

# Orphir and Flotta Community Schools' Newsletter

Tuesday 27 September 2022

Kindness Creativity Teamwork Respect

## CERTIFICATES

Confident Individual (CI), Effective Contributor (EC),  
Responsible Citizen (RC) or Successful Learner (SL)

Jake Armet	CI	Creating wonderful original pieces of art
Daisy Hume	RC	All round good attitude to learning and school
Jonah McGlynn	SL	Excellent independent news writing
Magnus Bruce	SL	Great commitment in Maths, particularly our Mental Maths

### News from me...

I can hardly believe that I am writing the last newsletter for term 1. I firstly want to thank you all for your continued patience whilst we have been working through our issues with Seesaw. This is obviously not an ideal situation as it is our main method of pupil-teacher-parent/carer communication but in these types of safety breaches it is always best just to hold fire until we can be sure the app is safe and fit for purpose again. P4-7 taught me how to make cheese today and at this ripe old age I newly discovered what curds and whey are - making the links to Little Miss Muffet who sat on her tuffet. Every day is a learning day here at Orphir!!



### Halloween Party

Many thanks to those of you who have offered your help at the Halloween party. It can only be a success if we have the adult bodies present to help and we are grateful to those of you who have come forward. It is never too late to offer your help so please contact Shona if you can assist in any way. Please also remember that you need to remain with your child/children for the duration of the event so if they want to come - you need to as well. Please check with your children today as I have put home a letter detailing what happens next.

### Food Glorious Food

A small request from the staff who supervise the children at lunch time in the dining hall, and I am one of those people too. We have noticed a considerably large amount of food gets wasted daily and sometimes it's hard to tell if anything has been eaten at all. We will always ask if the boys and girls if they have had enough to eat so would appreciate some encouraging words at home for them to always eat up their lunch. The food is yummy as I have tried it myself but if you perhaps know of a deeper routed cause then please let me know. If you would like us to keep a closer eye on your child/children then of course let us know and we will do our best (as we always do) to make sure they eat as much as they can and don't get hungry puggies.



## **Online Ordering of School Meals**

On a slightly different vein of school meals, thank you to everybody for ordering the school meals online. It is certainly making our admin of school meals a bit easier and a lot less paper flying around with the potential of getting lost! I appreciate there are a few teething problems with some of the online information regarding ordering, but we are working with the School Meals team to iron them out. Shona has attached a reminder sheet of what is available to order.

## **Queen Elizabeth II Book**

A while ago, books were ordered for all the children at school to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. It was very poignant today when we opened a delivery to find these. There had been an overwhelming response to the ordering of the books which had meant production and delivery delays in receipt of them. Every child will have a book home with them today to commemorate the Jubilee Celebrations and will hopefully be a nice reminder for them.

## **Hi Viz Vests**



With Halloween looming near that can only mean one thing - the high viz vests need to get dusted off. All children will be required to wear these daily from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October onwards, regardless of mode of travel home. They will be given out to all the children next week for starting using next term.

## **School Photos**

Class, individual and family photos will be taken in school on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> October. A hard copy of the letter will be sent out to all families as a return is required. The letter states that we would like the children to wear school tops but if you do not have these then something suitable for photographs will suffice.

## **Diary Dates**

### **Term 1**

P6 Outdoor Education Day with Stenness: Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September.

P6 Outdoor Education Day with Stenness: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October.

P6 Outdoor Education Day with Stenness: Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October.

Last Day of Term 1: Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October.

In-Service, school closed to pupils: Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October.

In-Service, school closed to pupils: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Term 2**

Parent Council & AGM: Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

Parents Evening 1: Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November & Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November.

School Show: Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December & Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December.

Last Day of Term 2: Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December.

### **Term 3**

Parents Evening 2: Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March & Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March.

### **Term 4**

School Bus Trip: Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June.

Sports Day: Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June.  
 Curriculum Showcase Afternoon: Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June.  
 Reports Issued: Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June.

### Finally from me...

Have an absolutely cracking holiday when it comes. It has been a really fun term, the children have all been an absolute dream to work with and we have accomplished lots and now need a good rest. For those of you who go picking tatties - I hope the weather holds. See you next month for my favourite school term of the academic year!

Kind regards as always,

Grant Thomson  
 Linked Head Teacher  
 Orphir, Stenness and Flotta Community Schools

## Education, Leisure and Housing

### School Term Dates 2022 to 2023

All dates are inclusive.

<b>Term 1.</b>	Tuesday 16 August to Wednesday 5 October (37 days).
October holidays.	Thursday 6 October to Friday 21 October.
<b>Term 2.</b>	Monday 24 October to Wednesday 21 December (43 days).
Christmas holidays.	Thursday 22 December to Wednesday 4 January.
<b>Term 3.</b>	Thursday 5 January to Friday 31 March (59 days).
Schools closed.	Friday 10 February to Tuesday 14 February.
Spring holidays.	Monday 3 April to Friday 14 April. (Easter Monday 10 April).
<b>Term 4.</b>	Monday 17 April to Wednesday 28 June (51 days).
Schools closed.	Monday 1 May (May Day holiday).
Schools closed.	Monday 5 June.

Staff only, in-service days are:

- Monday 15 August 2022.
- Thursday 6 and Friday 7 October 2022.
- Tuesday 14 February 2023.
- Monday 5 June 2023.

### Term 1 Timetable

My timetable for term 1 shall be as follows:

	AM	PM	Orphir contact details
Monday	Stenness	Orphir	811 265
Tuesday	Orphir	Stenness	<a href="mailto:admin.orphir@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk">admin.orphir@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk</a>
Wednesday	Stenness	Orphir	Stenness contact details
Thursday	Stenness	Orphir	850 212
Friday	Orphir	Stenness	<a href="mailto:admin.stenness@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk">admin.stenness@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk</a>

# School Meals Information

## **Menus**

- Options are offered to encourage healthy choices and are as follows:

### Option 1

Soup, any main course, fresh fruit

### Option 2

Any main course with soup or pudding

### Option 3

Soup or fruit, sandwich, pudding

## **Ordering**

- Now we are used to ordering online, please try and follow the options above to make sure 3 courses are not being ordered for the children - use the not required button in order to get the form submitted. Where the choices have been made for 3 courses and the children are only entitled to 2, we normally offer the children the pudding option rather than the soup.
- At the moment, we don't have a duplication of exact same spelling names, so do feel free to just type in the children's first names or what they are known as in school. The names are only useful to Christine and Shona so surnames currently unnecessary.

## **Packed Lunches**

- If your child takes a packed lunch every day, please mark no lunch required on the relevant days.
- If your child never takes school meals, please contact Shona in the school office to discuss potentially not having to order.



## Farming Trip, 27 September 2022

Well the Primary 4-7 intrepid explorers set off today for Kirbuster Farm Museum and were stopping by the Standing Stones of Stenness on the way to have a chat with Professor Mark Edmonds about farming way back!

At Kirbuster, we gathered round the peat fire for stories about the museum and the fantastic artefacts they have.

Neil Leask, Custodian, was particularly impressed with the pupils listening and questioning skills and would be delighted to see them back again next time.

A huge thanks to Mark for accompanying us and sharing his wisdom, Neil for the tour around Kirbuster and to Stagecoach Orkney for the free bus!

