



Shetland Islands Council

Head Teacher: Mrs Gina Finch

Dunrossness Primary School

Dunrossness

Shetland ZE2 9JG

Telephone: 01595 745440

Fax: 01950 460803

E-mail: dunrossness@shetland.gov.uk

Blog: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/sh/dunrossness/>

Newsletter 28/9/22

Dear Parents and Carers,

Getting the children out and about- is a really important part of children's experience and development, and so it was great to see the Orca class visit the recycling plant last week as part of their learning about what happens to our rubbish. The children had a wonderful time, and they were complimented on great listening and their polite behaviour -so well done Orcas.

The P4s also had a very entertaining workshop with Tom Percival, children's author, at the Shetland Museum. There they heard stories, drew pictures, sang songs and had a chance to buy one of his books which the author signed. I was grateful that I could accompany the children on this trip as they were fun to be with and perfectly behaved.

The P7s will do their first John Muir outdoor exploration day on Wednesday, a day full of challenge and wonder and the Nursery will be visiting a local poly tunnel and farm to see how things grow on Thursday.

Celebration Assembly: We celebrate children's learning behaviours every two weeks. This week the awards went to:

Tammie Norrie Class

Isla for perseverance

Adam for showing responsibility for his learning

Orca Class

Whole Class for good listening, manners, behaviour and being great ambassadors for DPS on their trip

Lucy for contributing ideas to our class thank you poem and then writing a super one of her own.

Draatsis Class

Innes for using initiative

Owen for being ready in his learning

Rory for being ready in his learning



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Mareel Class

Connor, Christina and Kate for being organised and ready for their learning

Jade and Lily for developing their independence in learning

Next week Rev Fran Henderson will join us for assembly to share thoughts about harvest and food miles

Parent/carer, teacher consultations: thank you to parents and carers that attended these first face to face meetings since before the pandemic. It was lovely to have you all back in school and for me to meet so many of you personally. I do hope you found the booking straight forward and the times manageable. Thank you for the positive feedback that many of you gave.

Scholastic Book Fair This will be open Wednesday and Thursday from 3pm to 3.30pm for any family member that wants to come in to order books. Thank you for your support with this as all books sold raise money for the school to buy books for the library.

Parent Council- The next meeting is planned to be Monday 3rd Oct at 7.30pm at the NOOSC.

Drop off time in the morning: Just a reminder that the playground is not supervised until 8.45am so please do not drop off your child before that time.

Financial Help for Parents/carers. There is a lot to worry about as we head into the winter months. However Grants are available for school meals and clothing. Guidance and an application form can be found on Shetland Islands Council's website. The direct link is:

[EMA, Bursaries and Financial Support - Shetland Islands Council](#)

All pupils in P1-5 are automatically entitled to free school meals.

If you meet the eligibility criteria below and have a child in early years or P1-5 you should still submit an application in order to receive the Clothing Grant, Free School Milk or [Free School Meal Holiday Support](#). The Scottish Government provide additional funding to schools based on pupils who are entitled to Free School Meals.

Children attending Early Learning and Childcare settings, including Entitled 2's will also be eligible for the universal entitlement.

A Clothing Grant is a grant awarded to children from families on a low income to help towards the cost of clothing and footwear.

The current Clothing Grant awards are as follows:



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- Early Years - £100
 - Primary - £120
 - Secondary - £150

Pupils who turn 16 on or before 30th September will not be eligible for a Clothing Grant but should apply for an **Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)** instead. These pupils will still be eligible for Free School Meals, if they meet the criteria.

Information on the provision and finance of transport can be found on Shetland Island Council's website. The direct link is: http://www.shetland.gov.uk/education/hpc_school_transport.asp

The Shetland Citizen's Advice Centre [Shetland Islands Citizens Advice Bureau | Free, impartial and confidential advice \(shetlandcab.org.uk\)](http://www.shetlandcab.org.uk) is a good starting point if struggling to pay bills.

Dates

3rd Oct Parent Council meeting 7:30pm NOOSC

4th Oct Assembly - Rev Fran Henderson sharing thoughts about Harvest and Food Journeys

7th Oct Last day of Term 1

Term 2

26th Oct Term 2 begins

31st Oct P6 play leader training starts

1st Nov Swimming lessons start for Mareel and Draatsis class

11th Nov Remembrance Day

18th Nov Children in Need Day- Come to school dresses in something spotty

15th Dec Christmas Concert - time and venue to be confirmed.

Best wishes,

Gina Finch



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Please see information below on available adult learning classes.

Lace Knitting for Beginners (Whalsay) with Linda Shearer

One day: Saturday 8th October, 1030-1430 in Whalsay Heritage Centre
£20.43, or £11.59 concession

<https://www.learnshetland.com/beginners-shetland-lace-whalsay>

Knit a Pair of Traditional Fair Isle Socks with Linda Shearer

Tuesdays for 5 weeks starting 25th October, 1830-2100 in Whalsay School
£57.25, or £29.63 concession

<https://www.learnshetland.com/knit-a-pair-of-traditional-fair-isle-socks1>

Personalised Paper Cut Initial Card with Gillian Bridle

One day: Monday 17th October, 1000-1300 in Islesburgh Community Centre
£13.26, or £6.63 concession (plus £1.50 for materials, payable to the tutor)

<https://www.learnshetland.com/personalised-paper-cut-initial-card1>

Sew A Teepee Tent with Sheila Hankin

One day: Saturday 22nd October, 1000-1530 in Islesburgh Community Centre
This class is free

<https://www.learnshetland.com/sew-a-teepee-tent>

Discovering Shetland's Rocks and Landscape with Robina Barton

4 weeks starting 11th October, with field trips on the 23rd and 30th, classes 1900-2100 in Islesburgh Community Centre, field trips 1000-1700

£101.24, or £52.62 concession

<https://www.learnshetland.com/discovering-shetlands-rocks-and-landscapes1>

Norwegian Conversation with Nina Høgmo

Wednesdays for 6 weeks starting 26th October, 1800-1930 in Islesburgh Community Centre
£39.78, or £19.89 concession

<https://www.learnshetland.com/norewegian-conversation>

Spanish for Absolute Beginners with Maria Shlyannikova

Wednesdays for 3 weeks starting 21st September, 1830-2000 online
£19.89, or £9.95 concession

<https://www.learnshetland.com/spanish-for-absolute-beginners>