

# Orphir Community School Newsletter

Tuesday 1 June 2021

## News

### Covid Update

Whilst we are all delighted that Orkney is now at Level One, this has not made any significant change to the guidelines as they apply to schools.

The biggest, and in my opinion, saddest of these is that parents, family, carers and friends can still not enter the school grounds; unless it is to pick up a child, for example, a medical appointment.

### Primary Seven Transition

At this stage, the dates (22-23 June) look like staying the same, however, the Covid guidelines may necessitate some changes re transport and timings. Watch this space!

### Den Building

Our P4-7 children have been industriously building dens as part of their outdoor topic. Thank you to all the families that put in den building material. You can see the results below.

There are a lot of future DIY/Builders/Joiners by the look of the photos! Well done children.



## Nursery-Primary 3 Transition

Our Nursery children and having weekly session of Plan, Do, Review with the P1-3 class as part of our transition arrangements. This involved both classes meeting outside where the children have (as the name suggests) planned, done and reviewed their activities (of their own choice).



## **Jungle Book DVD**

While John Dearness was working from home, one of the other tasks he completed was the editing of the DVD. This will come home with the children involved in that production before the summer holidays. For those no longer at this school, Shona will organise posting them out to families.



## **Caterpillars**

The Nursery children all have their caterpillar habitats home with them. Do feel free to send in photos to the Nursery team or the admin email address of how your caterpillars are getting on.

## **Head Teacher Appointment—Update**

The Authority hope to interview shortlisted candidates on the 17-18 June.

As part of this, parents may have the opportunity to meet them online.

At this stage, it is still hoped that the successful candidate can commence at the beginning of Term One next session.

## **Annual Reports**

Annual reports will be issued on Monday 14 June to the children. Please complete the Parent Response Sheet and return by Monday 21 June.

## **SUNSHINE! and WATER!**

With the advent of the unusually bright thing in the sky (SUN), do apply suncream to your children before they come to school where appropriate. We try and get out a bit more when it is sunny.

We have noticed, too, that there are less and less water bottles coming to school. Do remember to send a named water bottle with your child, especially the younger children. Where we have provided plastic cups, these get spilled over work and are not very good for the environment too. We encourage the children to use their water bottles to keep hydrated when it is so warm.

## **Events**

### **Religious Observance**

Week commencing 31 May  
Reverend Martin Prentice will record a video message for our school based on our values, fair, care, respect, trust, share and try.

### **Sports Day**

Tuesday 8 June, AM

No parents are permitted to enter the school grounds to watch this—sorry.

If the weather does not suit, we will reschedule to the following week.



## Orphir Community School Parent Council and Friends of Orphir Meeting

Wednesday 9 June, 6.30pm on-line

An agenda for and link to the meeting will be forwarded on Monday 7 June.

Should you wish to have anything included on the agenda, please contact Mark Edmonds, Chair on 811425 or myself at either of my schools. (or by email).

Do remember that everyone is welcome to attend these meetings and with the current situation you don't even need to leave the house! Look forward to 'seeing' you there.

## Art Work—Pier Arts Centre

There will be a display of Orkney Schools Art Work as part of the George Mackay Brown display at the Pier Arts Centre in Stromness. Some of the Orphir Community School P4-7 art work has been submitted but we don't know yet whose will be displayed. This will be from 12-17 June 2021.

Previous experience tells me it is certainly worth a visit to see their's, and others' amazing work!

## KGS Transition

Tues-Wed 22-23 June

More details will follow as we know. Some of this comes from KGS for sending on—please do keep an eye on your emails/Xpressions for updates.

## P7 Leavers Service

Thursday 24 June PM

No parents are permitted to enter the school to watch this—sorry.

We are looking at the P7s doing an in-school leavers assembly type event where they will share their memories as in previous years. We will also be tree planting with them.

*Bruce Pilkington*

Bruce Pilkington  
Head Teacher

## Useful Dates

Summer Holidays

Saturday 26 June - Monday 16 August 2021 inclusive

October Holidays

Thursday 7 October — Sunday 24 October 2021 inclusive

[https://www.orkney.gov.uk/Files/Education-and-Learning/School\\_Term\\_Dates.pdf](https://www.orkney.gov.uk/Files/Education-and-Learning/School_Term_Dates.pdf)

### Reminder - where to contact me

Orphir 811265  
Stenness 850212

## Community Notices

### On behalf of Orphir Baby and Toddler Group

We are looking for a few bits for our toy collection and thought we would ask on here before buying new. What we are looking for is wooden puzzles, dolls, a few books - especially touch/feel books and a dolls house. If anyone has anything in good condition that they'd like to donate or sell us please give me a shout. Many thanks. Cheryl.  
<https://www.facebook.com/cherylsinc> For anyone not on facebook, email any details to the school on and Shona can pass these on to Cheryl. [admin.orphir@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk](mailto:admin.orphir@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk)



# Remember **FACTS** for a safer Scotland

- F** Face coverings
- A** Avoid crowded places
- C** Clean your hands regularly
- T** Two metre distance
- S** Self isolate and book a test if you have symptoms



[nhsinform.scot/coronavirus](https://nhsinform.scot/coronavirus)  
#WeAreScotland

