



Orphir Community School Friday 12 December 2025

It's all about dates and events.....



DECEMBER

- 12 Festive Friday (Christmas jumper day).
 - 17 P1-7 Christmas Party PM.
 - 19 Festive Friday (Christmas jumper day). - LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
- School RE-opens on Monday 5th January 2026**

Hello folks.

As we reach the end of another busy but wonderful term, on behalf of all the staff at Orphir Community School, I want to wish all our families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year when it comes.

Thank you for your continued support, kindness, and partnership throughout the year - it truly makes our school a special place and one where I love working. I hope the holiday season brings you joy, rest, and plenty of time with loved ones.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new year, refreshed and ready for all the exciting opportunities ahead. The boys and girls will all be relieved that after the holiday I will no longer be singing Christmas songs to them at playtime and changing the lyrics to incorporate their names into my tuneful melodies!

Warmest wishes (and a sprinkling of reindeer food),

Grant Thomson
Linked Head Teacher
Orphir & Stenness Community Schools



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No strings tuition next week as
we had Mrs Sullivan twice this week.

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From the Orphir Community School Forum:



Burns' Supper
23rd January 2026, 6pm.

I am delighted to say we have received a good response from our parent forum and we will be going ahead with the Burns' Supper in January. I will be in touch with all the helpers who put themselves forward for this to organise a plan.

Thank you.

Liz Johnston
Chair
Orphir Community School Forum



WE NEED YOUR VOICE

violence against women and girls (VAWG) includes a broad range of actions that harm women and girls because of their gender. This encompasses physical, sexual, and psychological violence in the family, community, or institutions, and includes domestic abuse, rape, sexual harassment, and exploitation.

Have you had experience of violence in any of its forms?

Please share your experience and views in our anonymous survey. Just scan the QR code or access at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OrkneyVAWG>

You also have the opportunity to win either £25, £50 or £100 worth of shopping vouchers

This research is being conducted by Social Value Lab on behalf of Women's Aid Orkney and other Partners in Orkney.



The survey can also be accessed at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OrkneyVAWG>





End of Term Festive Drop In

Please come and meet members of the Support for Learning and Inclusion Team at an informal drop in at Keelylang Centre between 3.00 and 4.30 pm on Wednesday 17 December.

This will be an opportunity for parents and fellow professionals to meet members of our team, hear about our work, and get to know us a little better. Teas and coffees etc will be served.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

RSVP - pupil.support@orkney.gov.uk



EVENTS

Lots going on in Orphir this weekend and next.





Orphir Community News

Published by Shona Garson · 7 December at 18:06 ·



<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1KYG9MmJtw/>



Ingrid Grieve Toumal Art Studio

6 December at 19:01 ·

It's Mulled Wine Sunday at Toumal Art Studio on the 14th of December! 1-4 pm
Mulled wine, mulled apple juice, homemade mince pies, shortbread, clootie dumpleen and a chance to win this 30x40cm original painting of the Bay o Skaill with proceeds going to Cancer Research Uk.

10% off original art on the day.

[#orkneyartist](#) [#orkney](#) [#studio](#) [#new](#)



Orphir and Stenness Kirk
invites you to a

Christmas Concert

Sunday 21st December at 3pm
in the Kirk, Orphir Village

Karen Tweed and friends

Kirk Belles

Orkney Youth Choir

Ingrid Grieve

Orphir Young Folk

Moira Taylor-Wintersgill

Christmas window displays

Entry: Donations for Malawi

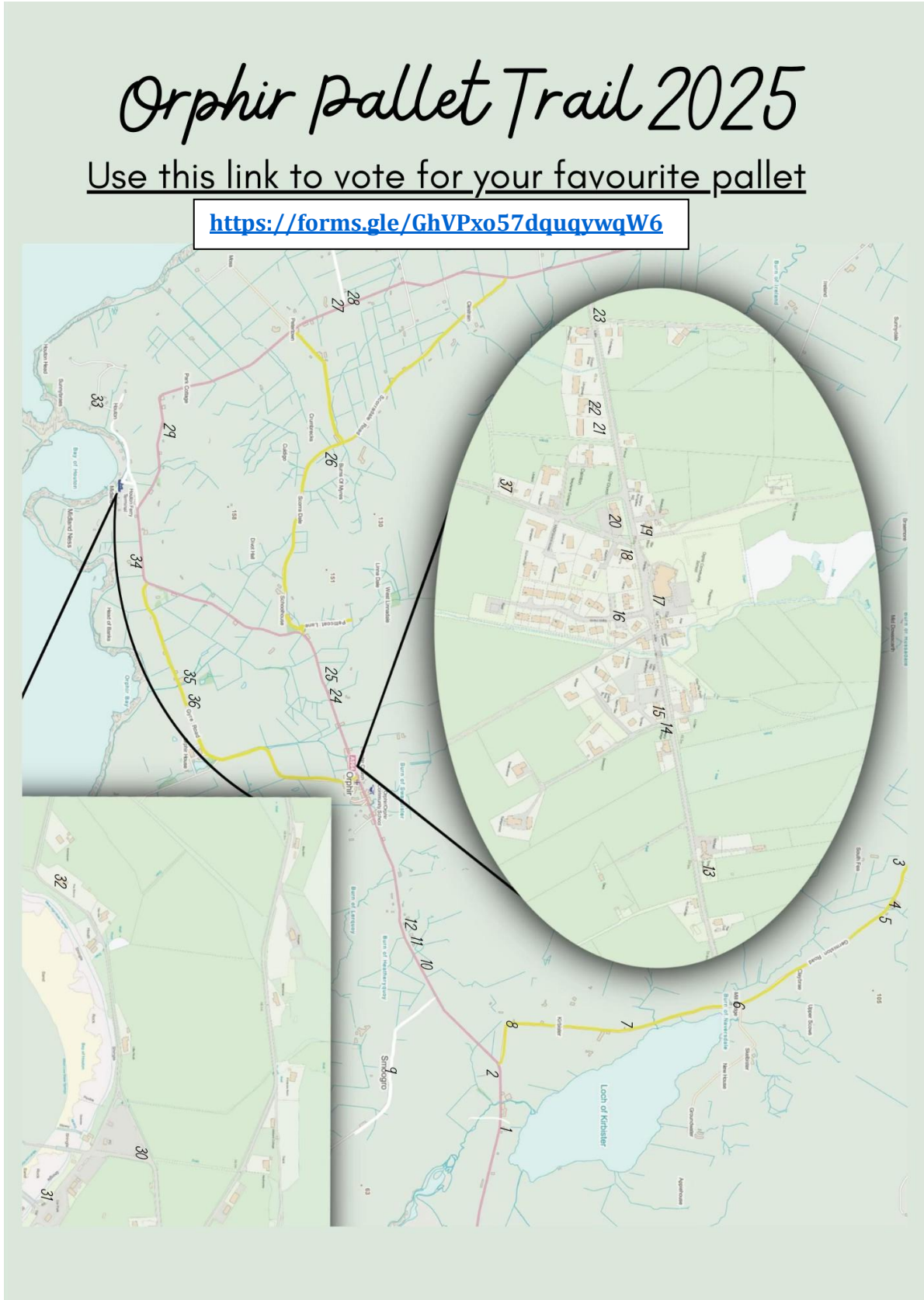
Orkney-Malawi Partnership SC00309

Refreshments.

The FINAL Orphir Community Pallet Trail is now live!

For the last year, we've gone all digital and fancy - so use this map to help find the pallets around the parish. Then follow the link on this post to vote for your favourite!

There is a Northlink Voucher up for grabs as our prize this year, so get your votes in thick and fast 🗳️



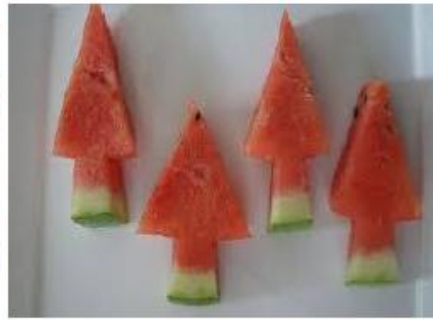


Image result for healthy christmas snacks



Have fun with
some healthier
Christmas
treats





Top tips for healthy teeth at Christmas



Stick to your regular oral care routine

With all the excitement of Christmas, it may be easy to forget about things like your oral hygiene, especially with late nights and long lies. Remember to continue brushing twice a day and floss regularly to help keep your teeth in tip top condition. **Always remember to brush last thing at night.**

Drink lots of water - Keep hydrated

Whilst there may be lots of Christmas treats to drink on offer, try to keep these drinks to mealtimes and make sure you **drink plenty water throughout the day.** This will help clean your mouth out and produce more saliva, which helps keep your mouth healthy.



Limit the sweets and chocolates

Sugar causes dental decay and cavities so try to avoid grazing on the sweet things! While Christmas is a time of indulgence, **try to switch to healthier alternatives** such as fruit, cheese, nuts (allergies allowing) or maybe some carrot sticks, cucumbers, peppers and other raw vegetables with a dip. Have fun with some healthier Christmas snacks and **keep sugary foods and drinks to mealtimes.**

Don't brush immediately after fizzy drinks

Remember that you shouldn't brush your teeth straight after drinking fizzy drinks as you will be brushing the acids from the juice into your teeth and spreading the acid and sugar all around your mouth. **Brushing twice per day will help keep teeth healthy.**

Don't forget dental appointments

If you have a dental appointment, **please don't forget to attend** and if you can't attend, please let your dental clinic know. If you need an emergency appointment, please contact your dentist.



The Childsmile Team wish you all a Merry Christmas and may your New Year, and your teeth, be healthy and bright.