Orphir and Flotta Community Schools' Newsletter Thursday 1 June 2023

Kindness Creativity Teamwork Respect Flourishing

Respect	Wolfy	Catching up on missed work with good attitude
Kindness	Sahana	Being helpful and tidying up well including other people's stuff
Creativity	Vaila	Deigning an amazing Viking shirt for the class Viking
Flourishing	Sophie	Outstanding writing
Flourishing	Skyla	Confidence and attitude on Hoy
Respect	Magnus	Above and beyond while on Hoy
Teamwork	Danny	Excellent sharing of the iPad while on our trip
Teamwork	Jonah	Excellent sharing of the iPad while on our trip
Kindness	Luke	Kindness and being thoughtful on our class trip

News from me...

Some congratulations to kick start us this week... To our P4/5 netball team who came runners up in the recent P4/5 netball tournament - well done! To our P5 and P6 pupils who have completed their Bikeability training - stay safe (photo in last newsletter)! And to our first cohort of Bronze Wellbeing Warriors - amazing! For a small school the amount of successes we have really is incredible and I love being able to share the good news.

Trip Notifications

Thank you to those folks who took the time to send us the very positive feedback on the use of Microsoft Forms for the trip notification and packed lunch ordering options. It was a little nerve wracking and much checking of links beforehand but it is something I think we will continue to use and build on.

Notifications have been sent for Sports Day and P1-7 Cathedral and Museum visit. Please complete by tomorrow morning.

School Closure Day

Remember school is closed on the following date this term:

• Monday 5th June (in-service training).

New P1 Pupils August 2023

There will be a meeting for our new P1 parents on Tuesday 6th 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.

Sports Day

A reminder to join us for our Sports Day on Thursday 8th June here at the school. We will run with the same format as last year as this was well received. Our races will kick off at approximately 1 PM which will be followed by ice-cream and our 'have a go' type stalls. The day will end with a celebration of our sports teams in the hall and a certificate for all pupils that take part.

Nursery to P1, P3 to P4 and P7-S1 Transition Days

Our new P1 pupils will visit their new class on Monday 12th June and Tuesday 13th June. On the same day our current P3 children will move up to P4 to get a flavour of what things will be like after the summer holiday. These days have been planned to coincide with our P7 transition days to KGS. It's all go!

Curriculum Showcase Event

Please join us on Friday 23rd June from 2 PM to 3 PM where will showcase our learning from this term. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to hear and see some of the things we have been doing and ask any questions about life and learning in our school. Spread the word to family and friends and anyone who would like to come and have a peep at what we do here. The P4-7 class will be performing a sort play they have written from about 2.30pm.

Flotta News

Our Flotta class are holding an open day at the Flotta Community School on Tuesday 13 June 2023 from 1.30-3.00pm – everybody is welcome to attend. A poster is attached with more details.

ELC Trips to the Café!

The ELC class have been a visit to the Community Café at the Orphir Kirk the past couple of Thursdays and there are some fab photos and selfies on the back page.

End of Term

As we approach the end of term, often families consider going on holiday and taking their children out of school for the last day or two of term. It is entirely a family decision and we can not stop parents choosing to do that but I would add a thought here for your planning process. We may be winding down, so to speak, and having a clear up of work and projects that the children have produced over the school year and maybe some less academic activities will be planned in for the last few days.

As adults we may not place the same importance on this time as the children do. It helps them wind up the school year, prepare for the holidays and mentally start planning for the next school year in August. Often we are asked by the parents, or the children ask, if certain events or tasks can be re-scheduled to accommodate them missing the last day or two of school. On the whole we try to be flexible and accommodating but there are times when we run out of days left in the term and we cannot shift things around for one or two I am afraid. That said if you are planning for the children to be off for the last day or two of term, do let us know.

Term 4 Diary Dates

Orphir: Thursday 1st June. Primary Athletics at Picky. Orphir: Tuesday 6th June. New P1 intake meeting @ 9:30 AM. Orphir: Thursday 8th June. Sports Day PM - notification sent Orphir: Friday 9th June. School nurse to visit P7s. Orphir: Monday 12th June. P7 KGS transition day 1. Orphir: Tuesday 13th June. P7 KGS transition day 2. Flotta: Tuesday 13th June. Flotta school open day - all welcome! Orphir: Tuesday 13th June. P7 KGS transition parental open evening. Orphir: Thursday 15th June. P7 kGS transition parental open evening. Orphir: Thursday 15th June. P7 leavers disco. Orphir: Friday 16th June. P1-7 school trip PM - notification sent Orphir: Friday 23rd June. P7 leavers assembly here in the hall. Orphir: Friday 23rd June. End of year reports out. Orphir: Friday 23rd June. Curriculum showcase event PM. 2-3pm (play starts approx. 2.30pm) Orphir: Monday 26th June. P7s leaver lunch PM. More details to follow.

Finally from me...

A little something from Winnie The Pooh that needs no further explanation as we rapidly approach the end of another school year.



"How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard."



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.

Term 1.	Tuesday 16 August to Wednesday 5 October (37 days).
October holidays.	Thursday 6 October to Friday 21 October.
Term 2.	Monday 24 October to Wednesday 21 December (43 days)
Christmas holidays.	Thursday 22 December to Wednesday 4 January.
Term 3.	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).
Term 4.	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)

Term 1	Tuesday 22 August – Wednesday 11 October (37 days).
October holidays	Thursday 12 October – Friday 27 October.
Term 2	Monday 30 October – Friday 22 December (40 days).
Christmas holidays	Monday 25 December – Friday 5 January.
Term 3	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)
Term 4	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.



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