

Orphir Community School

Term 3 Newsletter Update

Monday 23 February 2026

	FEBRUARY			
26	Family Learning Session, 6.00pm at school			
	MINDFUL MARCH			
3	P1-3 only After School Activity Club (4 Tuesdays in March)			
4	Orphir Community School Forum, 6.00pm at the school			
5	World Book Day - vouchers home Monday 23 February - please check schoolbags			
11/12	Parent Appointments - slips out Monday 23 February - please check schoolbags			
30	Class Assemblies, 2.30pm			
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Music	PE		Strings	Art
			Netball	
			Orphir Youth Activity Group	

A few reminders in this update:

Family Learning Session, Thursday 26 February 2026, 6.00pm at Orphir Community School
Imogen Kerr, Educational Psychologist will hold an evening Family Learning session on 'Understanding Autism and ADHD within the spectrum of Neurodiversity'. All parents/carers are welcome to attend.

Use the link below so we know who is coming.

[Family Learning Session, Thursday 26 February 2026, 6.00pm at Orphir Community School - Fill in form](#)

Hi-vis Collection

We will collect in all the hi-vis waistcoats on Friday 27 February as in previous years. If you have a wee collection at home, don't be shy putting them in. We welcome any spares back with no judgement. 😊

Parent Council

The next Parent Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 4th March here at the school at 6 PM. Anyone is welcome to attend these meetings. If you have anything you would like to add to the agenda for the meeting please contact Liz Johnston (Chair) or contact Shona here at the school.

P1-3 only After School Activity Club (4 Tuesdays in March)

Please use the link below to let us know if your children are attending (by Friday 27 February 2026). All the club details are on the link.

[P1-3 After School Tuesday Activity Club \(4 weeks\) - Fill in form](#)

World Book Day

Word Book Day will be recognised on Thursday 5th March 2025 - details to follow.

Reporting Progress Evenings

Term 3 Reporting Progress Evenings are scheduled for the following dates:

- Tuesday 11th March.
- Wednesday 12th March.

Appointment times will come out on Monday 23 February - please check schoolbags

Class Assemblies

Both classes will present their class assemblies on Monday 30th March at 2:30 PM.

Education, Communities and Housing

School term dates - 2025 / 2026 (all dates are inclusive)

Term 1 2025	Tuesday 19 August* – Friday 10 October. (39 days)
October holidays	Monday 13 October – Tuesday 28 October.
Term 2	Wednesday 29 October – Friday 19 December. (38 days)
Christmas holidays	Monday 22 December – Friday 2 January.
Term 3 2026	Monday 5 January – Friday 3 April. (61 days)
Schools closed	Thursday 12 February – Tuesday 17 February.
Spring holidays	Monday 6 April – Friday 17 April. (Easter Monday 6 April).
Term 4	Monday 20 April – Thursday 2 July. (52 days)
Schools closed	Monday 4 May (May Day holiday).
Schools closed	Monday 1 June.
Staff Only, In-service days are: • Monday 18 August. • Monday 27 – Tuesday 28 October. • Tuesday 17 February. • Monday 1 June.	

PEEDIE SCHOOLS CUP

www.PEEDIESCHOOLSCUP.com

As the whistle blew and the Orphir team passed the ball round in their new strips their first game was against burray A, most of whom played in the team that won the 'A' shield competition. Burray scored first and then started to press us but soon we scored to make it 1-1 then they had a long shot that just squeezed in the goals. Now we were worried as they had another long shot but our keeper saved it on the line then passed the ball up the field and on to the wing we had a tight angle shot and scored in the bottom corner 2-2. The full time whistle blew it had finished as a draw. We were delighted with the result but had to get ready for our next game against Hope A. We were all really hoping that we would win it was tight I the first minute but then we scored 1-0 we were happy but the match wasn't done we passed the ball up the field and then scored to make it 2-0 then we went on a scoring streak and made the score 4-0 then the whistle blew. We were straight back on against Burray B. It was a very close game but we edged the win 1-0 and then we had a two game rest.

Next we played Hope B and it was tough as well but we won 4-0 in the end another good result. Next we played Firth and we had lots of chances and edged the win 1-0. Then we had a 1 game rest but then we were on against the Evie team. We played really well and won 1-0. This meant we were in the final against Burray A. Again they had chances but we did well to defend them. They did score one that we thought it didn't cross the line but it still counted so it was 1-0 to them. Time was running out we made a run up the pitch had a shot but it hit the post and we lost the game 1-0. We were so disappointed but then we thought about how well we had played and remembered there is always next year...

Report from OYDG

On the day, there was no separating Burray A and Orphir with both winning all their matches, other than a 2-2 draw against each other. The play-off decider match between them was end to end, with the width of the post denying a last second equaliser for Orphir and it was Burray A who edged it 1-0. Congratulations to both teams for such an exciting way to end the competition.

Special THANKS to MLM for the AMAZING strips
- the team looked great and it gave them such a boost!



Primary Indoor Peedie Schools Cup - 2026									
Peedie Schools Cup - Saturday 14th February 2026									
Time Keeping: OYDG		7-min games							
	Pitch 1			Ref	Pitch 2			Ref	
2:00 PM	Burray A	2 v 2	Orphir	Hope	Hope B	2 v 5	Evie		OYDG
2:09 PM	Hope B	0 v 3	Hope A	Firth	Firth	1 v 2	Burray B		OYDG
2:18 PM	Firth	0 v 0	Evie	Burray	Hope A	0 v 4	Orphir		OYDG
2:27 PM	Hope B	0 v 4	Burray A	Evie	Burray B	0 v 1	Orphir		OYDG
2:36 PM	Firth	0 v 2	Hope A	Orphir	Evie	0 v 2	Burray A		OYDG
2:45 PM	Burray B	0 v 0	Evie	Hope	Hope B	0 v 1	Firth		OYDG
2:54 PM	Firth	0 v 1	Orphir	Burray	Burray B	0 v 0	Hope A		OYDG
3:03 PM	Burray B	0 v 4	Burray A	Evie	Hope B	0 v 4	Orphir		OYDG
3:12 PM	Evie	2 v 0	Hope A	Orphir	Firth	0 v 3	Burray A		OYDG
3:21 PM	Hope A	0 v 3	Burray A	Firth	Evie	0 v 1	Orphir		OYDG
3:30 PM	Hope B	1 v 1	Burray B	OYDG					
3:39 PM	Burray A	1 v 0	Orphir	PLAYOFF MATCH FOR THE PEEDIE SCHOOLS CUP					
Presentation of Peedie Schools Cup To Burray A									

Peedie Schools Cup	Play	Win	Draw	S' Draw	Loss	Points
1 Burray A	6	5	0	1	0	22
2 Orphir	6	5	0	1	0	22
3 Evie	6	2	2	0	2	10
4 Hope A	6	2	1	0	3	9
5 Burray B	6	1	2	1	2	8
6 Firth	6	1	1	0	4	5
7 Hope B	6	0	0	1	5	2

Neurodiversity Training



A clear, practical introduction to neurodivergence with simple, effective ways to support communication, sensory needs, executive skills, wellbeing, and inclusive practice at home and in out-of-school settings.

Colin Foley, CEO of Neurodiversity Training UK, to run three training sessions to support parents, parents who are awaiting assessments, those considering pursuing a diagnosis, and those who are working with neurodivergent children in non-school settings.

More information about the training can be found here: Scan the QR CODE



Parental Sessions

- Two individual 1-day sessions
 - 20th of March or
 - 21st of March
- Kirkwall Town Hall
- 10:30 am - 2 pm
- Lunch Included
- Limited spaces
- Free

Youth Workers / Volunteers / Professionals

- 20th March
- Online via Microsoft Teams
- 7 pm - 9 pm
- Free

To book email:

employability.support@orkney.gov.uk



**NEURODIVERSITY
TRAINING**



Learning across The Four Contexts at Orphir P1-3 Term 2

Opportunities for personal achievement

- Nativity
- Model making with cardboard
- Personal research on school trip to museum



The Curriculum
'the totality of all that is planned for children and young people throughout their education'

- Christmas service at Orphir Church
- Christmas Crafternoon
- Tree Lighting
- Halloween disco
- Christmas party
- Peedie Harvest Home and Harvest Home
- Trip to Scapa Flow Museum and North Walls School
- Pupil Voice Groups



Ethos and life of the school as a community

Interdisciplinary Learning

- Life in the past - talking, listening, reading, writing, People in the Past
- Christmas - writing, drama, art, music
- French - talking, listening, writing



- Writing - Poems about Bonfire Night, story creating, Personal research from trip, Poster creating
- Reading - exploring non-fiction books, enjoyment & choice
- Listening and Talking - Show and Tell
- RME - Festivals of Light - Hannukah & Christmas
- French - Numbers to 10, Days of the week, Christmas writing



Curriculum areas and subjects

Learning across the four contexts in P4-7 Orphir School T2

Opportunities for personal achievement

- Pupils playing and training in our school netball and football teams always get a chance to speak about their successes.
- We had another ERIC Creator mode session, where the children get to create something strongly linked to the book they have been reading. Creativity was not the only meta-skill being practised with all pupils sharing skills across all 12



The Curriculum
'the totality of all that is planned for children and young people throughout their education'

- We had a tremendous day with Malcolm from the John Rae society. We learned all about:
 - Map reading compass skills
 - Expedition skills
 - Shelter
 - Fire making
- He was so impressed with our children, he felt their focus and questioning were fantastic and we should be proud of our children. And so we are!



Ethos and life of the school as a community

Interdisciplinary Learning

- Our topic of pets continued to provide a rich mixture of opportunities for learning. Combining organisers from Literacy, Technology, Science and health and wellbeing we:
 - Made pet care posters
 - Debated and discussed the exotic pet trade
 - Created presentation pieces incorporating a game linked to animals in sport



- In numeracy we sharpened up on our subtraction strategies and took opportunities to develop our time telling.
- We completed a 500 word story each, every story was unique and read very well. We have developed more skills in reading as well unpicking author language choice and ways they use punctuation for effect.
- We revisited Zones of Regulation and revamped and reperformed a play for the P1-3's

Curriculum areas and subjects