

Orphir and Flotta Community Schools' Newsletter

Tuesday 10 January 2023

Kindness Creativity Teamwork Respect

News from me...

Welcome back, and of course, a belated Happy New Year. I hope you all had a joyful and relaxing holiday and are all refreshed ready for another exciting term at school. As much as I absolutely adore the Christmas period, January is a good month for resetting yourself and kick starting those good lifestyle habits. Again, we have a busy term so hopefully the fortnightly newsletters will keep you abreast of what is coming up.

Winter Illnesses

There are still lots of unwanted bugs doing the rounds and these are likely to continue. I urge you to remain vigilant with the 48-hour 'stay at home' period after a bout of sickness and/or diarrhoea and only return your child when they are fully better.

Impetigo was doing the rounds in the county before the holiday so please don't be alarmed if we contact you for clarity or confirmation if we notice anything suspicious on your child's skin. The advice we follow for impetigo is that children should not attend school or nursery for 48 hours once treatment has started.

Reporting Absence

Please continue to call the office to report an absence. Preferably before 10.00am so we can inform the child's teacher.

The local authority has an attendance rate target of 95% for all primary schools and I will be reviewing this over the next term to see how well we are doing in relation to that target.

School Strikes

At this moment, the school and Nursery will be closed again on **Wednesday 18th January** for the next round of strike action. As ever we will keep you informed of any changes to this in as timely a manner as we can

Orphir Community School Parent Forum, Family Burns Supper Friday 27th January. 6pm

Mark Edmonds, Chair of the Orphir Community School Parent Forum, has put out a helpers request sheet via the school office on Monday regarding the forthcoming Burns Supper. Hard copies will go home on Wednesday. Any queries, do call Shona in the school office.

Young People's Sport Panel

Congratulations to Megan, our Early Years Practitioner in the Nursery who has been selected as one of Scotland's Young People's Sport Panel members. This exciting role will enable Megan to influence the direction and delivery of sport in Orkney and Scotland. Well done Megan!

Mid-Term Holiday

Please notes that the school will be closed on the following dates:

- Friday 10th February.
- Monday 13th February.
- Tuesday 14th February (staff in-service training).

Term 3 Diary Dates

Wednesday 11th January. Aladdin, 7pm

Thursday 12th January. Aladdin, 7pm

Friday 27th January. Orphir Community School Parent Council Family Burns Supper, 6pm

Tuesday 7th February. Library Van

Friday 10th February. Holiday - schools closed.

Monday 13th February. Holiday - schools closed.

Tuesday 14th February. In-service training - schools closed to pupils.

Thursday 23rd February. Parent Council @ 6 PM.

Wednesday 8th March & Thursday 9th March. Parents Evening.

Friday 31st March. Last day of term 3.

Monday 17th April. First day of term 4.

Finally from me...

I hope the start of the new year continues to go well for you all. A new year can be a hard time for many people so as ever, please keep an eye out for those around you and make sure they are okay. This week I will leave you with this...

Grant Thomson

Kind regards as always.

Grant Thomson

Linked Head Teacher

Orphir, Stenness and Flotta Community Schools



Things to do:

Leading on from Grant's message (or C S Lewis!) I have copied some details from the Orphir Community News FB page for you:



Local Interest

Richard Clubley will be presenting a talk as part of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society on the topic of Orkney - A Special Way of Life. If you are interested, the talk takes place tonight in the school at 7 PM and Thursday 19th January in the St Magnus Centre, Kirkwall. Tickets are £3 at the door and a cup of tea is provided.

Sporty.... 



Badminton

Orphir Badminton Club starts back on Monday 9th January, 6.30pm to 8pm at the Pickaquoy Centre. S3 upwards welcome for a game. For information contact Kathryn on 811 242.

Creative.....  

Yarnin' is a friendly social group meeting in the Orphir and Stenness Kirk Hall in the Orphir village every second Wednesday from 7-9pm. Next evening is 25 January.

Take along your yarn project (knitting, crochet, cross stitch, etc) to work on and have a yarn with fellow like minded folk. £1 donation towards tea and a biscuit. Entrance via the side door.

And if all else fails there is cake....  

Community Cafe

Orphir Kirk Hall

10.00-12.00 every Thursday

Cakes and hot and cold drinks available

Orcadian newspaper for sale