

**Stenness Community School**  
**Newsletter 11**  
**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024**



As always, this Term 4 is whizzing by and it's hard to believe that soon we'll be half-way through. We've already done so much since Easter:

- the P7s had a brilliant week in Hoy
- we've had lots of visitors such as Rhiannon from the Orkney Native Wildlife Project who took us birdwatching down at the loch and Generation Science who held an electricity workshop this week
- the whole school participated in Bag the Bruck and made Stenness a cleaner place to be
- we've started 2 after school clubs - STEM for the P5-7s and a whole school club for the month of May
- we've planted over 100 trees
- the Stenness Starbursts became netball league winners! We're so proud of them.

We have lots more planned, and other events will crop up as the term goes on, so please keep an eye out for updates on Seesaw.

**New Parent & Carers Council Committee**

At the recent AGM, the new Committee was elected. Our new office bearers are:

Chairperson	Rebecca Macvie
Vice-Chairperson	Graeme Paterson
Clerk	Mary Connolly
Treasurer	Donna Hibbert

Thank you so much to our new members for volunteering their time and energy to the school.

**Absences**

Please let us know before 10am if your child is absent from school.

**Fluoride Varnish**

The Dental Team visited this morning to administer fluoride varnish to pupils who had consent in place.

If your child missed out on this, a notification slip is being sent home.



### **Suncream and Water Bottles**

We'll be spending as much time as possible outdoors and we want to ensure that your child is protected from the potentially harmful effects of direct exposure to the sun. If it's a sunny day we ask that children:

- **Have a sun hat with them at school.**
- **Wear clothing that covers their shoulders and upper arms.**
- **Have sun screen applied, particularly to their faces and necks, prior to attending school each day.**
- **Have a water bottle which they keep in school.**

Children may also bring their own sunscreen lotion to school to apply themselves. School staff can help apply sunscreen if you have ticked the consent box in our annual general consent form. Our procedure would be to ask your child if they are wearing sunscreen and if they are not, and they have some at school, to apply themselves or a staff member will help them with this.

## Upcoming Events



### Folk Festival Concert (N-P7) - Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May

We're all going over to Orphir School to enjoy a concert by visiting musicians 'Quote the Raven' from Canada. This includes the Nursery class and we're very grateful to the Folk Festival Committee for organising this and providing the transport free of charge.

**yesc** Young Engineers and Science Clubs Scotland

### Orkney Celebration of STEM 2024

29 May 2024, King Street Halls, Kirkwall

Free STEM kit and cost to attend budget!

Event Partners

**ORBITAL** MARINE POWER

Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks TRANSMISSION

Power Path Celebration of STEM Challenge

@YESC\_Scotland #YESCcelebrates <https://prosper.scot/yesc/>

### STEM Day (P5-7) - Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May

Mrs Leonard's class are taking part in the STEM Challenge Day at King Street Halls. This is a whole day event so packed lunches will be required (if you need a school one please contact Donna asap)

### Class Assemblies - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May at 2.30pm

The P1-4 and P5-7 children will be presenting some of their learning from the term so far to you. You are all invited along - please try to come.

### **Orkney Junior Cyclocross Event - Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June (am)**

Pete Bentley, a fully qualified Cyclocross trainer, has offered to come to school and give the children (P2-4 and P5-7), a taster session of this sport.

*The children will need to take their bikes to school that day (in serviceable condition), and also their helmets.*

We have some spare bikes in school for anyone who can't provide their own. Please get in touch if you need one and we'll see if we have one that fits.

All the information you need is attached to this newsletter.

### **School Closed - Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June**

Staff Inservice Day

### **Food and Farming Day (P1-7) - Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June**

As you'll have seen from the Seesaw message this week, the Royal Highland Education Trust has organised a food and farming event in Harray on the above date. This is an opportunity which we had to take as it fits in perfectly with our Farm to Fork topic. All the children will need snacks, water and packed lunches that day (again, if you need a school packed lunch please let us know asap)

***As a result of this, we've rescheduled Sports Day to the 20<sup>th</sup> June in the afternoon (weather dependent - we have a reserve day of the following Thursday).***

### **Final Trip to Ness of Brodgar (P1-7) - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June (am)**

The Historic Environment Scotland Ranger Service has offered schools a final opportunity to visit the Ness of Brodgar before they cover over the dig for the last time. Obviously we have to go and say goodbye to it!

### **Leavers' Assembly - Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July**

You are all invited to come along at 2.30pm on the last day when we'll celebrate the school year, present the Nursery children who are moving into P1 with their certificates and say goodbye to our amazing P7s as they move on to Stromness Academy.

### **Term 4 Timetable**

This term's timetable follows a fortnightly cycle where I will be in one school for 3 full days one week, and 2 full days the next. Should you need to contact me urgently please do so on either of the following telephone numbers:

Stenness: 850 212 Orphir: 811 265

	Odd Weeks	Even Weeks
Monday	Stenness	Orphir
Tuesday	Orphir	Stenness
Wednesday	Stenness	Orphir
Thursday	Orphir	Stenness
Friday	Stenness	Orphir

**Upcoming Events - please note these down. Some of the dates may be subject to change, and there will certainly be additions to this list but we'll keep you informed as we go along**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Folk Festival Concert at Orphir School (am)	Nursery - P7
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	STEM Day P5-7	King Street Halls 10am - 2pm. Packed lunches required
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	P1-4 and P5-7 Class Presentations	2.30pm All invited
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Staff Inservice Day	School Closed
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Orkney Junior Cyclocross Taster Session	P2-4 and P5-7 Own bikes required See information attached
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	School nurses visit to P7s	Transition Event
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Food & Farming Day	See information on Seesaw
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day!	Races will be in the afternoon
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	P7 Transition Days at Stromness Academy	
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	P7 Parents' Information Evening at the Academy	
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	RESERVE SPORTS DAY	
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Ness of Brodgar Trip	P1-7
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	End of Year Reports Issued	
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	End of Year Leavers' Assembly and last day of Term 4	2.30pm
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	First day of summer holidays	

### **Finally...**

Time is whizzing by and each week seems busier than the one before.

Enjoy the sunshine, get outside as much as you can and make the most of the longer days and lighter nights.

Kind regards as always

*Grant Thomson*

Linked Head Teacher, Stenness & Orphir Community School