



**Scalloway Primary School**  
**Primary Newsletter**  
**October 2017**



It's incredible to believe that term 1 is complete already. Our new primary 1 class have settled in well and enjoying all their new learning experiences. A good time to update you on some school related matters.

**Dates for your Diary**

**October Holidays**

Last day of term for pupils and staff - Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October  
(re-opens for pupils on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October)

**In-service**

Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> and Tues 24<sup>th</sup> October

**Interim Reports**

Early December

**Christmas Concert**

Wed 20<sup>th</sup> December (matinee and evening performance)

Panto time - 'Fee, Fi, Fo, Fum'



**Christmas Canteen Lunch**

Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Dec

**Christmas Carol Service**

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec in the Church of Scotland (family and friends welcome)

**Harvest Assembly**

Rev. Debby Dobbie will be joining us for our whole school Harvest Assembly to be held at 9.15am in the **School Music Hall** on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October. There is no space for family members on this occasion.

**Shetland Food Bank**

Primary 6 have organised a collection point for donations to the Shetland Food bank (outside the janitor's office). They have delivered information to all classes and will present at the Harvest Assembly. Thank you for your kind donations to date.

**Hen House**

The eagerly awaited Hen House is here and in position. Money was kindly gifted by Scottish Sea Farms. We are to take delivery of two hens in the very near future. We hope they will settle quickly, begin laying and give valuable learning opportunities to our pupils. We are risk assessing and considering our pupils with allergies.

**Polytunnel**

At last.....we hope to have our polytunnel erected over the holidays (or as soon as possible). We've had to revise the location for this and it will now be positioned at the front of the school near the bike shelter. Once in place, we hope that all interested staff and pupils will get many happy hours pottering in our polytunnel learning all there is to know about growing your own. We intend to use any edible produce in the canteen and or make small sales to provide funds to sustain our gardening projects.

**Afterschool Clubs**

Recorders for P4-7 will continue as usual and Indoor Hockey P4-7 will resume with Mr Kirkness. It is hoped that badminton will soon be available too. Parent helpers are always welcome for hockey. Letters will be issued early next term.

**Modern Languages in Primary School**

All of our primary pupils learn French in their classes. Starting Wed 1<sup>st</sup> November, AHS teacher and former colleague, Mr Perdu will visit P7 once a week introducing them to German over a 12 week block. This is part of the national initiative to introduce a 3<sup>rd</sup> language to primary aged children.

### **Free School Meals and/or Clothing Grants**

A reminder for parents that the deadline for Free School Meals/Clothing Grant applications is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017. Please ask at the office for further details or go to [www.shetland.gov.uk/education/ClothingGrants.asp](http://www.shetland.gov.uk/education/ClothingGrants.asp)

### **Reporting to Parents**

Thank you to all the parents who managed to attend our 'Learning Journey' event recently. Our Pupil Voice have spoken and they are whole-heartedly buoyant and excited about getting a chance to show their loved ones their work and their school. Our next information will be in the form of a written report due early December.

**Head Lice** - Please continue to check heads regularly and follow the advice given on [www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice).

**Shetland Foodbank** - Primary 6 have done a brilliant job organising this enterprise initiative. Tomorrow (6<sup>th</sup>) is the last day for collecting donations.

**Christmas Cards** - We are not making Christmas Cards this year.

### **Children in Need - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November - A Spotacular Event (show your spots!)**

A book and toy sale is being organised, therefore it's a good time to clear out the cupboards of items no longer needed.

Also....we are making a collection of the old £1 coins that go out of circulation on 15<sup>th</sup> October. Please donate any you find in money boxes, collections or even down the side of the couch!

### **Oxford Reading Tree (ORT)**

Over time, a number of books from our reading scheme are misplaced and/or lost. If you find a book in your home, it's never too late to return it to school. Returning late books would help enormously.

### **Staffing/Students**

Mrs Pottinger has joined our team replacing Mr Bennett who retired at summer. Mrs Henderson, ASN teacher is with us for a year and is currently teaching P3 due to staff absence. Mrs Birrell teaches Tuesdays in either P4 or P7, releasing Mrs Tait and Mrs Mainland to do their Principal Teacher roles. We have a few new faces in the ASN team, Miss Thomson, Ms Moncrieff and next term Mrs O'Neill. We are supporting an Early Years Modern Apprentice, Hannah Wright who started work in September. Mrs Wells, a Post Graduate student will complete her placement in P2 next term and Miss Chloe Nicolson will be working two days between EY, P1 and P2.

**Parent/Grandparent Volunteers** - Timetables for staff and pupil support are tighter than ever. More often, we will be asking for parent helpers to accompany staff and pupils on trips. In addition if anyone is willing or able to run a Golden Time activity on a Friday afternoon, requiring a PVG check, please contact the office for more details eg craft, chess etc.

### **Easy Fundraiser**

In anticipation of lots of online Christmas shopping, can we encourage you to register with <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/scallowayschool>. It's an easy way to raise money for the school funds set up by the Parent Council.

### **Outdoor Playtimes**

It is expected when the weather is dry above; pupils will be encouraged outdoors at break times. Please ensure they are suitably dressed for the elements.

Mrs Morag Fox,  
Head Teacher