

Orphir and Flotta Community Schools' Newsletter

Tuesday 13 September 2022

Kindness Creativity Teamwork Respect

CERTIFICATES

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

Sahana Swan	CI	Confident attitude to being in Primary 2 and in class PE
Skyla Sandison	RC	Being calm and kind in sometimes tricky situations
Jack Watson	RC	Super teamwork and kindness in class
Rianne Flett	SL	An amazing and focussed start to this year's Writing
Jamie Gibbon	SL	Great effort and concentration in Maths
Teagan Herridge	SL	Excellent effort to improve handwriting and amount done
Ernest Johnston	SL	For careful listening during Sounds~Write
James Johnston	SL	Making a real effort to produce neat work
Harry Swan	SL	Great effort in writing tasks

News from me...

As the weather begins to slowly (and sadly) turn from Summer to Autumn/Winter it is time to start thinking about our school wardrobes. Please make sure you have a change of clothes in the PE bag of items of clothing get wet and soggy. We strongly encourage the use of welly boots in dreich weather but equally encourage the children to have a more 'indoor friendly' pair of trainers/shoes to change into for the class. Wellies need to stay in the cloakrooms. Coats are an absolute must, as are waterproofs if you choose not to use school ones. We do not put the children out in heavy rain but drizzle and the odd shower we need to account for.

School Items Checklist

Now we have been back at school for a peedie while, I think it timely to put a wee reminder out about things the children need to have at or take to school.

Have at school

PE bag (with a PE kit and change of clothes)
Waterproofs (if not using school ones)

Take to School Daily

Water bottle
Coat
Jumper
Alternative indoor shoes if wearing wellies

A snack for playtime

(P1-2 get fruit on Tues-Thurs so do not need a snack)

Open Evening Feedback

Thanks to all of you who attended our Open Evening. We were delighted with the turn out and loved having you all back inside the school again. The feedback was extremely positive and it felt good to give you a flavour of what is coming up in the year ahead. Extended thanks to those of you who offered your knowledge, skills and expertise in assisting with upcoming class topics and projects. Your help is invaluable and the children love having their 'big people' in their class to help.

Learning & Teaching

As part of the Quality Assurance process for the school I will be popping into both classes before the end of Term 1 to observe the learning and teaching of Writing. This is normal practice and is a way to ensure that the learning taking place is purposeful, relevant and ensures each child in the school is making good progress. Over the course of the school year there will be different observation focusses in a range of curricular areas. It is also a wonderful opportunity for the boys and girls to share their work with me and talk about elements of their learning that they are proud of.

Christmas Service

Our Christmas Service will take place on Wednesday 21st December at 1.45 PM. As this is a religious service it will take place in the Orphir Kirk and is open to all members of the community. Refreshments will be on offer back at the school after the service and those who wish can take their child/children home after a cup of tea or coffee and enjoy a slightly earlier start to the holidays.

Pupil Voice

Our newly formed Pupil Council had their first Head Teacher Tea Party on Friday 2nd September in the Staff Room. This was the first time the Pupil Council met as a group and had some important items to discuss. As a result of the Pupil Council meeting and the democratic gathering of opinions of the pupils of the school, the children have decided that they would like to revert to the traditional evening Halloween party this year as opposed to a party during the school day. As this will be an out of school hours event we need a bank of parental volunteers to make this a success. This will not be a solely teacher led event so Shona has included the helpers list with the newsletter. We will need volunteers for set up, music, games, food, cleaning up and for general supervision and crowd control.

Your Pupil Council Representatives are:

P1: Chloe

P2: Wolfy

P3: Noah

P4: Luke

P5: Helga
P6: Jessica
P7: Aimee & Leia

A reminder of our Pupil Voice groups for this session:

**PUPIL COUNCIL
JUNIOR JANITORS**

**LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT GROUP
GARDENING & ECO GROUP**

Diary Dates

P1 Health Screening:	Tuesday 20 th September.
P6 Outdoor Education Day with Stenness:	Friday 30 th September.
P6 Outdoor Education Day with Stenness:	Monday 3 rd October.
P6 Outdoor Education Day with Stenness:	Tuesday 4 th October.
Last Day of Term 1:	Wednesday 5 th October.
In-Service, school closed to pupils:	Thursday 6 th October.
In-Service, school closed to pupils:	Friday 7 th October.
Halloween Party:	Thursday 27 October 6-7.45pm.
Parents Evening 1:	Wednesday 23 rd November & Thursday 24 th November.
School Show:	Wednesday 14 th December & Thursday 15 th December.
Christmas Service:	Wednesday 21 st December 1.45pm
Last Day of Term 1:	Wednesday 21 st December.
Parents Evening 2:	Wednesday 8 th March & Thursday 9 th March.
School Bus Trip:	Friday 9 th June.
Sports Day:	Thursday 15 th June.
Reports Issued:	Friday 23 rd June.
Curriculum Showcase Afternoon:	Friday 23 rd June.

Finally from me...

The news of the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II came as a great shock to us all. This has been sensitively discussed with the children in their classes and they have all shown great levels of empathy and understanding. Spend time with your loved ones and cherish the good times.

Kind regards as always,

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

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.

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