



Shetland Islands Council

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Newsletter 16/12/22

Dear Parents and Carers,

Very glad to welcome children back into school today after a disruptive few days. However I hope children have managed to make the most of what snow there was, although I think there may be more to come this winter. I hope too that our communications worked well enough to keep you informed about what was happening in a timely manner. I am sure you will let me know if not.



The Christmas Concert that was due to take place yesterday will now take place on Tuesday 20th December at 1.30pm. We can only do the one concert as it will be the last day of term. There are approx. 150 seats so our advice would be for only 2 members of each family to attend. I am sorry

that some parents may find this new date difficult to attend. We will attempt to film it but it would be useful if there is a confident camera savvy parent/carer who would be able to film it for us. Please get in touch if you can help. The children have missed some rehearsal time but hope to catch up over the next two days. So we will look forward to having an informal and fun event and hope to see and fit in as many of you as we can. Parking will be on the playground unless too icy, but we should be able to update you about that on Monday.

Monday 19th December - Class Christmas parties and
Nursery Christmas Concert and Stay & Play Christmas Party

All nursery pupils are invited to join us from 9.30am-11.45am for a short Christmas concert at 9.30am followed by our Christmas Party and visit from Santa Claus! This is a stay and play session, so your child is invited to bring a maximum of two parents or other adults to join them for the festive fun! Our daily session will be running as normal from 8.15am-4.15pm but if your child does not normally attend at that time, they would be warmly welcomed to the party - please let us know if you/your child will attend.

Tuesday 20th - Mareel and Draatsis class visit to the Art Exhibition in the Shetland Museum- weather permitting



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Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper day was a lovely event for staff and pupils to sit together to enjoy a delicious Christmas dinner. A huge thank you to our Canteen staff who worked hard to produce a super meal, especially while our head cook was away unwell. Thanks to Marlene from head office who came to cover for a few days.



Christmas Hamper Raffle- thanks to you all for your support with this- as a result we have raised a fantastic £770 for the school which will go towards the development of outdoor learning.

Advent Food Bank Collection. Again thank you for your generous donations which will be delivered up to the food bank as soon as possible.

Musical visit to Overtonlea. It was great to be able to visit the residential home again and share some magical musical moments with the residents. As always the children were made very welcome and enjoyed spending time with the oldest members of our community. Thanks to Ms Irvine, Ms Stewart and Mrs Leslie for facilitating this visit.



Some reminders:

Scarlett fever is doing the rounds on Shetland at the moment. It is a common infection in children caused by the group A Streptococcus virus. Scarlet fever can cause the following symptoms:

Headache, sore throat, high temperature and raised pink purple spots that join up to produce a skin rash which feels like sandpaper.



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Although scarlet fever is usually a mild illness, in very rare occasions the bacteria can enter the bloodstream and cause a more serious invasive illness.

Health advice can be found on NHS inform.

Children with suspected scarlet fever should be assessed by a health professional.

Children and adults with suspected scarlet fever should not attend school or work until at least 24hrs after they commenced appropriate antibiotic treatment.

Morning drop off: Please do not drop your school age children off before 8.45 as the playground is not supervised. School starts at 9am for all school age children.

End of day pick up or bus changes: We often have to hold the buses up because a child tells us that arrangements for pick up are different. Whatever the normal arrangements for pick up are, we assume will happen every day- **unless the parent phones, emails in or writes in the diary to let us know there is a change for that day.** We will not let a child go until we are sure of what the arrangements are.

Absence: please notify the school of absence by phoning in the morning before 9.15. An absence request form should be complete for any planned absence - such as holiday. This is available on the school blog or from the office

Headlice: We have had several cases of these which is no surprise now that children are back together. Headlice are very hardy creatures who love long, clean hair, so the best way to prevent is for **long hair to always be tied back in school** and for weekly wet combing of hair.

The School Blog- Teachers have been updating the class blogs so please so take a look. The School Calendar for the year is also on the school blog as well as useful policies.

Celebration Assembly

Some of the key aspects of a growth mind-set are:

Taking on challenges in learning

Putting in effort

Learning from mistakes and feedback- evaluating

Not giving up- persevering

Listening

Curiosity- asking questions

Courage to work with independence





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This time these children were celebrated for their developing growth mind-set: Aayden-John, Atlanta, Leata; Logan, Sydney, Leva, Lucy; Sophie, Dylan, Alexander and Ella; Leo, Liam, Isabelle, Ryan
Congratulations!

Dates Term 3: These will be updated each newsletter.

4th Jan 2022- In-service day for school staff.

5th Jan School, Nursery and Noosc open for children

9th Jan Shetland lost song project starts with Mareel Class for 4 weeks

10th Jan Swimming starts for Tammie Norrie and Orca's class for 6 weeks

25th Jan Song Writing session for Draatsis class

30th Jan Glasgow Science Centre show and exhibition in School all day for all children -Disgusting Digestion and Bodyworks

2nd March World Book day

6th March SMUHA week

10th March Jarls Squad visits

18th March Comic Relief Day - Wear something red to school.

20th March- Report to parents this week

27th March- Parent requested appointments with teachers this week .

31st March - Last day of term

All the staff and myself wish you all a very Happy Christmas and peaceful New year. We look to seeing all the children again on 5th January.

Gina Finch