

# Orphir Community School Newsletter

Tuesday 22 February 2022

## CERTIFICATES

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

Skyla Sandison	EC	Having a super 'hard working' attitude
Jonah McGlynn	SL	Listening hard for sounds, then writing the words independently
Jack Watson	SL	Being reflective when talking about his learning
Daisy Hume	EC	Being very helpful at tidy up times helping others tidy too
Wolfy Easener	SL	Listening hard for sounds, then writing the words independently

## Head Teacher's Headline

I hope you all had an enjoyable long weekend and managed to find time to slow down and do things you enjoy. At Orphir Community School the month of March will be known as **Mindful March**.

We are all going to make a real effort to follow the 5 Ways to Wellbeing and focus on doing everything we can to keep ourselves and others well. Research shows that by focussing on your wellbeing your mood improves, your thinking is clearer, your anxiety levels reduce and your relationships with other improve. Many find their self-esteem increases and they find a greater sense of calm and inner peace.

We will start by having a whole school focus on character strengths which are a family of positive traits that are expressed through our thoughts, feelings and behaviours. Being aware of your character strengths provides the foundation for self-confidence and helps us understand why everyone is different and how to appreciate those differences.

We look forward to sharing our journey with you and hope to teach you something new along the way too!



TALK & LISTEN,  
BE THERE,  
FEEL CONNECTED



DO WHAT YOU CAN,  
ENJOY WHAT YOU DO,  
MOVE YOUR MOOD



REMEMBER  
THE SIMPLE  
THINGS THAT  
GIVE YOU JOY



EMBRACE NEW  
EXPERIENCES,  
SEE OPPORTUNITIES,  
SURPRISE YOURSELF



Your time,  
your words,  
your presence

## Staffing

I am delighted to announce that Christine Tulloch has been appointed to the post of Acting Principal Teacher at Flotta Community School. Christine has worked at Flotta since the beginning term 2 and has been a valuable addition to the school. Christine has made a positive impact on the

## Parent Appointments

Forward notice that we plan to hold our Term 3 parent appointments on the following dates:

- Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March
- Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March

We are hopeful that we will be able to hold these in person this time - fingers crossed! Details will come out with the next newsletter.

## Reminders

### Snack

A piece of fruit is provided for P1-2 pupils from Tuesday-Thursday only.

There have been numerous occasions recently when staff have generously provided something for children who do not have snack with them but think they need snack.

Do ensure that if your child needs a daily snack that it is provided from home.

### School Dinners

Children sometimes are upset when they come to the dinner hatch as when they see the dinner on offer it is not always what has been ordered for them - it may be useful if your child knows what they are having on a daily basis to avoid tears.

## Reminder - Nursery Enrolment

Nursery registration for the academic year 2022/2023 begins on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February.

The link to the OIC website is below and it also has a list of FAQs that may help answer any queries you may have. You are always more than welcome to contact us at the school (01856 811265) if you have any issues in the application process or if you have a question that isn't answered on the website.

<https://www.orkney.gov.uk/Service-Directory/P/Early-Learning-and-Childcare.htm>

## P4-7 Workshop

For the Primary 4-7 children only, there will be some people visiting and making a film on the theme of wellbeing.

Consent forms are home with the children and one copy of the consent form must be returned for them to be involved in the filming.

Sounds super exciting!

## NORTHVET Competition

Do you fancy winning £50 worth of book tokens and £200 worth of book tokens for the school? If so, here is an exciting competition run by NORTHVET where you could design the winning picture to be displayed on the vaccine reminder cards for cats, dogs and rabbits. Attached are details of the competition. It's not something that will be worked on in school but thought some of our budding artist would like to enter in their own time. Good luck!

## Research into Shared Headships

Dear Parent,

A team from the University of Aberdeen, School of Education, are conducting research into shared headships across the north of Scotland. Our schools (Orphir, Flotta and Stenness) have been identified as a focus for the research as it is an example of a school that has a shared headship with at least one other school.

The results will help inform future developments and decisions about school headship models.

Including the school community is very important for the research and so we would like to invite you to share your opinions via an online survey.

More detailed information about the project is available at the beginning of the survey. Your participation in the research is entirely voluntary and will be anonymous.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration, it is greatly appreciated.  
(This info will also be sent out separately via Groupcall for ease of access.)

Orphir and Flotta link: <https://viis.abdn.ac.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=164435045575>

## Holiday Date Change Reminder

Please be aware of the following holiday date change:

- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> of May is **no longer a holiday**.
- Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> of June **are now holiday days**.

## Finally from me...

Have a great fortnight till the next newsletter 😊 – with it being lighter for longer now, do get out and about if you can and enjoy any snippet of calm weather we may have when it comes.

Kind regards,

*Grant Thomson*

Grant Thomson

Linked Head Teacher

Orphir, Flotta & Stenness Community Schools

**Print me out and put me on the fridge!**



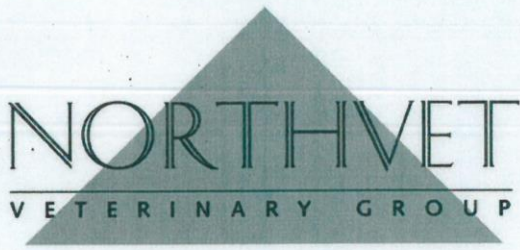
Date	Event	Notes
Wed-Thurs 2-3 March	P4-7 Film Making Workshop	Consent form to be back by Friday 25 February.
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day	Info to follow
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Parental Appointments	Info to follow
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Parental Appointments	Info to follow
Friday 1st April	Last day of Term 3	

<b>School Term Dates 2021-2022. All dates are inclusive.</b>	
<b>Term 3</b>	Wednesday 05 January to Friday 01 April
Schools closed	Friday 11 February to Tuesday 15 February
Spring holidays	Monday 04 April to Monday 18 April (Easter Monday 18 April)
<b>Term 4</b>	Tuesday 19 April to Thursday 30 June
Schools closed	Monday 02 June & Friday 03 June
Schools closed	Monday 06 June



**Term 3 Timetable** My timetable for Term 3 will be as follow:

	AM	PM
Monday	Orphir	Stenness
Tuesday	Stenness	Orphir
Wednesday	Stenness	Stenness
Thursday	Stenness	Orphir
Friday	Orphir	Orphir



Win!  
£200 of book tokens for  
your school and £50 of  
book tokens for yourself!

## Design our vaccine reminder cards!

Dogs, cats and rabbits can suffer from a range of nasty diseases, but thankfully we can protect our pets from many of these by using vaccines.

We would like to invite primary age children to enter our competition to submit a picture to be featured on our vaccine reminder cards.

Entries should be submitted by  
Friday 1st April.

On the back of your entry  
please include your Name, Age,  
Class, School and a contact  
telephone number.

Categories are:  
Cats  
Dogs  
Rabbits



Winning entries will be used on reminder cards for the month of May & possibly additional months in future.