



# Shetland Islands Council

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Dear Parent / Carer

As we reach the end of a busy term, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all in our school community for coming together for a number of different recent events and showcases of pupil learning.

## **Christmas Dinner**

Bringing pupils from Nursery, Primary and Secondary together for our Christmas dinner was a huge success. My thanks to our kitchen staff for putting on such a lovely meal and to our teaching and support staff who had the pleasure of serving the food to our pupils. As the Christmas music played in the background, it was lovely to see pupils and staff of all ages enjoying themselves and embracing the Christmas spirit.

## **Nursery Concert**

Our youngest learners in the Nursery had the opportunity to perform songs for parents and grandparents at the end of term. This was an important milestone for the personal development for our pupils and made for a very enjoyable occasion. It was lovely to meet parents and family members of our youngest learners and we look forward to seeing these pupils take the next steps of their learning journey. Sincere thanks to our Nursery staff for efforts this term; particularly in preparing the pupils to take to the stage!

## **Fernlea Visits**

Having our school very closely connected with service providers in the community is vitally important and our long established links with Fernlea allow our pupils to share and celebrate their learning with residents. My sincere thanks to our music instructors and staff who have liaised and made arrangements with Fernlea staff to allow our fiddle players, Peerie Makkers and Primary choir share their talents and learning.

## **Primary Concerts**

A huge thank you to staff, parents and pupils for collaborating so well across the whole term which culminated in two excellent productions which showcased and celebrated pupil's creative and musical talents. Concerts in the morning and afternoon were very well attended and our young people have gained rich experience in preparing for and taking part in high quality productions that they can be very proud of.

## **Christmas card delivery**

Huge thanks must go to Secondary School staff and Ms.Irvine in particular for coordinating the distribution of Christmas cards to homes across the isle. As mentioned a little earlier, building and further strengthening connections with our community is a hugely important part of school life and I was delighted to see our Secondary pupils embracing the process of card sorting, organization and delivery. Another great success, thank you and well done to our Secondary School pupils.

## **Inter-house**

Our inter-house events continued this term with Primary pupils taking part in an inter house swimming event which was a great success. My thanks to our partners at the Leisure Centre for supporting our delivery of swimming this term and to Mrs.Irvine who has supported swimming lessons and coordinated the Inter-house event. For Secondary pupils, yesterday afternoon was a chance for all pupils to represent their respective houses in tchoukball. This was an activity suggested by the pupils for the pupils! Well done to team captains for coordinating their teams and thank you to staff members who took on responsibility for scoring, photography, time keeping etc.

## **Fundraising updates**

In line with many of the aforementioned events, we have had a number of different fundraisers. My sincere thanks to Parent Council members and to our school clerical and teaching staff for efforts in coordinating and to all parents, grandparents and family members who made contributions and provided support.

*Fundraising totals:*

Christmas Jumper Day - £107.39

Christmas Concert tickets - £940

Parent Council Raffle - £1094.50

Christmas Card Fundraiser - £1,814.81

## **Best wishes**

Finally and most sincerely, I would like to pass on my very best wishes to all families in our school community for the festive season. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy 2025. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know our pupils at school since starting in August and it has been a pleasure to work with you in taking steps to support our pupils and develop our school.

Yours sincerely,

Niall Healy  
Head Teacher