

# Orphir and Flotta Community Schools' Newsletter

## Wednesday 17 May 2023

Kindness Creativity Teamwork Respect Flourishing

Kindness	Danny	Being extremely helpful in class tidying up other people's stuff
Flourishing	Erland	Fantastic commitment to homework tasks
Creativity	James	Creating an extremely long longship out of blocks
Creativity	Chloe	Creating an exciting Viking story
Creativity	Noah	Creative thinking when constructing a Viking belt
Respect	Teagan	Being respectful when the teacher is talking
Teamwork	Daisy	Working well together with her partner to create a Viking cloak
Teamwork	Jacob	Working well together with his partner to create a Viking cloak

### News from me...

Well what a week the P7s and myself had last week in Hoy - kayaking, gorge walking, coasteering, a walking tour of Rackwick to see The Old Man, traversing (pulling yourself along, upside down, at a great height!) and very little sleep! I think it is safe to say we all slept well on Friday night after such an action-packed adventure. The children were a real credit to themselves, their families and the school and speaking to them all, they seemed to thoroughly enjoy it. Residential trips like these are so valuable and the beauty of the centre in Hoy is that it is right on our doorstep and has the feelings and emotions of being away from home, but the advantage of not being too far away.

### Trip Notifications

It was suggested in a communication questionnaire to consider making the notifications/consents for things like trips more electronic to save parents losing and us chasing paper copies. Shona has been working on this with Microsoft Forms and we will trial this term using that to see if it can help. We do need to make sure that you have that information though so we will still maybe ask for an acknowledgement for trips. This means when we ask that children have suitable clothing for the event, eg, day pack/water bottle/sun cream, etc we can be rest assured you have seen that information.

Please bear with us on this trial, it may be a bit 'raffley' but we will test the water and see if we can make it work! On each of the excursions listed in this week's newsletter, there are links to click on - where it applies to your family, please click on them and complete where asked. We will check with any families who have not completed the links to check access.

### **School Meals**

On that same vein, thank you all very much for submitting menu choices when asked and submitting them promptly. We totally appreciate it is coming out a bit late on occasion and we have been working with the School Meals team to get it out a bit faster but it doesn't always work.

### **Bikeability**

Claire and Kirsty Spence from Active Schools delivered Level 1 and 2 Bikeability training to our P5 and 6 children recently. The weather wasn't the best but the children did really well and here are our P6 children having completed their training with the obligatory funny face photo!



### **Gathering Parental Views**

There hasn't been many responses to this and I would like to get a little more feel of what folk think. Please have a look at this link and where you feel relevant, complete the boxes in consultation with your child(ren).

[Gathering Parental Views](#)

# Events

## PRIMARY 4-7-Excursion Information

<b>Pupil Name/Class</b>	P4-7
<b>Proposed Excursion</b>	Round Kirk, Maeshowe, Kirkwall
<b>Date and Time</b>	Monday 22 May 2023
<b>Additional Information</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Depart from school on hired bus at 9.30am, return for 3.30pm</li><li>• Dress appropriately for the day/weather with footwear suitable for walking (wellies or trainers)</li><li>• Use their own hi-vis waistcoat or school will issue</li><li>• Apply sun cream in the morning as required, take suncream/hat/sunglasses as required</li><li>• Children will need water bottle, snack and packed lunch from home in light bag to carry (anything the children choose to take, they will have to carry)</li></ul>
<b>Group Leader</b>	John Dearness

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Do let the school know on [admin.orphir@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk](mailto:admin.orphir@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk) if your child's contact or medical details have changed from what is on file. School packed lunch cannot be provided as the trip is on a Monday.

Please click on the link to acknowledge information - [P4-7 Trip May 2023](#)

## PRIMARY 1-3 -Excursion Information

<b>Pupil Name</b>	P1-3 pupils
<b>Proposed Excursion</b>	Two in a Barrel at Pickaquoy Centre <a href="http://www.ruxandracantir.com/two-in-a-barrel">http://www.ruxandracantir.com/two-in-a-barrel</a>
<b>Date and Time</b>	Tuesday 23 May 2023, 1.00pm approximately
<b>Additional Information</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Packed lunch at school before we go</li><li>• Depart school 12.30pm</li><li>• Children and staff to take hired bus to and from Pickaquoy Centre</li><li>• Watch show and depart Pickaquoy Centre at 2.15pm</li></ul>
<b>Group Leaders</b>	Rachel Dunnett, Dawn Williams

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Do let the school know on [admin.orphir@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk](mailto:admin.orphir@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk) if your child's contact or medical details have changed from what is on file.

School packed lunch cannot be provided as the trip is on a Monday.

Please click on the link below to order your child(ren)'s packed lunch which will acknowledge information.

[Two in a Barrel 230523](#)

## P7 TRANSITION-Excursion Information

<b>Pupil Name</b>	P7 pupils
<b>Proposed Excursion</b>	Transition Visit to KGS
<b>Date and Time</b>	Thursday 25 May 2023, 12.00-2.00pm approx
<b>Additional Information</b>	Dep Orphir 12.00pm, minibus Return from KGS 2.00pm
<b>Group Leaders</b>	John Dearness

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Do let the school know on [admin.orphir@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk](mailto:admin.orphir@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk) if your child's contact or medical details have changed from what is on file.

Please click on the link below to acknowledge information.

[P7 Transition Trip](#)

### **PRIMARY SCHOOL ATHLETICS**

6 children from the P4-7 class are attending the Primary School Athletics day on 1 June - they have been emailed the link separately.

### **Parent Council**

The next meeting of the Orphir Community School Forum will take place on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May at 6 PM here at the school - it will be a hybrid meeting with links going out that week. Please do come along if you can - we had lots of call offs last time, of our regular attendees, and we then felt it wouldn't be worthwhile holding the meeting if there weren't many attendees.

### **School Closure Days**

School is closed on the following dates this term:

- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June (in-service training).

### **New P1 Pupils August 2023**

There will be a meeting for our new P1 parents on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June here in the school at 9:30 am. This will be an opportunity for you to meet the P1 teachers, ask any questions you may have and hear a little about what your child can expect when they start P1 in August.



## Term 4 Diary Dates

Orphir: Thursday 18 May. Fluoride varnishing.

Orphir: Monday 22 May. P4-7 All day Round Kirk, Maeshowe, Kirkwall

Orphir: Tuesday 23 May. P1-3 Two in a Barrel at Pickaquoy Centre

Orphir: Thursday 25 May. P7 KGS Transition Visit

Orphir: Thursday 1 June. Primary Athletics at Picky.

Orphir: Thursday 8 June. Sports Day PM.

Orphir: Friday 9 June. School nurse to visit P7s.

Orphir: Monday 12 and Tuesday 13 June. P7 KGS transition days.

Orphir: Tuesday 13 June. P7 KGS transition parental open evening.

Flotta: Tuesday 13 June. Flotta school open day - all welcome!

Orphir: Thursday 15 June. P7 leavers disco. More details to follow.

Orphir: Wednesday 21 June. P7 leavers assembly here in the hall. More details to follow.

Orphir: Friday 23 June. End of year reports out.

Orphir: Friday 23 June. Curriculum showcase event PM. More details to follow.

Orphir: Monday 26 June. P7's leaver lunch PM. More details to follow.

## Finally from me...

As I said last time, time is flying past and this term is BUSY!

Although the residential trip was physically exhausting I had the most beautiful moment of realisation when I was paddling through Rackwick burn that reminded me that the following saying is true... 'Find a job you love doing and you will never work a day in your life.' Thank you all for being kind, supportive and looking out for each other - you really are a super bunch.

Kind regards as always.

*Grant Thomson*

Grant Thomson

Linked Head Teacher

Orphir, Stenness and Flotta Community Schools

## Expressive Arts

Monday	Fiddle Art
Tuesday	
Wednesday	Music
Thursday	PE
Friday	

## 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.

## Education, Leisure and Housing

### School term dates - 2023 / 2024 (all dates are inclusive)

<b>Term 1</b>	Tuesday 22 August – Wednesday 11 October (37 days).
October holidays	Thursday 12 October – Friday 27 October.
<b>Term 2</b>	Monday 30 October – Friday 22 December (40 days).
Christmas holidays	Monday 25 December – Friday 5 January.
<b>Term 3</b>	Monday 8 January – Friday 29 March (57 days).
Schools closed	Friday 16 February – Tuesday 20 February.
Spring holidays	Monday 1 April – Friday 12 April (Easter Monday 1 April)
<b>Term 4</b>	Monday 15 April – Wednesday 3 July (56 days).
Schools closed	Monday 6 May (May Day holiday).
Schools closed	Monday 3 June.

Staff Only, In-service days are:

- Monday 21 August.
- Thursday 12 – Friday 13 October.
- Tuesday 20 February.
- Monday 3 June.

## SUMMER EXHIBITION



# Ness of Brodgar: Time and Place

Some of the finest artefacts from the 5,000-year-old Neolithic complex together and on display in Orkney for the first time



Orkney Museum, Broad Street, Kirkwall

Runs until Saturday, September 30, 2023

Monday-Saturday, 10.30am – 5.00pm



[www.nessofbrodgar.co.uk](http://www.nessofbrodgar.co.uk)



UHI Archaeology  
Institute



# *The Scottish Bestiary*



Prints by John Bellany, Steven Campbell,  
Peter Howson, Jack Knox, Bruce McLean,  
June Redfern and Adrian Wiszniewski.

Words by George Mackay Brown

**The Orkney Museum,  
13<sup>th</sup> May – 12<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

Open Monday-Saturday, 10.30 a.m.-5.00 p.m.  
Admission is free.







# SUMMER EVENT SCHEDULE

**20 MAY** BROAD STREET PARADE  
19:30

**03 JUN** BROAD STREET PARADE  
19:30

**17 JUN** FINSTOWN GALA  
19:30

**01 JUL** BROAD STREET PARADE  
19:30

**15 JUL** BROAD STREET PARADE  
19:30

**22 JUL** STROMNESS SHOPPING WEEK  
TBC

**05 AUG** BROAD STREET PARADE  
19:30

**10 AUG** DOUNBY SHOW  
19:30

**12 AUG** COUNTY SHOW  
TIME TBA

**13 AUG** RIDING OF THE MARCHES  
13:30

**02 SEP** BROAD STREET PARADE  
19:00



**KCPB**