



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 9/1/23

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all. It was lovely to welcome the children back into school on Thursday, and to hear all their Christmas news. I do hope you managed to have a break over the holiday time as it can be rather busy. We are now looking forward to a busy Spring term.

The Christmas Concert. We are so pleased that we managed to hold this on the last Tuesdays of term. The children had worked hard, even though we did not have as much time to practice as we would like due to the snow disruption. Thank you to all who managed to support the afternoon

Nursery Christmas Concert and Stay & Play Christmas Party. It was lovely to see so many parents and carers support this, we were surprised by how many we could fit into the nursery space! The children so enjoyed sharing their Christmas songs and learning with you, so thank you for coming.

Mareel and Draatsis class visit to the Art Exhibition in the Shetland Museum. We also managed to fit this in on the last day of term and again the children enjoyed their time reviewing all the schools' art work on display as well as other areas of the museum.

Looking ahead to this term:

Industrial action is planned by some teaching unions for tomorrow, Tuesday 10th, so as you know school will be closed to primary aged children but Nursery will be open as usual and NOOSC will be open from 9am to 4.30pm for any one needing child care. Please book in using the form <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/10thJanNOOSC/> by end of today

Student teacher: We welcome Mia Clark who will be doing her 2nd year teacher training practice with the Mareel class for the next five weeks. It is always a privilege to be able to support the next generation of teachers.

Swimming starts for Tammie Norris and Orca class tomorrow (if industrial action does not take place) otherwise it will be next Tuesday. Please make sure your child has a suitable swim costume and towel.

The Shetland Lost Songs Project starts today with Mareel class for the next 4 weeks- this is a project run by TVV2. The project has local culture at its heart with 'lost songs' taking centre stage. The tutors are researching local songs no longer commonly known and it will hopefully act as a springboard for new song-writing or visual depictions of the story of people behind the song.

The AI project with Draatsi class. The children continue to work with the Children's Parliament on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights, taking part in missions and investigations along with 3 other schools across



Shetland Islands Council

Scotland. This project will contribute to the Scottish Government's new AI strategy with the vision for Scotland to become a world leader in the development and use of trustworthy, ethical and inclusive AI.

Winter illness: We are now in that time of year when many illness and respiratory infections, including covid and scarlet fever are doing the rounds. As a general rule of thumb if your child is unwell or has a temperature please keep them at home until they feel better or 48hrs if they have been sick. Our aim is to not spread infection to other children and to school staff as there is very little relief staff available and we really do not want to have to shut classes due to staff shortages. Eating well and getting enough sleep and exercise all helps keep the immune system as healthy as possible. We will also be reminding children about good handwashing and respiratory hygiene (catch it, bin it) Please can you reinforce this at home too.

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: 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

Dates Term 3: These will be updated each newsletter.

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

16th Jan Parent Council meeting 7.30pm NOOSC

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

20th March- Report to parents this week

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

31st March Last day of term

Kind regards,



Shetland Islands Council

Gina Finch