



NEWSLETTER

August - October

T: 01595745050

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PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT OUR NEW WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE. THIS WILL KEEP YOU UP TO DATE WITH THE MOST RECENT GOINGS ON IN THE SCHOOL.

SHETLAND YOUNG WRITER WINNER

Huge Congratulations to Leah!

Congratulations to Leah for winning this year's Young Shetland Writer competition in the 10-12 year old category for her piece called "The Arctic".

Leah attended the prize giving ceremony at the Shetland Library on Friday night where she read her work. We're so proud of you Leah! Well done!



VISIT FROM THE FIRST MINISTER, JOHN SWINNEY

On Wednesday, 20 August 2025, John Swinney visited our school to meet with our nursery department and speak with community members about the impact of participating in the Early Adopter Community.

The project, which has been running for around five years, has provided access to childcare within our nursery department for two-year-olds. Its aim is to support families by providing childcare places within our nursery, that enable parents to access employment—something that had been limited due to the lack of childcare options across our island.



Mid Yell Junior High School

Learning at the heart of our ISLAND



School Improvement Plan 2025/2026

Environment, Experiences & Interactions

To promote a nurturing, inclusive setting where learners' rights, needs and interests shape engaging environments, high expectations, collaboration, independence, and ownership.

Quality Marking and Feedback

To develop the practice using of SOLO taxonomy for feedback across the secondary department, supporting pupils in understand their progress and identifying their next steps.

Developing Literacy Across the ELC & Primary Stages

To demonstrate a consistent approach to developing literacy skills across the primary stages, with targeted support in place for pupils.



Inclusive

Supportive

Learning

Aspirational

Nurturing

Developing

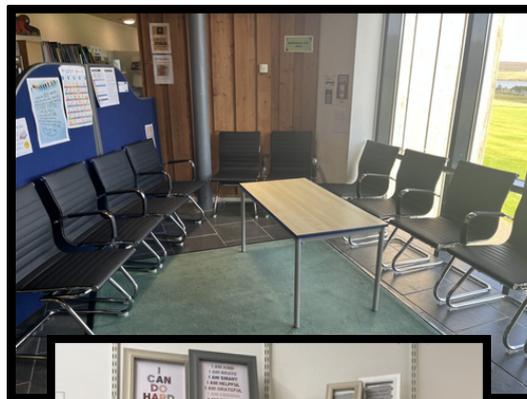
We've already been able to make some key improvements around our school environment:

S1 Social Area now has new smart seating.

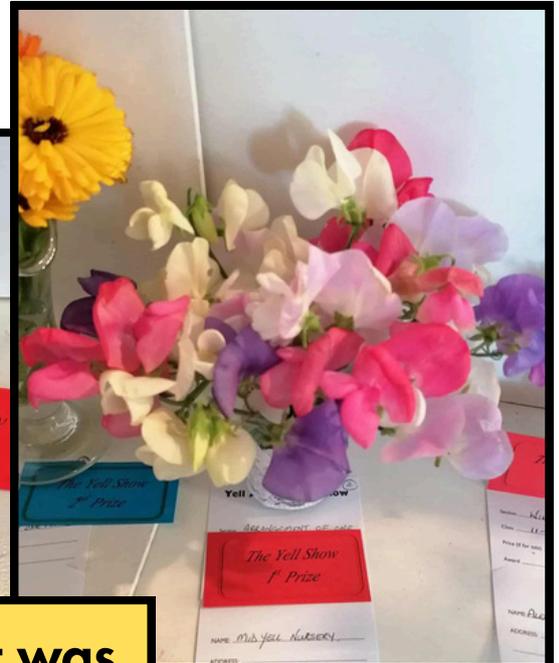
Lower Primary Classroom has plants and various items to make it feel more homely.

Upper Primary Classroom has comfortable seating area.

Thank you for your donations, we couldn't do this without you – your support really makes a big difference for the children.



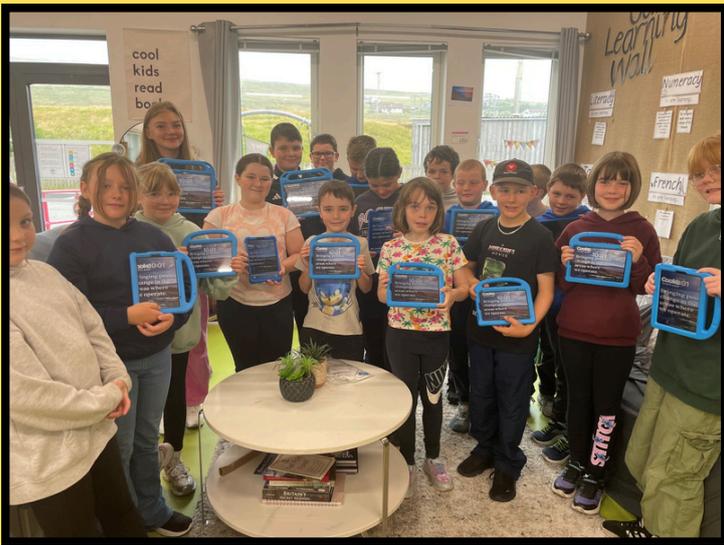
YELL SHOW



What a glorious day it was at the Yell Show! The sun shone brilliantly, and the school secured a remarkable collection of prizes. Congratulations to all who dedicated their efforts to create these award-winning entries!



We have been getting ready to host a Coffee Afternoon to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support Charity. We have been learning a song called 'lean on me', which is about friendship and supporting each other. We are looking forward to performing this at our Coffee Afternoon. Please come along tomorrow for a cuppa to support a good cause!



We feel very lucky to have been given lots of new iPads with money given to us by Cooke Aquaculture. There is enough iPads for every child in the primary!

We have used these iPads lots already. They have come in particularly useful when we are doing some independent research during our topic on different natural disasters.

We now have learning stories where we get to keep a record of work which we are proud of. We are linking the work we do to the different meta-skills. We hope by the end of the year this will show the range of different skills we have and the fantastic work we have done



S3 ART TRIP WITH ARTIST HELEN ACKLAM



Today our S3 Art class along with pupils from BHJS took part in an art workshop with artist Helen Acklam.

Pupils had a guided tour of her exhibition in Da Gadderie, in the Shetland Museum. Helen then led them through a mixed media workshop where pupils made their own sketchbook and experimented with materials.

They had a great day and have returned to school with new skills and ideas to add to their own work.

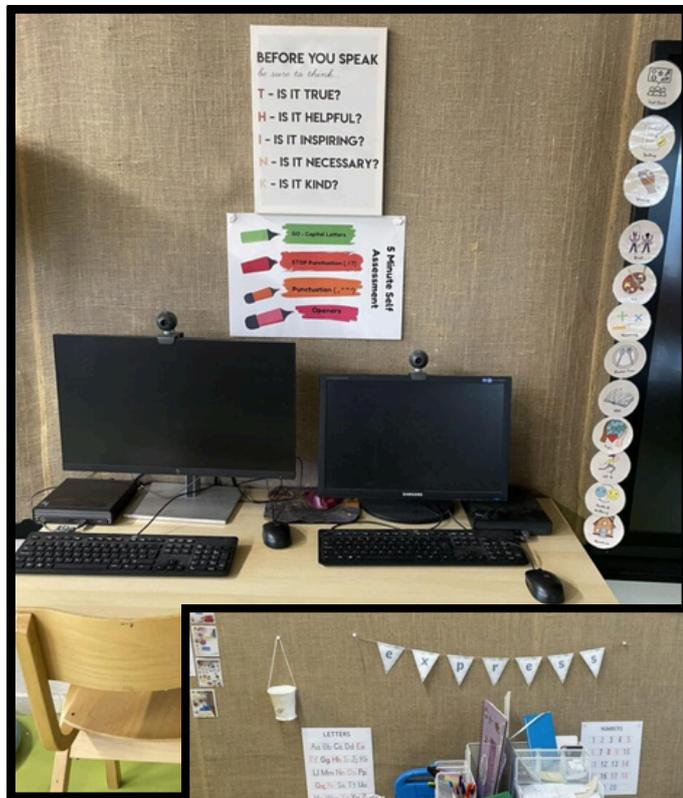


DEVELOPING PLAY SPACES

Primary staff have been working hard to ensure all our pupils have access to well resourced play spaces. We have purchased blocks and an art trolley to support the development of play.

The children are delighted with the spaces they have on offer and access these areas regularly.

When children are playing they are learning and developing a range of skills.



BREAKFAST CLUB & SNACK

Our pupils enjoy a variety of free fruit and vegetables every day for snack at breaktime.

This initiative is kindly funded by our Parent Council and is enjoyed by both primary and secondary pupils. We have also been harvesting our polytunnel and enjoying these treats at snack too! We also have a Breakfast Club is also available to all on a daily basis. Pupils have access to a range of cereal, toast and hot drinks.

Primary – before school
Secondary – before school and at breaktime.



ARTICLE 29 TIME

Our Primary Department are now underway with the committees they have chosen to represent this year. Our groups meet every second Wednesday during a session we call 'Article 29 Time' (the right to an education that develops personalities, respect for others' rights and the environment).

Eco-Schools – This group have renamed themselves 'Planet Protectors' and are working towards creating their action plan. With a name like that we are expecting big things this year!

Rights Respecting Schools – This group have been working on our charter for this year and are currently making a beautiful display! Watch this space!

Pupil Council – This group have been using the 'How Good is OUR School' document to evaluate our current practice. We have been looking at Relationships and the group plan to issue a questionnaire to all pupils soon.

JRSOs – This group are well underway and have already issued their first road safety competition! Winners will be announced before the holidays.

School Grounds – This group are working hard to improve our top playground and play tunnel. They have big plans and we can't wait to see what they achieve.

ARTICLE 29 TIME

ARTICLE 29 (GOALS OF EDUCATION)
EDUCATION MUST DEVELOP EVERY CHILD'S PERSONALITY, TALENTS AND ABILITIES TO THE FULL. IT MUST ENCOURAGE THE CHILD'S RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, AS WELL AS RESPECT FOR THEIR PARENTS, THEIR OWN AND OTHER CULTURES, AND THE ENVIRONMENT.



ECO-SCHOOLS MRS THOMSON & MRS JAMIESON	If you are passionate about climate change and the environment, then this is the committee for you. Our Eco group are working towards achieving a Green Flag for our school – they would love your help!
PUPIL COUNCIL MR LAWSON	We rely on our Pupil Council members to be enthusiastic about making our school the best place it can be! If you have ideas about ways we could improve – then the Pupil Council is the committee for you!
RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS MRS COUTTS	If you are interested in promoting Children's Rights and would like to help our school receive a Rights Respecting Gold Award, then we would love to have you on board! This group helps promote a culture of respect throughout the school.
SCHOOL GROUNDS MISS TURNER	A new group this year, our school grounds committee will lead the way on improving our playground and outdoor learning environment. If you have great ideas for ways to improve our playground then this committee could really use your input!
JRSO (P6 ONLY) MRS MEUDELL	Our JRSOs lead the way on road safety. They organise competitions and promote road safety throughout the year. A highlight for our JRSOs is a trip to Lerwick in June to share what they've been doing.

NURSERY COFFEE AFTERNOON

The Nursery held a coffee afternoon on Tuesday, September 23rd, raising £225 for new outdoor equipment. A big thank you to everyone who attended, baked, and donated.

