

Orphir and Flotta Community Schools' Newsletter

Friday, 19 August 2022

NEWS

WELCOME BACK!

I hope you have all had a fantastic summer holiday and have managed to find time to relax, unwind and simply chill out. I honestly can't believe how fast the last 6 weeks have gone but I am excited to be back and see everyone again. Over the next few newsletters we will be communicating with you our school priorities for the year ahead and any other curricular developments which we have planned.

We welcome Balfour, Aria and Thea to our Nursery this term. Chloe, Ernest, Henry & Jacob into the Primary 1-3 class as our new Primary 1 pupils. Erland, Fraser and Luke join the Primary 4-7 class. Noah joins us in Primary 3 as a new pupil to the school. All the children have settled wonderfully and it is an absolute delight to have them back. Our Primary 7 pupils looked particularly smart in their new leavers hoodies and I hope they continue to wear these with pride throughout the year.

I finally want to extend another warm welcome to our new staff. Megan Clouston joins us in the Nursery as our new Early Years Practitioner and Josie Stanger joins us as Education Support Worker for the Flotta class. It is lovely to have them both with us and we all hope that they enjoy their time here.

End of Day

Collection Reminders

Please remember that all children in Primary 1-3 need to be collected by an adult at the end of each school day (unless they travel by bus or taxi of course).

Please also remember to come out of your car and cross the car park to collect your children from the drop off point as we will never allow them to walk across a busy car park to avoid any accidents. Do ensure you pass this information to anyone else who is collecting your child(ren) so they know what to do.

We very much appreciate your co-operation with this and thank you for your understanding.

School Term Dates

Please find the school term dates for academic year 2022-2023 attached to this newsletter.

Instrumental Music Tuition (P4-7)

An email will be sent out today with the letter from Instrumental Music Service for anyone wishing to apply from P4-7 for strings tuition.

Forms to be returned to the school by **Wednesday 31 August**.

If you need a paper copy, do contact the school office.

2022-2023 Staffing

Head Teacher

Principal Teacher & P4-7 Class Teacher

Acting Principal Teacher & P2/P4 Class Teacher (Flotta)

P1-3 Class Teacher (Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday)

P1-3 Class Teacher (Thursday & Friday)

Support for Learning Teacher & Principal Teacher Release

Art & Design (Tues PM)

Physical Education (Thursday PM)

Music (Wednesday PM)

Fiddle (Monday PM)

Lead Early Years Practitioner

Lead Early Years Practitioner

Early Years Practitioner

Support for Learning Assistant

Support for Learning Assistant

Education Support Worker (Flotta)

Auxiliary & Clerical Assistant

Janitor, Cleaner & Toothbrushing Supervisor

School Meals & Cleaner

School Meals

Grant Thomson

John Dearness

Christine Tulloch

Dawn Williams

Lynn Rendall

Katherine Diaper

Kirsteen Murray

Leyla Gunn

Kate Fletcher

Karen Griffith

Moira Green

Pat Foulis

Megan Clouston

Jacqueline Scott

TBC

Josie Stanger

Shona Garson

Claire Smith

Christine Anderson

Mag Muir

Menu Ordering Online

THANK YOU!

A huge thank you from Shona for all your efforts in ordering the school meals online. It has made our lives and school meals lives easier and I understand from feedback you have given Shona that is easier for a lot of you.

A menu was sent out this week that you can keep for reference at home and as these menus are updated, they will be forwarded to you.

Annual Update Forms

A pack will be out to each family on Monday with all the relevant annual update forms to be completed - do ensure these are carefully checked and **returned by Friday 26 August**. These are vital in the event of any communications we need to have with parents/carers of our pupils.

Flu Vaccine Info

We don't have a date yet for the Flu Vaccine which is administered to all P1-7 children whose parents/carers consent. NHS Orkney are preparing for it, though, and forms and a leaflet will be home on Monday in your annual update pack. Consent forms to be returned (whether you say yes or no) to the school by **Friday 26 August**.

Event - Orphir Community School Parent Council

Orphir Community School Parent Council meets on **Thursday 25th August** at 6.00pm (in person at school). New recruits are always welcome at the parent council and it is the perfect opportunity to become more involved with the life of the school. Mark Edmonds is our chairperson and he can be contacted on 811425 should you wish to make any further enquiries. We hope to see as many of you there as possible.

The Agenda will come out next week - the AGM will be the following term so please do consider joining the parent council to help us moving forward.

Nomination forms will come home next Monday with the annual update pack.

Event - Open Evening

Please join us on **Monday 29th August** from 6 to 7:30 PM for our first whole school open evening in what seems like an eternity. This will be a fantastic chance for you to take a closer look around the school and hear about the learning taking place in your child's class over the course of the year.

It will also be an opportunity to see some of the resources that we use, learn about our teaching methods and find out ways in which we could use your help. There will also be the opportunity to ask questions and simply let you know what to expect for the year ahead. We would love to see as many of you there as possible for hopefully a relaxed, informative and friendly evening.

Event - P1 Health Screening

NHS Orkney staff will be in school on **Tuesday 20 September** to conduct a height and weight measurements. All the details will be home with the children on **Monday** with their annual update pack. Forms to be returned to the school office by **Friday 26 August**.

Event - Outdoor Education

We are planning some outdoor education type activities with Stenness School for Primary 6 children at the end of September/Beginning of October.

More details will follow once they have been finalised.

Finally from me...

That's all for now. Get those key dates in the diary and just get used to being back into the routine of setting alarms and getting ready for school. Our doors are always open should you have anything you ever want to discuss or have any comments or suggestions of ways we can make things even better. We may not always be able to act on your suggestions, but we will always be able to listen.

Kind regards as always,

Grant Thomson

Grant Thomson
Linked Head Teacher
Flotta Orphir, & Stenness Community Schools

Term 1 Timetable

My timetable for term 1 shall be as follows:

	AM	PM	Orphir contact details
Monday	Stenness	Orphir	811 265
Tuesday	Orphir	Stenness	admin.orphir@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk
Wednesday	Stenness	Orphir	Stenness contact details
Thursday	Stenness	Orphir	850 212
Friday	Orphir	Stenness	admin.stenness@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk

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.