



Shetland Islands Council

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Dear Parents and Carers

Winter illness

At this time of year, we need to be mindful of the winter illnesses that often do the rounds. The following blog gives some simple actions that parents can take to help protect their families and those around them:

[Back to school – 5 things to do to help manage winter illness – UK Health Security Agency](#)

Included in the blog is this helpful advice:

- If your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay home from school or nursery until they feel better, and the fever has resolved.
- If your child has diarrhoea and/or vomits, they should stay off school or nursery for at least **48 hours after their symptoms clear up.**

Snow Rota

We would like to take the opportunity coming in to the winter months, to remind parents of the school closure protocol. In the event of the school being closed out with school hours, school management will contact Zoe Williamson and Margaret Leask and they will filter closure information through the class WhatsApp groups. If you are not part of the WhatsApp group, please let the school know. In the event of school closing early during the school day, school staff will still phone people individually to guarantee that every pupil can be collected safely.

Charity Events

Thank you to everyone who donated a shoebox to the Shoebox Appeal and to Whalsay haulage for taking the boxes to the Shetland Aid trust depot in Lerwick. Also, thank you to the school community for their support with Children in Need last Friday where over £240 was raised.

Book Fair

Thank you to all parents who supported the Scholastic Book Fair last term. The total value of books sold was £589.49 and the school will be able to claim some free books as a result of the sales made.

Be Safe Be Seen

The Primary Junior Road Safety officers (JRSOs) visited primary classes recently to lead a PowerPoint on staying safe in the darker nights. All primary pupils received reflectors home; please make sure these are attached to their jackets to allow them to be seen in the dark.

Traditional Dancing

We are delighted that Maria Leask is coming in to teach traditional dancing again this term for Primary and S1/2. She started on Thursday 14th November for 6 weeks. S3 and S4 will be covering dancing on Friday as part of core PE.

Healthy Snacks

Just a reminder that we are a healthy promoting school and encourage pupils to bring tooth friendly snacks, if a pupil brings in a healthy snack for morning playtime they will receive a merit for their house team. Suggested healthy snacks includes: fruit, vegetables i.e. carrot or cucumber sticks; sandwich; bread sticks; crackers; scone or oatcakes. Or see [Snack ideas – Childsmile](#) for more ideas.

Winter clothing

A small reminder to encourage all pupils to come to school with a suitable jacket now that the weather is colder. Primary pupils will be outside at break times when the weather is suitable and Secondary pupils have the daily commute over to Primary for lunch.

School Dates

Key dates have been added to the school blog.

The Christmas Concert is scheduled for Friday 13th December with a morning and afternoon performance. For any parents/carers who can't make this date, we plan to video the performances and share on a private YouTube channel. More information will follow soon with times and ticket sales.

- Thursday 6th December, 9am – Last collection for Christmas Card Delivery
- Wednesday 11th December – Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
- Friday 13th December – Christmas Concert
- Monday 16th December – Secondary Party
- Thursday 19th December – Primary Parties (during school day)
- Friday 20th December – Last day of term
- Tuesday 7th January – Pupils return to school

If you have any questions on any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely

Mr Niall Healy
Head Teacher