



SCHOOL BULLETIN 3

Thursday 6th November 2014

STAFFING UPDATE

Congratulations to Inga Falconer, our current P1/2/3 teacher who has been appointed to the post of Principal Teacher at Stenness Community School for a 12 month secondment. We would like to wish Ms Falconer well in her new post. We are currently advertising for a new teacher for this post and are working through options to replace Ms Falconer on a temporary basis in the meantime. As stated before, supply staffing is a problem in Orkney and we work hard with what is available to minimise disruption to children and their learning but it is challenging at the moment.

SENIOR MANAGEMENT LEAD CONTACT

As last session, Mrs Julie Muir is the senior manager at the school who oversees the work of the classes at the top end of the school. This includes P5/6/7. Mrs Miller is the senior manager lead for nursery through to P4 but is also the senior lead for 7A and P5JC. If you have any queries or concerns about your child's learning, please in the first instance speak to the class teacher. Please also feel that you can contact the senior manager relevant for your child's class as well. Mrs Muir teaches every Thursday and Friday and therefore is not available on these days for appointments.

CHILDREN IN NEED - FRIDAY 14th NOVEMBER

We are inviting children to dress up as a superhero on Friday 14th and pay 50p as a donation to children in need on the Friday. We will also have the usual wrist bands and Pudsey key rings for sale from next week. Key rings cost £2 each and wristbands £1. All children will be allowed to buy 1 item from Monday-Thursday to enable every child who wants to purchase items the opportunity to do so. Any remaining items will be on sale on Friday for any children who want them until they are done.

ST LUCY

Laura Robertson from P7 has been chosen as this year's St Lucy for the Kirkwall Christmas tree lightening service. This takes place on Sat 6th December. Other children will be in the procession and P4-7 children will be a choir for this service. This takes place at the Cathedral and it is lovely to see parents and children from Glaithness at this event.

PARENTS' EVENINGS

At parent's evenings, please ensure that you are responsible for your children if you bring them to the school. If you want to take your children into the appointment with you, please do so. If your children are not in the appointment with you, we have no one able to supervise children outside classrooms - if you know other parents who are waiting; perhaps they can help supervise your children if you don't want to take them in. At recent parents' evenings, children have been running around the school and areas outside the classrooms have been spoiled leaving a clear up for the following day. We are trying to avoid this happening again. Throughout the school, we have created displays of examples of literacy work the children have been learning so please take the time to look at these as you move through the school. Please feel free to look at all the displays through the school, regardless of where your own children are at. We have included some links to Curriculum for Excellence as part of this display too.

GLAITNESS SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

From 7pm - late on Saturday the 8th of November, in conjunction with the bonfire and fireworks display, the Parent Council will be selling hot dogs, soup, tea and coffee from the Nursery entrance, all funds raised are going towards the new playground, please stop by for a warm up.

Thanks to everyone who supported us in both the Halloween disco (another great turn out and the outfits were fantastic!) and also to those who placed orders for the cards/mugs/tags with their children's drawings, we hope to have final news of amounts raised shortly.

The next meeting of the parent council is at 7pm on Tuesday the 25th of November, any parent is welcome along whether it's just for drop in to see what it is we do or if they would like to become a member.

If anyone has any questions, queries or indeed ideas with regards to our fundraising or any other issues they may wish to have raised at a Parent Council meeting, please do not hesitate to contact myself or any member of the Council

Moiria Adamson

ORKNEY FOODBANK

Thank you very much to everyone who donated gifts of food for the Harvest service before the October break. It was much appreciated by the Orkney Food Bank team.

The school was invited to send representatives to hand over the food but as it was so near to the holidays it was not possible to organise it at the time. Last week P6 represented the school and went to see for themselves what happens to the food that is donated and how it is stored. The former Jewson's building on Junction Road houses the Foodbank and provides ample space for the distribution of food and also a place for clients to sit and talk over their problems, receive useful advice, and details of further support available. With an informal seating area and children's play corner it is a light and comfortable place to come. Frontline care professionals such as doctors and social workers provide vouchers to people in crisis, which can then be exchanged for food.

Tesco have a collection point for donations of food on a weekly basis and if you want any more information on how you can help the charity they have a website at:

www.orkney.foodbank.org.uk which is well worth a look.



NOROVIRUS

It is known that norovirus is circulating in our local community at the moment, and the virus is easily spread through contact with an infected person or contaminated surfaces.

Precautions that should be taken by pupils and relatives include:

- Washing hands regularly and thoroughly with hot water and soap, particularly after toilet visits and before eating.
- Not handling or preparing food for other people until you have been free of symptoms for 48 hours.
- Only visiting friends or relatives in hospital or residential care homes when you have been free of symptoms for 48 hours.
- Staying away from work or school until you have been free of symptoms for 48 hours.

You can also go to the following link for more helpful information and advice.

www.nhsinform.co.uk/health-library/articles/n/norovirus/introduction

IMPORTANT - SEVERE WEATHER PROCEDURES

Please remember to listen to Radio Orkney in times of bad weather. Orkney Islands Council now has a facebook page for posting notices of bad weather and school closures - you can find a link on the OIC website. <http://www.orkney.gov.uk/>

The Radio Orkney Facebook page provides updates as well. We will endeavour to keep the school open where at all possible, weather, transport and staffing permitting. If the school is open and the buses do not run, parents can make their own arrangements to get their children to and from school. Equally, parents can choose to keep their children home if they feel it is unsafe for them to be out. Please let us know if you keep your children off due to the weather as part of the usual procedures.

If the school is going to close early parents will be alerted through the school text system and parents/carers are expected to come and collect their children. Children are not released to walk home independently if the conditions are so bad that we have to close the school early.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 8 th November	Parent Council Bonfire Night fundraising event, 7- late, Pre-school entrance
Monday 10 th November	P7 Nethybridge Trip - Second deposit £60 due
Tues 11 th & Thu 13 th November	Parents Evenings 6-8pm
Friday 14 th November	Children in Need
Saturday 6 th December	Kirkwall Tree Lighting Service
Monday 10 th December	Christmas Lunch
Tuesday 16 th December	P1 - P2 Christmas Party 2pm
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas Carol Service 11am, St Magnus Cathedral
Wednesday 17 th December	P3 - P4 Christmas Party 2pm
Thursday 18 th December	P5 - P6 Christmas Party 2pm
Friday 19 th December	Pre-school Christmas Party 9.30am
Friday 19 th December	P7 Christmas Party 2pm
Friday 19 th December	Last day of term 2 - school closes at 3.30pm
Monday 5 th January 2015	First day of term 3