

Shetland Islands Council

Head Teacher: Garry Spence

Website: https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/sh/whalsayschoolweb/

Whalsay School Symbister Whalsay Shetland ZE2 9AQ

Telephone: 01595 743800

30th March 2023

Dear Parents/carers

Quite a few random things to catch up on at the end of term and in preparation for next:

Homework Survey

This session we are consulting with pupils, parents and staff on Homework. We would like to find out about how homework is being organised and experienced at the moment and work towards an agreed understanding on how homework should be managed in future. Please help us with this by completing the survey <u>here</u>.

African Drumming

Primary pupils and a Wider Achievement group in Secondary have enjoyed a number of sessions with Joy Duncan this term. However, due to various circumstances resulting in the lack of time spent with the pupils and time available for a performance, she thought it would be best for pupils to share their pieces with each other this morning for her last session in school, as she was not available to come in this Friday. We have recorded the performances and they will be available on the blog soon.

Reports

Please note we are trying to get Primary reports ready to go home this afternoon or tomorrow so remember to check your child's schoolbag for that.

End of Term (Primary)

For Friday, we are allowing all primary pupils to bring in toys/games to play with. Listed below are some examples of toys and games your child may bring in. Please be sure your child's name is clearly marked on all items so we can make sure all toys go home with the correct owner.

- Lego, blocks,
- Dress-Up outfits
- Playing cards
- Puppets and Stuffed Animals
- Board Games
- Jigsaw puzzles
- Dolls, Action Figures

no violent toys, toy guns or weapons or electronic devices allowed

Dinner Money

We would be grateful if you could check your ParentPay account and ensure that your dinner money payments are up to date by the end of term.

Works at Secondary Building

Contractors are currently working on securing the roofs of outbuildings adjacent to the Midden Court. We are also expecting contractors to be on site to work on the Secondary roof from the Easter Holidays onwards. If your children are likely to be playing in that area, please impress upon them the importance of staying away from the scaffolding and to be aware of the increased traffic in that area.

SQA Exams

S4 pupils have been working very hard to complete assignments and folios which were picked up by the SQA last week. Study Leave for S4 pupils will begin on Tuesday 25th April, the day of the first exam (Geography). I will be sending out a letter and timetable to S4 pupils and parents as soon as we get back after the Easter holidays.

Spring Concert

Parents of pupils receiving instrumental instruction and parents of pupils in P5 to 7 will receive a letter next term about purchasing tickets for the re-scheduled Music event now taking place on Wednesday 3rd May at 2:30pm.

Secondary Activities Trip and S1 Parents' Evening

We are exploring the possibility of Secondary activities from Monday 29th to Wednesday 31st May, potentially involving overnight stays. This is in the early stages of planning but the dates clash with the date we had for the S1 Parents' Evening (Tuesday 30th May). Parents of children in S1 should note that this event will now take place on Tuesday 23rd May.

Primary Morning Arrangements

Parents may be aware that we have been discussing arrangements for morning access to the Primary building with the Parent Council. We had been advised by Schools' Service to consult with parents further about this. However, this on hold at the minute as Schools' Service is reviewing this issue across the whole estate before providing further advice. We will communicate about this as soon this review is complete.

I would like to wish everyone an enjoyable and restful Easter Break.

Yours sincerely,

perez

Garry Spence Head Teacher