantastic session.*

*I hope to meet as many of you as possible on the night!*

Best wishes,

Dr Laura J Murphy  
Head Teacher

Last week, after weeks of preparation both at home and school, some of our pupils received the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the school Oratory.

It was a beautiful ceremony conducted by our school chaplain, Father Alex, in which each child played a very special and important part. We were joined by family and friends during and after the service and everyone commented that it had been a wonderfully holy and spiritual event. We would like to thank the staff involved in the Sacramental preparation, the parents for the work they carried out preparing their child for the sacrament and Father Alex for the time he gives so freely to the school.



Primary 2 and 3 had the most wonderful trip to the Botanic Gardens to take part in a mini beast safari. With the help of their guide, Laura, they were able to catch tadpoles from the pond, coax worms to the surface of the grass and see many other insects up close and personal using magnifying glasses and other viewing glasses.



The Nursery's caterpillars have arrived and we are looking forward to looking after them and to watch them turn into beautiful butterflies.



Our senior pupils took part in the SQA Mass and they conducted themselves wonderfully. We wish them all the best in their examinations over the next few weeks.



Primary 4 took their maths lesson outside! They had great fun investigating shapes that tiled.

## Key Dates

Wednesday 10th - Friday 12th May	Primary 6 at Lockerbie
Friday 12th May	Primary 1 Fairyland Open Day
Tuesday 16th May	Oratory renaming service
Saturday 20th May	First Holy Communion
Thursday 25th May	In-service Day
Friday 26th - Monday 29th May	Mid-Term
Wednesday 31st May	SQA Pupils return