



Hope Newsletter

End of Term 1 – October 2022

Well, I can't quite believe we have reached the end of our first term. It feels like we have had an extremely positive start to the year 2022/2023. I would like to thank all the children and teachers for their hard work over this last term. When I walk through the school, I am always met by highly productive children who are ready and keen to share their enthusiasm for learning with me. What an incredible privilege it is to be part of this ongoing journey with everyone in this community.

The termly reviews will be coming to you in the traditional paper form this week. This is part of our regular reporting to parents. Please take time to read this over and send us any comments on your child(rens) learning.

P3-5 swimming will start the first Friday after we come back from the October break. This will run for 8 weeks as follows:

Friday Water time 10.15 - 10.55
Holly Elson
Hope P4/5
28/10/2022
04/11/2022
11/11/2022
18/11/2022
25/11/2022
02/12/2022
09/12/2022
16/12/2022

Seesaw

Unfortunately, we are still unable to access Seesaw. As a result, between myself, the entire Hope team and the school office we will be sending out a weekly email that will contain any school updates and useful information. The content of these emails will vary from week to week so please remember to check. If you would like to contact your child's class teacher, then please do so on the emails below:

Paula.peace@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk

Gwen.coltherd@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk

Krissy.simpson@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk

I would also like to take this opportunity to pop my email address below:

Shereen.linklater@glow.orkneyschools.org.uk

If any of you would like to contact me about anything at all then please do not hesitate to do so. I really value hearing from families and would like to encourage this as much as possible.

Cost of Living support

With the cost of living continuing to rise, now has never been a better time to investigate and utilise every possible avenue of income support. As many of you are aware the Scottish Government have extended the Universal Free School Meals provision to P5.

Whilst this is great, I would like to bring your attention to the fact that even though these school meals are free you may still be entitled to further support. Some families have always been able to apply for free school meals based on their personal circumstances. This also comes with a school clothing allowance. Some families are now not going through the process of applying for free school meals status as they receive the meals anyway. Given the current climate we are going to send forms to every family. If you feel you would be eligible and would like to apply, then you can do so completely confidentially. If you would like any further information, then please don't hesitate to contact Ingrid in the office.

Cranes for Ukraine



We have been making cranes for Ukraine! They will be displayed at Northlight Gallery in Stromness.



“An ancient Japanese legend says that gods will grant anyone who folds a thousand origami cranes a wish. This means – Japanese people believe if you make a thousand origami cranes, your wish becomes true! Make a wish for world peace, make cranes for Ukraine!”

P3/4/5 have been working hard to make many origami cranes, they have made a slideshow of them doing this and this will be on display at the Northlight Gallery in Stromness between Fri 30th Sep – 10th Oct. There is a money donation box for the Ukrainian people at the gallery. As much as the origami cranes won't be going to Ukraine the money will. Well done P3/4/5!

Learning

Conflict has been the topic this term and the children have completed some fantastic conflict themed work.

P1/2

The Primary 1 children have told me that the best thing about coming into Primary 1 is getting to see our friends every day. The Primary 2 children have been very good at helping the primary 1 children settle into class. They have focused on friendships for their topic. They were able to tell me that playing nicely, having good manners and being kind to one another is the most important thing.

P3/4/5

In line with the conflict topic P3-5 have researched the first world war. They have taken a closer look at propaganda for the first and second world war and had great fun making their own persuasive posters. One of their highlights has been learning about how our minds can sometimes give us conflicting messages but that it is important to have a growth mindset rather than a fixed mindset.

P6/7

P6/7 have been learning about what the word conflict means. They enjoyed creating their own comic strips about a time that they were involved in a conflict and how this was resolved. They were then able to turn this into a fictional story. They have been reading “The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse”, taking inspiration from the powerful messages within and applying this to what they have learned about conflict.

Science Festival



As always, the Science Festival week was filled with many interesting events. One of the highlights was receiving a visit from a real-life astronomer from St Andrews University who talked to us about Stars and Monsters. The week came to a close with a fantastic trip to Burray to visit the Planetarium and take a journey through our solar system.

P6 Outdoor Activities

As always Chris Jex and his team delivered a fantastic three days of Outdoor activities. This year the activities included wall climbing, raft building, canoeing, archery and bushcraft. I was particularly delighted to see that the P6 children from Hope and Burray schools confidently mixed and worked together well. This has set a good foundation for P7 transition when it comes next year.



P7 Transition Days



The P7 transitions days were a huge success. Over the course of three days the children worked well together on group tasks and team building activities. Above are some pictures taken from their Harry Potter themed day. In addition to this they worked hard in giving the outdoor furniture in both Burray and Hope a brighten up. It was great to see them take such pride in their school surroundings. Thank you to Erin Mackay and Gwen Coltherd for making this happen. We hope to repeat this again over the course of the year.



JRSO



I am delighted to share that Iona Addis, Erik Thomson, William Scott and Ronnie Moar have volunteered to become our Junior Road Safety Officers (JRSOs) this year. This programme is co-ordinated by Yvonne Scott from Active Schools. Part of their new roles will be to promote the best way to keep safe on the roads and on the school buses, particularly in the darker months. They will have the opportunity to deliver this message to small groups as well as in whole school assemblies. Massive well done for volunteering, you will all be great!

Speaking of Active schools, thanks to Catherine Johnson for helping all our P7s for passing their Bikeability. Well done P7.

Parent Council

Thank you to the previous office bearers for all your hard work and support. It goes without saying that your job was not made easy by the covid pandemic, but your perseverance was much appreciated. The children are delighted with the new playground equipment that has recently been provided by parent council funds!

I would like to offer a warm welcome to our newly elected office bearers.

Morvin Brooks – Chair

Susan Wishart – Vice Chair

Lorna Major – Secretary

Amy Arnold – Treasurer

You are off to flying start so far and I am excited for what is to come! At time of writing, I am anticipating the wonderful home bakes that you have organised for the open afternoon.

If there are any of you who have not yet joined the Hope School Parent Council page on Facebook, I would recommend as this is a good platform to keep up to date with upcoming events.

Dates for the Diary

Start of Term 2	Monday 24th October
P3-5 Swimming	Starts Friday 28th October 2022
Halloween Disco – Parent Council	Friday 4th November 6.30pm - 8.30pm
Scottish Book Week	W/b 14th November
Remembrance Day	Friday 11th November
Parent Council Gin Tasting Night @ Robertsons	Sat 19th November 7.30pm
Parent Council Meeting	Thursday 17th November 7:30pm
Art Exhibition at Loft Gallery Opens	Tuesday 22nd November
Christmas Concert	Tuesday 13th December
Film Day organised by the Parent Council	Friday 16th December
Last day of term	Wednesday 21st December

I would like to finish by wishing everyone a fantastic well-earned holiday. I look forward to seeing everyone again at the other end.

Many thanks,

Shereen Linklater