



**Shetland
Islands Council**

DPS Newsletter

25.08.23

Rights Respecting Schools Award: The school is very pleased to announce that at the end of last term, the school was awarded the Bronze Rights Respecting Schools Award. You will see the logo now added into to official paper work. This means we are at the start of a journey to understand children's rights and to ensure they underpin the work that we do. On the school blog you will find an information leaflet about the work of UNICIF and the United Nations Conventions for the Rights of the Child. This means that this year on our school improvement plan you will send the articles of the convention referred to in each of the priorities as well as the Nurture Principles as both support the other. It is important that children learn about their rights and how to respect the rights of those around them as well as what Nurture looks like in action.

Good communication is key- so if you have worries or concerns please contact the school directly- second hand information from other parents can often be misleading. Teachers will contact you directly if they have concerns about your child- via phone call or email.

Drop off and Pick up times: School starts at 9am. P1-7 children should not be dropped off before 8.45. School finishes at 3pm and all children will be on the playground for you to pick up if not going on the bus. No school age children should be going through to Nursery to wait for pick up there. If you are running late then your school age child will wait in the main school building next to the office. There is space within NOOSC so you can always book your child in for a short time until you can pick up. School age children are not insured to be supervised by nursery staff so please may sure your child know not to go into nursery to wait for pick up. Thank you for your support with this.

Parental Engagement: The staff have been looking at ways to increase the way we can involve you in your child's learning. We already have several events such as parent- teacher meetings, Christmas concert, SMUHA, Learner led event, and now we are adding in an open afternoon in February for parents and carers to come into see what their child has been learning in class. Please let the school know if you have further ideas about how we can involve you more.



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Parent- teacher consultations will take place on Tuesday 26th September 4pm to 6pm and Thursday 28th September 6pm to 8pm. The scholastic book fair will also be open during the event and week so please support that. Further information about parents evening and how to book a slot will be sent out next week.

Absence: Please contact the school on the morning of absence. If we have not received a message by 9.15 the school will phone you. Please try to organise medical appointments outside of school hours if possible. Any planned absence should be notified via an absence request form which can be found on the school blog. The Council policy is that family holidays are not authorised. There is further information about absence on the school blog.

Medications: If your child needs to take any kind of medication at school, a medical administration consent form needs to be completed, even for those children who might self-medicate. It is parent/carer responsibility to ensure all medications, including inhalers are clearly labelled with the child's name, dosage and date when sent in.

Christmas Cards and Merchandise. This year parents and carers will have the opportunity to purchase Christmas cards and other merchandise featuring art work designed by your children. There is no obligation to purchase but for every item bought the school receives a commission which goes into school funds. Each class will be working on some art work in the coming weeks which will be hopefully on display at the parents evening for you to decide what you would like to order if anything. Further information about ordering and the company producing the cards etc. will come out to you shortly.

Upcoming dates: (updated school calendar is on the blog)

- 23rd Aug Bike ability for P6 for 6 weeks
- 4th Sept After school Netball Coaching starts for P5-7
- 22nd Sept Chroma Music workshop for each class
- 25th Sept Scholastic Book Fair for the week
- 26th Sept Parent- Teacher consultation 4pm to 6pm
- 28th Sept Parent -Teacher Consultations 6pm to 8pm
- 4th Oct Deadline for Christmas Card artwork and orders to be sent off
- 6th Oct Last day of Term 1**
- 25th Oct Children return to school.
- 27th Oct Halloween Dress Up day
- 31st Oct First swimming session P4/5 and P6/7



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11th Nov Remembrance Day

18th Nov Children in Need Day- wear something spotty and bring your teddy to school day

27th Nov Start collecting for Christmas Hampers

8th Dec Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day

14th Dec Christmas Concert- 1.30 pm and 6pm Christmas Hamper Draw

22nd Dec Last day of Term 2