

FAIR ISLE TIMES

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Fair Isle Primary Trip to Lerwick



Wednesday 8th May

Last week we went on a school trip for a few days, which was very exciting, especially as the Foula kids were staying at the hostel with us.

When everyone arrived at the hostel, we dropped our bags off and then went to Clickimin because they were cleaning the rooms for us. Before the Foula children arrived, all of us went to the sensory rooms before lunch. The rooms had lots of touch panels, lights and comfy chairs! When we came in, they showed us all the different buttons for changing the light colours of the different panels and bubble tube. There was an infinity tunnel; a screen that if you touched it, had patterns or lights and music! My favourite was the bubble tube, which you could hear if you put your ear to it.



Afterwards, we went for lunch near the café shortly followed by a swimming lesson with Foula too! Later in the afternoon, the oldest child at Foula (called Elma) and I were going on a tour of the Anderson High school. Before then everyone went to the playground for a play; that play park is my favourite one because there is a zip line and loads of swings! Before we knew it, Elma and I had to head to go to the Anderson with Alison the Foula teacher and Hamnavoe P7s too. The tour was really interesting and the shade of orange changes for every floor and there are lots of signs so it's very hard to get lost. Afterwards, we walked back to the hostel (in what was now the pouring rain) for a delicious dinner of sausage and mash.

In the evening Elma, Sam and I went for a free swim! We played sharks in the rapids until closing time. Everyone else went for a rainy walk around Clickimin loch for some fresh air.



By Freyja (11)

Thursday 9th May

After breakfast, we all went to Montfield Dentist. The dental nurse checked our teeth and coated them with fluoride varnish. We also learned how to brush our teeth properly. We had to brush pretend teeth to make sure all the bits were away. The only way you could see the bits was with an ultraviolet torch so we had to keep checking. We also saw how much sugar was in different snacks. We had to put teaspoons of sugar in a bowl to see!



After that we went for another swimming lesson at Clickimin with the Foula kids. We had to swim with a woggle or a float and we got to go down the flumes. Ander went down the flumes for the first time!

Hollie, Harris and I had to rush to Tingwall for our flight but P1 and P7 had to stay to see the school nurse. We waited at Tingwall for 3 hours because there was fog over Fair Isle! It was very boring and I watched the same weather forecast 4 times! The others got to go to Harry's but luckily Ander and Heidi bought toys for me and Harris. The fog went away just in time for us all to get home.

By Luca (9)

When we were on the school trip, I took my Deep End Test at the Clickimin. Firstly, you had to jump in to the pool and then you had to do front crawl for a length. After that, you had to do back crawl for most of a length. Finally you had to float in the shape of a star on your back and then on your front and tread water. Then Sally told me I had passed. This means I can go in the very deep end now.

By Harris (9)



I had fun on the school trip. I went to swimming lessons. I went to the dentist. I got hot and cold putty in Harry's toy shop.

By Ander (6)

I had fun on the school trip. I went to the pool. Me and Edith splashed Gillian. I went to Harry's toy shop. I got a toy.

By Heidi (6)

Something different for da week dat's awa this time, from Anne in the sunny Netherlands...

From our own correspondent!!!

Where do I start? We have had one adventure after another since we left on April 8th. As soon as we arrived in Shetland I was introduced to my new 'oot by' car, a necessary purchase as my little red, much-loved Micra has no hope of passing her MOT. Am delighted with my 2-year-old Toyota Aygo – 5 doors and silent windscreen wipers an extra bonus. By Tuesday all ownership requirements had been covered and I am, basically, legal. Dinner at the Lerwick Hotel two nights running did not disappoint. Thanks to Mairi, all travel arrangements went very smoothly. Meeting up with family when we arrived in Glasgow on Wednesday and a trip to the hottest curry restaurant in the western hemisphere was exciting. The long cool drink in the hotel bar before we all disappeared in various directions was much appreciated! Thursday and another thank you to Mairi and Steve; to Mairi for booking seats on the train for Stewart and Triona, Barry and me, and to Steve for making sure all our suitcases came with us all the way to Wigan (wis auld eens didn't have to carry any of it). We arrived at the wedding venue in good time to meet up with the rest of the Thomson clan and have lunch. Steven and Silvia had arrived minus luggage, courtesy of KLM, so Steven had to settle for jeans and a T-shirt (not shorts, mercifully) and Silvia had borrowed a very pretty dress from Jess. The wedding ceremony was just as it should be, moving and joyous. Iain and his best man Ross looking very handsome in their kilts. Claire looking radiant and beautiful, and the youngest two bridesmaids looking lovely and very grown up indeed. KLM arrived with aforementioned luggage so Steven and Silvia were suitably clad for the photos, the banquet and the music. While, in the main hall the disco held sway, one of the many bar areas was the venue for some brilliant traditional music played by the younger generation. A great time was had by all.



Clare and Iain with Iain's family: Ewen, Mairi, Clare, Iain, Inge, Triona and Stewart

On Friday morning after a very good breakfast there was a bit of a crisis as Harry's banjo had disappeared. Much to everyone's relief it was tracked down – in the bridal suite!!! After many handshakes, cuddles and good-byes we all went our separate ways. Barry and I joined Silvia and

Steven in their self-drive and headed for the Lake District. Arriving in a rainy Keswick by late afternoon we tracked down our self-catering flat. Situated near the centre of the town it was clean, airy, very comfortable and with all mod cons. A brilliant choice booked by Hannah who arrived with Ed later. Keswick is well worth a visit. We had the weekend to enjoy the breathtaking views and agreeable eateries. I never made it to the Pencil Museum and deliberately avoided the excellent book shop, but Hannah and I did a bit of shopping. I acquired new breeks with 5 zipped pockets and a Norwegian backpack. We found lots of interesting souvenir outlets with, as you can imagine, Peter Rabbit very much in evidence. We hit the charity shops - some nice ones, some interesting stuff and, in one, an elderly lady with multi coloured false nails that were so long that she had to work the till with her knuckles. The weather was cold and inclined to rain but we explored through the woods and took a boat trip round Derwent Water. Steven and Silvia walked up Catbells. We had a wonderful weekend. Hannah and Ed had to leave on Sunday evening, and we drove down to Ilkley on Monday morning. Staying overnight, we had time to walk a fair distance along the banks of the River Wharfe, and to see how much debris in the shape of uprooted trees and bushes had been carried down by the torrential rains and stuck along the banks and shallow areas. Walking along the edge, the river looks very inviting. Have since checked up on its status and discovered that it was one of the first rivers in England to be designated as an official bathing site but now has a quality rating of poor. Public information as of October 2023 states that bathing is not advised at any time. Just as well that we didn't fall in. The hotel we stayed in was very comfortable and their idea of an English breakfast was a mountain of food, very good food.

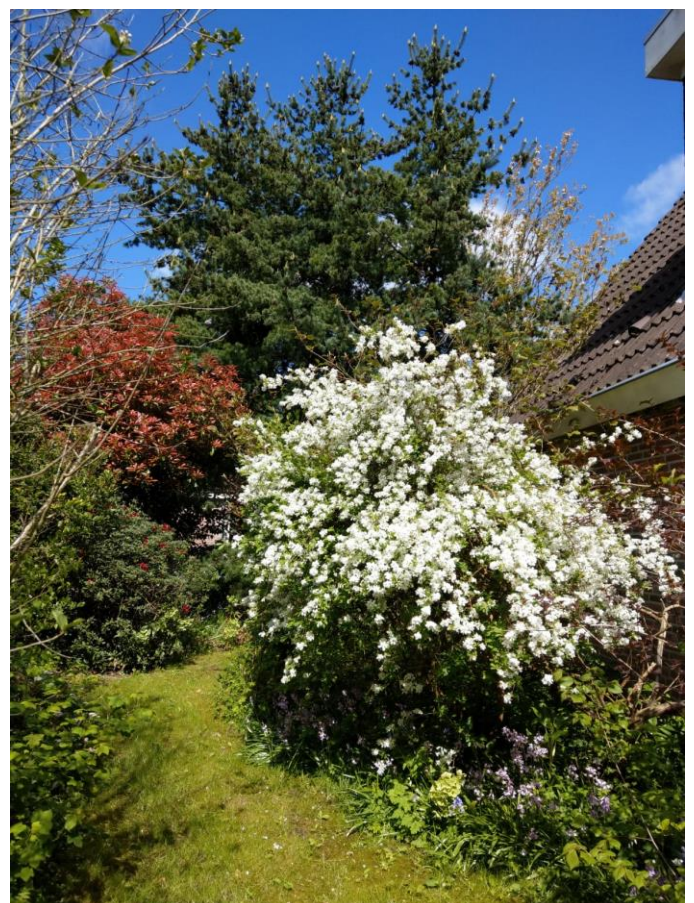
Tuesday morning and we flew to a very busy Schipol from a very empty Manchester Airport.

We arrived in Vries around midnight. Woke up the next morning to 3°C temperatures but flowers in the garden

The next stage of our adventures begins.

To be continued...

Anne, Busta





Happy Syttende Mai from Fair Isle to our friends in Norway!

Today, May 17th, is Norwegian National Day, which is widely celebrated over there, but also with a parade along the street in Lerwick too. Edith Ann and Malcolm up in Orkanger and Tom, Lill and Vinjar on the island of Stord are in our thoughts

John

Thanks to Ian for the flag photo!

ISLE NOTICES

God willing, weather permitting, Steve Charman and his wife Jennie will be visiting Fair Isle on Saturday and will be leaving again on the first plane on Monday morning. Steve is the Superintendent Methodist Minister for the whole of Shetland, which is a difficult task as there are many changes anticipated for the Methodist Church locally and nationally. We hope the pair of them get the opportunity to explore the Isle and see how we work together as a community (an extended family).

Steve will lead our Sunday Service this weekend (11am at the Chapel), and all are welcome

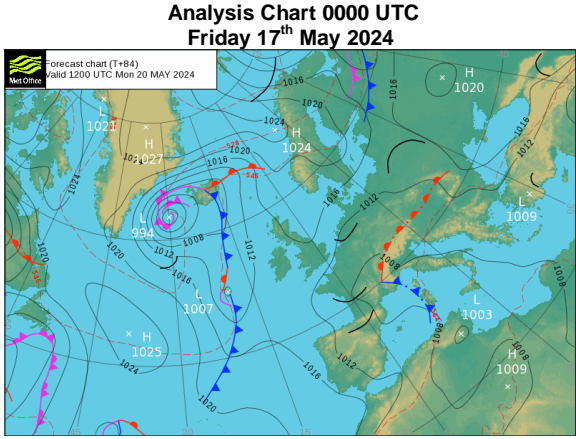
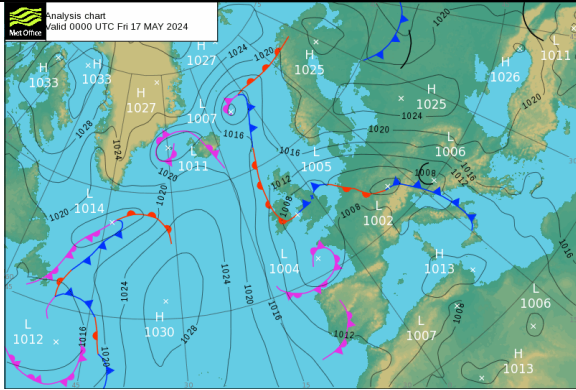
John

Nurse cover – A reminder that while Laura is away, nurse Emma Williamson will be visiting from Monday 20th pm till Wednesday 22nd am. Also the vaccination clinic scheduled for Monday 27th has been postponed, will let you know when a new date is confirmed.

Congratulations to our own Martha Thomson and Lukas Hirt in Basel, who welcomed their first child, a daughter, Leni (*pronounced Laynee*) Mae Hirt on the 11th May. Extra special congratulations to Stewart and Triona at Quoy on becoming great-grandparents and to Ewen and Emma in Channerwick on becoming grandparents!

A huge happy birthday to our star P7 writer, Freyja!
Happy 12th birthday on Monday!!

FAIR ISLE WEATHER FORECAST



GENERAL SITUATION

Friday 17th May 2024

High pressure west of the British Isles maintains a ridge over northern Scotland to Scandinavia. As this weakens low pressure over the Norwegian Sea brings a cooler north-west to northerly airflow for the weekend. The earlier ridge rebuilds early next week then declines as a depression near Iceland drives a weakening front towards Shetland later Tuesday. Current models now suggest that from mid-week high pressure building to the west transfers to northwest or north of the British Isles where it may remain until the weekend.

OUTLOOK FOR THE WEEKEND

11° or 12°, possibly 13° on Friday 8° overnight. The weekend less warm at 11° Celsius by day, 7° overnight.

FRIDAY 17th: Fine, dry and sunny by day, cloudier overnight but staying dry. F3-4 ESE wind. **Sea State:** Slight with a 1 metre E wind swell.

SATURDAY 18^h: An overcast start with mist or fog and patchy drizzle then brighter. Perhaps the odd light shower later. F3 NW wind. **Sea State:** Mainly slight with a 1 metre W wind swell.

SUNDAY 19th: A cloudy day with chance of a shower but some brighter or sunny spells for the afternoon. F3 NE winds tending SE. **Sea State:** Slight with a 1 metre NW wind swell.

FORECAST FOR NEXT WEEK Temperatures 12° or 13° Celsius by day, around 8° overnight.

MONDAY 20th: Mainly dry and brighter with sunny spells. Mostly light ESE winds. **Sea State:** Slight or moderate with a 1 to 2 metre NNE wind swell.

TUESDAY 21st: Sunny spells then cloudy with chance of a shower later. A freshening SE wind. **Sea State:** Slight or moderate with a 1 to 2 metre NNE wind swell.

WEDNESDAY 22nd – SUNDAY 26th: Perhaps mainly dry with mostly light N or NE winds. **Sea State**
Wednesday: Slight or moderate with a 1 to 2 metre NE wind swell.

If we get as much sunshine as yesterday - 15.2 hours - then that will be 58 hours sunshine in 4 days!!

Dave Wheeler

