

**Stenness Community School**  
**Newsletter 9**  
**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024**



**Reverend Prentice**

We were all very sad to hear of the passing of Reverend Martin Prentice last week. He's been our chaplain for several years now, and we always looked forward to his visits to the school.

He loved coming to our assemblies to speak to the children, and always knelt down to address them, pitching his words at just the right level of understanding for primary school children. Even during the Covid lockdowns he recorded messages for us to play to the children, which we greatly appreciated at that time.

He loved coming along to our school performances and thoroughly enjoyed them all. He would have been invited to our performance next week, and so we've decided to dedicate the show to him. He'll be greatly missed in our school community.

Our sympathy goes to Mrs Prentice and the rest of his family.

**The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and the Horse**  
**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March in the Hall at 6.30pm**

Rehearsals are in full swing and are looking and sounding amazing. You're in for a treat; the children are working so hard on this.

As mentioned on Seesaw yesterday, please make sure your child/children are at school for **6.00pm**. If you haven't done so already, please confirm your child/children's attendance. This seem like a strange question, but we are aware that clashes can crop up and we need to know exactly who'll be onstage.

If you are still to send in our costume requests, we'd be really grateful if these can come to school before the end of the week as the dress rehearsal will be at the beginning of next week.

There is no admission charge this time. Instead, there'll be programmes on offer for a donation to boost our school funds. The Friends of Stenness Community School have also organised a Lucky Square competition. Any donations of raffle prizes for the lucky squares will be hugely appreciated and you can drop them off at the school office or take them along on Wednesday.

We'd like to extend our thanks to all the parents and carers who are supporting us with this production, whether by producing the programme, conjuring up the lucky squares and donating prizes. Thank you all.

### **Glow Party - TOMORROW, Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**

The Friends of Stenness Community School end of term Glow Party is tomorrow from 6.30pm - 8.00pm. See poster at the end of this newsletter and note that siblings are welcome to attend.



### **Hi Viz Vests**

We'll be collecting in the school's hi-viz vests at the end of term now that the lighter nights have finally arrived.

### **Absences**

If your child is absent from school, please let us know by email or phone before 10am. If we don't hear from you, we'll make contact with you for clarification.

### **Holiday Dates**

School will be closed to pupils on the following dates:

- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April - Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April inclusive. Term 4 starts on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April
- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May (May Day Holiday)

### **Mindful March**

Thanks to everyone who has already sent in photos for our Wellbeing Warrior Challenge. You've all been very busy, and the bonnier days are certainly helping us to be 'Active' and 'Take Notice'. Please keep up the good work and continue to send in your photos. Our board is filling up nicely.

We're keeping very active in school this month. We've already had Donna Cuthbertson in with her trampolines, our mini gym is in the Joint Room, Michael Swanney has been visiting and we have karate and rugby tomorrow. The list is endless!  
Thank you so much to Davy and Doreen Garson for their golfing sessions last week - your support is very much appreciated.



### Red Nose Day

Our Red Nose Day 2024 fundraising totalled an amazing £201.40. This is a fantastic achievement when you consider the number of children in the school.

We had lots of fun last Friday and the P7s did a great job of organising the bake and milkshake sale. Thank you so much for your support.

### Nursery See4School Visual Screening

The children in the Nursery who are eligible to start school in August will have their vision tested on Wednesday next week (in the afternoon). If your child is included, you will already have completed the consent form and returned it to school.

If you have any queries please direct from to the Nursery staff or Donna.

### Climbing Frame

The climbing frame in the playground has been fixed! Thanks to Johnny, the Council's playpark handyman, a replacement climbing wall has been attached and the whole frame is now in full working order again. Just in time for the summer!

### Term 3 Timetable

Please find my Term 3 timetable below. This is relatively flexible as I tend to be where I am needed, and this can often change at quick notice. Should you need to contact me urgently please do so on either of the following telephone numbers:

Stenness: 850 212 Orphir: 811 265

	AM	PM
Monday	Orphir	Stenness
Tuesday	Orphir	
Wednesday	Stenness	
Thursday	Orphir	
Friday	Stenness	

## Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Notes
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	See4School Vision Screening (some Nursery children)	Those involved will have already completed their consent forms
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	End of Term Show	6.30pm (please get the children here for 6pm to get their costumes on)
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Last Day of Term 3	
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	First Day of Term 4	

<b>Term 3</b>	<b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March</b>
<b>Schools Closed</b>	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> - Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> February
<b>Spring Holidays</b>	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> April - Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> April (Easter Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> April)
<b>Term 4 Begins</b>	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April

### Finally...

It's been quite the term! We've had wind, rain, snow and now the sun is shining (some days), and Spring is in the air.

I do hope you'll all be able to attend our show next week. The children have been working so hard on it. They've had lines, songs and choreography to learn as well as costume making in their Art lessons. We're sure you're all going to love it and what a super and uplifting way to end the term.

When the holidays come, have a great time. If you're going away, safe travels and have an awesome adventure. If you're staying at home, there are lots of activities on offer to keep the kids entertained all holidays (please see the Activity programme which was posted on Seesaw this week).

Term 4 always passes in a blur of busyness so have a relaxing holiday and we'll see you all refreshed and raring to go on the 15<sup>th</sup> April.

Kind regards as always

*Grant Thomson*

Linked Head Teacher, Stenness & Orphir Community Schools



# Community News



The SOCS group will be attending this and their candles are now on sale with 20% off all remaining stock. Get in quick!