



SCHOOL BULLETIN 6

February 2015

STAFF UPDATE

We would like to welcome Anna Livsey to Glaitness. She has recently been until the end of summer term as Auxiliary to cover Rona Humphrey's secondment as an SFLA.

NURSERY ENROLMENT WEEK BEGINNING 16th FEBRUARY

Was your child born between 1 March 2012 and 28 February 2013?

It's time to enrol to begin Nursery in 2015 - 2016!

The enrolment forms to register your child for Nursery will be available from the school office from Monday 16th February.

We welcome all new families and would like to offer you a chance to visit the nursery when you enrol to help you get to know the place where your children will be learning.

Open Days

On Tuesday 17th Feb, 3pm - 4.30pm or Thursday 19th Feb, 6pm - 7pm, all new parents are welcome to come and visit the nursery, pick up your enrolment forms, meet the staff and ask any questions you may have.

For further information please contact Glaitness Office on 01856 873648

PARENT LETTERS/CONSENTS

At the recent Parent Council meeting we expressed concerns about the amount of work it took for us to get back letters and consents for school excursions. We have to ensure as part of the OIC Excursion Policy that you know about any school excursion that takes place and that you have given your consent for it. When children have not returned the consent slips, we often re-issue a letter, text parents and sometimes then phone parents on the morning of the excursion to seek verbal consent for slips that still have not been returned. This can delay the departure of the excursion for all the children. As you can imagine, this takes a tremendous amount of additional administration time to ensure that we have consent for all children. It would be appreciated if the children can return the slips on the first issue so that we then don't need to do the follow ups to seek consent. In future we will continue to seek consent if needed but we will no longer be phoning for consent on the day of the excursion. If by that time, we do not have consent for an excursion; your child will be left at school and will not take part. In this case, your child would join a different class within the school.

ROAD SAFETY - BE SAFE BE SEEN

Our Road Safety Awareness week in January was very successful. We have doubled the number of children wearing Hi-Vis items in every class. Thank you to all families who have been talking about how to travel safely. Hi-Vis items make all the difference, and are available to buy from our school office. They cost £2 for a jacket 80p each for arm-bands.

GLAITNESS SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

The Parent Council dates for the rest of the year are 7pm on 24th Feb, 24th March, 21st April, 19th May and the 16th June. Anyone is welcome to pop along to a meeting just to see what we do and meet us.

Also, as a chance to meet the Parent Council in an informal setting, we will be at the parents evenings on the 10th and 12th of March in case anyone has any issues they would like to raise with any members or indeed just to see what we do.

SPARE CLOTHES

At this time of year when it is wet or snowy, pupils can often come in with wet feet after break times, particularly if they have come in without appropriate footwear for that day's weather conditions. It might be a good idea to put a spare pair of socks in your child's schoolbag as we don't have spare socks in the school.

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

Wed 11 th and Thu 12 th Feb	Staff In-Service - school closed to pupils
Friday 13 th February	Mid-Term Break - school closed
Mon 16 th - Fri 20 th Feb	OIC Pre-School Enrolment Week
Mon 23 rd Feb to Sun 8 th Mar	Fair Trade Fortnight
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day
Tuesday 10 th March	Parents Evening 6-8pm
Thursday 12 th March	Parents Evening 6-8pm
Friday 13 th March	Red Nose Day
Monday 23 rd March	Easter Service, East Kirk, 2.15pm
Friday 27 th March	Pre-School Spring Fair, 9.30 - 11am
Friday 27 th March	Pre-School New Start Visit, 12 - 1pm
Friday 27 th March	Last Day of Term
Monday 13 th April	First Day of Term 4