

Orphir Community School

Certificated Congratulations!

Oran	Being very kind and helping another member of the class
Freyja	Gave up her own reading time to read to another class member
Oskar and Balfour	Creating wonderful football stories with lots of sentences
Danny	Being ready to learn and listening well to instructions
Helga	Cracking on with her work, following instructions as requested. What a tremendous role model!
Edith	For continuing to be a positive role model in the class and encouraging others.

Lost property

For the last week of term, we will put out any lost property just inside the front door on the hatch worktop there. Please if you are passing or in for an event, have a look and see if any of it belongs to your family.

Large carrier bag

The annual 'Put in a bag plea' for taking stuff home from classrooms is upon us. Please can children have a carrier bag next week with them from Monday and we will start popping things home with them to try and make Friday a bit easier!

PE Kit

Over the school year we have loaned out various pieces of PE kit. If you discover your child home with pieces of PE kit (shorts, t-shirt) that aren't yours, please do pop them back to school so we can have spares when the need arises. They are similar to what is pictured, blue/black items from Primark and Asda/Tesco.



Sports Day

Thank you to our parents and helpers on the day for Sports Day - we were lucky with the weather! A huge thanks again to Kirsten Shearer for taking photos too!

Access is via here

<https://kirstinshearerphotography.pixieset.com/orphirsportsday2025/>

with Orphir25 the password.

2025-2026 School Improvement Priority

There was a 'technical problem'!! with the last link which hopefully has been sorted now! Please have a look/read and complete the short feedback form. Many thanks!

Our school improvement priority for session 2025-2026 will revolve around high quality teaching and learning in the subject areas of Religious & Moral Education and French. These priorities were identified after a staff self-evaluation session highlighted these as areas we feel we need to improve. This has already been shared with our Parent Council and we would now like to gather your views on this priority. Please complete the very short Microsoft Form [2025-2026 Priority Feedback](#) to help share your views. There is also space on the form for you to highlight other areas we could work on next session.

End of Year Progress Reports - More Technical Issues

Due to other 'technical' issues, the reports have been delayed and will come out next week with the children. Reports will also be posted to parents not living at the child(ren)'s registered home address.

From Orkney Islands Council

Our Sport & Leisure team have put together an amazing summer programme for 2025, with activities running throughout July and August including the SFA Football Festival, swimming fun sessions, arts and crafts activities, VR experiences, and Family Learning STEM days.

Whether you're after football, want to splash about with family swimming sessions, or fancy trying something creative, there's definitely something to suit all interests.

For the full programme, visit <https://bit.ly/45BGtPO>

This Term

- Leavers Assembly: Wednesday 2nd July (in school), 1.45pm
- Last day of term: Friday 4th July.

Forward notice:

- In-service (school closed to pupils): Monday 18th August 2025.
- **First day of term 1: Tuesday 19th August 2025.**
- Library Van

Next dates are:

19 August

7 October

2 December

- Term 1 Orphir Community School Forum Meeting: Wednesday 3 September 2025



Photography Competition 2025

FRAMING ISLAND LIFE

Fancy yourself as a photographer?

Send us your best shot for a chance to win!

Enter the Orkney Harbours' **Doon the Coast** photography competition by sending in your best photographs from around the islands. Capture our beautiful beach scenes, stunning wildlife, or picturesque ships. Use your phone or camera to show off your photography skills and you could be in with a chance to win some awesome prizes and have your work celebrated in the Orcadian. The winner will also receive a free Doon the Coast calendar featuring their photograph!



How it works

- 1 Head to the website to pick your category and upload your photo.
- 2 The best photos of the week will be featured in the Orcadian.
- 3 The competition closes on July 27th, after which the winners will be announced!



SCAN THIS CODE
TO ENTER THE COMPETITION

Applicants to the Under-18s category will need permission from a guardian.
For full terms and conditions, visit www.orkneyharbours.com/photo-comp-tc

EDUCATION, COMMUNITIES AND HOUSING

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If calling, please contact Leanne Tait (ext. 2422) or Heather Manson (ext. 2416)

Dear Parent/Carer

Free School Meals and Clothing Allowances (2025/2026)

Orkney Islands Council provides assistance with free school meals and clothing allowances to families who are in receipt of certain benefits. The Scottish Government sets the eligibility criteria and for academic year 2025/26 you may be entitled to support if you are in receipt of one of the following:

- Income Support.
- Pension Credit.
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance.
- Any income related element of Employment and Support Allowance.
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Universal Credit with a monthly earned income of not more than £850.
- Scottish Child Payment (P6 and P7 only) – *Not eligible for clothing allowance.*

Carers of a Looked After Child may be eligible, without the need for an income assessment.

Further information is available on our website at: <https://www.orkney.gov.uk/Service-Directory/S/School-Meals-and-Clothing-Allowances.htm>

How to apply:

Applications can be made online by clicking the following link:
<https://www.orkney.gov.uk/School-Benefit>

If you are unable to access the online application form then please contact us using the details at the top of this letter and we will send you a paper copy.

Existing Applicants:

A fresh application must be submitted every year to ensure continuation of your child's free school meals and payment of the clothing allowance.

Submission Dates:

Applications should ideally be submitted by 31 July 2025 to ensure that arrangements are in place for the new academic year, starting on 19 August 2025.

Yours sincerely

Leanne Tait
Senior Administrative Officer (Grants)

Links below as the above is a photo!

Further information is available on our website at: <https://www.orkney.gov.uk/Service-Directory/S/School-Meals-and-Clothing-Allowances.htm>

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