

Lunnasting Primary School

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Acting Head Teacher: Mrs Louise Malcolmson

09 January 2024

Dear Parent/s,

Happy New Year! I hope you are all well rested and have made some special memories over the festive period. It was a shame for Term 2 to finish so abruptly with the school closures, however we are all raring to go for Term 3. There are lots of dates to be added to your diary, so please keep this letter handy for reference.

**Swimming lessons**

P1 – 3 swimming lessons commence **this week** on Thursday 11th January at the North Mainland Leisure Centre. These will be weekly, for six weeks, leaving the school at 9am prompt. The final session will be on Thursday 15th February.

P4 – 7 swimming lessons will commence on 22nd February at the North Mainland Leisure Centre, also for a six week block, leaving the school at 9am prompt. The final session will be on Thursday 28th March.

Children will be back in school for their snack.

Please ensure your child has their swimming costume/trunks, a towel, a waterproof bag and any other required equipment e.g. goggles, swim hats, etc.

It is helpful if those with long hair have it already pleated or up in a bobble for going in the water. Pupils should also wear clothes that are easy to get on and off, e.g. socks instead of tights.

**Staffing update**

We are delighted to have Vikki Parry, our new Learning Support Worker, start with us this Term. She will work on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

We are also very lucky to have been allocated a Play Support Worker. Miss Ellie Ratter started last term on a temporary basis. Her contract has now been extended until the Spring holidays. Miss Ratter will work with all school pupils to consolidate their learning through play activities.

Unfortunately, Miss Spence won’t be with us for a number of weeks. Therefore, we will have supply in until she can return. For the first few weeks of term we have Ms Jill Hibbert, who is a qualified PE teacher, covering PE lessons. These will be on Thursday afternoons.

**Visitors this term**

We are looking forward to welcoming a range of visitors this term.

Maria Leask will be coming on Fridays to teach all children traditional Shetland dancing. The first session will be this Friday. Pupils must wear comfortable clothing/gym kit and have trainers or plimsolls. Boots are not allowed to be used in the Gym Hall.

We also have a visit from Eleanor Hutcheon and Emma Chittick, who work with schools to deliver STEM activities. STEM is recognised as being very important for skills for learning, life and work. STEM covers the four areas of sciences, technologies, engineering and mathematics. They will work with the Early Years and the primary school.

**Snack**

Please ensure your child has a healthy snack each day. Last term, pupils were quite often forgetting to bring one.

**Occasional Holidays**

Please note there are some occasional holidays this term. The school will be shut on these dates:

* Wednesday 31st January
* Friday 23rd February
* Monday 26th February
* Friday 29th March

**Family Fun Night**

This term, we are introducing a Family Fun Night. Members of the Pupil Council, alongside the rest of the school, will be deciding on a theme and games. Please keep Thursday 7th March free. More details to follow.

**Delting Up Helly Aa**

Delting Up Helly Aa takes place on Friday 15th March. Please save the date as the school will be inviting parents and the community in for the arrival of the Jarl Squad.

**Parent Council Meeting**

The next Parent Council meeting will be on held Thursday 15th February at 6.30pm in the school. All parents welcome.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Louise Malcolmson

Mrs L Malcolmson

Acting Head Teacher