

Tingwall Primary School
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Tingwall Nursery
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Head Teacher
Mrs Cheryl Spofforth

May News

Sports Day

Sports Day will be on Monday 23 May, weather permitting. This is organised by Mr Colin Kirkness, our PE teacher. It will start at 9:30 and last until approximately 12 pm. Each primary class participates in a variety of 'personal best' activities in 4 separate areas of the school grounds (including the Tingwall Hall) and also with some class races taking place centrally, on the football pitch. You may come along and watch your child/ren participate in each event, but would ask you not to enter the Tingwall Hall, but view this event through the windows. Pupils will stop for snack/break (approx. 10:40 - 11:05).

Nursery pupils will have the chance to participate in a race for 3yr olds and 4 yr olds, if they wish, at 11:10 and this will be followed by a Parents' race.

Please ensure your child remembers to wear/bring suitable footwear and an outdoor jacket, as well as their PE kit (shorts and tee-shirt) plus something warm and comfortable such as hoodie/jogging bottoms, for participating in this outdoor event.

If the weather is unsuitable, a notice will be placed on the Tingwall Primary Blog (Google Tingwall Primary Blog) and the event will be postponed until the following Monday, 30 May.

Transition

Our two further 'move-up' mornings to allow the pupils to spend time with new teacher/class/classmates will be Tuesday 31 May and Tuesday 14 June.

Nursery parents (new P1 pupils) will receive more detailed information about this.



Shetland Islands Council
Children's Services



Chocolate eggs

We have received a donation of chocolate eggs for our primary pupils, from a construction company. Please let us know by Thursday, if you do not wish your child to receive an egg, otherwise they will be sent home with pupils at the end of the week.

A dairy free alternative will be provided for pupils with allergies.

Car Park Safety

Unfortunately, a near miss was reported on Friday, when a car from the top end of the car park, tried to leave the area, at speed, before all the pupils had reached their parents.

A teacher had to put herself at risk, by stepping in front of the car, to make it slow down, to prevent it hitting a pupil who was crossing to the other side of the car park.

It is imperative that our safety rules are followed to prevent an accident. If someone else is picking up your child, please ensure you inform them of the Car Park rules.

Car Park - a reminder of our safety rules:

Nursery parents please try to park at the top end of the car park, nearest the Nursery entrance - avoid the white lines of the new footpath.

All parents:

The school buses will be dropping of pupils in front of the hall between 8:40 am and 8:50 am, so please leave this area clear.

If collecting your child between 2:45 pm and 3:00 pm, please follow the guidelines below:

- 1 You must be **parked before the children come out of school at 2.55-3.00 pm**. Drive **SLOWLY** everywhere in the car park, both before and after the school day.
- 2 Please leave the area in front of the hall free for the big Robinson's bus to park. It will leave just after 3 pm.
- 3 Please do not leave the carpark until all children are safely in vehicles.
- 4 If someone else is collecting your child **you must tell them our car park rules**.

All vehicle drivers are asked to **drive slowly, be vigilant and be courteous to pedestrians**.

Please also watch out for **cyclists** who may be leaving school from the front driveway and joining the main road.

Transport

Transport operators have asked us to pass on that it is no longer necessary to inform them, if your child will **not** be on the bus home.

Reminder – Sunscreen (should we actually get any kind of 'summer' weather!)

To be safe, please apply sun cream to your child before they come to school. A long-lasting sun cream is the best and it helps to have a spare, labelled tube, in their bag for any top-ups.

Parent Council Feedback

There were a couple of issues raised at the recent meeting, which need clarification, as the minutes will only be shared next term:

Parent Teacher Communication – Please remember that we have an 'open door' policy. This means that we are keen to discuss any queries or concerns you may have about your child, no matter how small, so that we can set your mind at rest or take any necessary action. Please phone the office in the first instance to ask for a call back from the class teacher after school.

Remember that a lot of information re school and classes can be found on the School or Class blog. Just Google **Tingwall Primary Blog** and this will give you access to our website. Nursery information can be found here too or by Googling **Tingwall Nursery Blog**.

'Gadget day'

Is a term that seems to have been invented by the pupils! It really refers to a 'free choose' activity, to bring in to have fun with on the last day of term, e.g. a board game or toy, as we don't normally allow this during the year. However, it seems to have evolved to reflect children's own interests – more and more bairns are bringing in 'gadgets' i.e. ipods, Nintendo Switch etc. This is permissible as long as you are in agreement and the item does not contain any games that have a violent content. Any item brought in from home is the responsibility of the child.

Films:

Films and short film clips, provide a valuable resource to schools, especially with the ease of accessing these nowadays, and may be used for a variety of reasons: Linked to Visual literacy lessons such as reading a class novel, for example Roald Dahl's 'Matilda' and then watching the film looking for similarities and differences. A particular theme in a film may be used for listening and talking lessons, to inform or promote discussion or debate, or films could be used to help children understand what life may have been like in the past, e.g. 'Goodnight Mr Tom' illustrates the lives of children evacuated during the 2nd World War. They might also be used to make subjects such as health and wellbeing, for instance exploring feelings and emotions, easier to understand (Inside Out).

There are also occasions where they may also be used as a reward, voted on by the class, if the class have achieved a target they have been working on, such as working using quiet voices, or including everyone, or as a class treat to watch during Golden Time or as a fun element on a drizzly wet day when they are unable to get outside at playtimes.

The teachers map out the films across the Curriculum, for Excellence 'Experiences and Outcomes' as part of their planning, to show the justification for using them. I have asked teachers to include the names of these visual resources in their Curriculum Overviews, which are posted each term on Class Blogs, so that parents are aware of what will be viewed. If something different crops up during the term, as planning can sometimes change to veer off in the direction of children's interests, Teachers will email parents with this information.

Looking ahead to June

We are planning to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on Thursday 2 June, by having a 'street party' style picnic lunch outside, weather permitting, followed by an afternoon of 1950's playground games.

Pupils and staff may dress in 1950's style fashion if they wish.

Occasional Holiday Dates until the end of summer term
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Friday 27 May 2022

Friday 3 June 2022
