



Weekly Note

23rd September 2022

HMIE Thematic Review

Stornoway Primary School participated in an HMIE National Thematic Review this week which focused on promoting positive behaviour and anti-bullying. Victoria Morgan and Aileen Macsween came to visit the school on Tuesday. The HMIE staff had discussions with the Senior Management Team throughout the day and reviewed school documentation. They also met with pupil and staff focus groups. During the visit, we had the opportunity to share our approaches to supporting the health and wellbeing of all children and our focus on anti-bullying. The visit was very positive and encouraging, and they were both very pleased with our work. The feedback received will guide our next steps in school improvement. Victoria Morgan has invited our school to participate in a case study on our anti-bullying ambassadors and the contribution they have made to creating the anti-bullying ethos in our school. We are very much looking forward to working on this with HM Inspectors over the coming months. The findings from their visit will feed into a national report.

Curriculum Group

Our school improvement priorities for this session will be discussed at the Curriculum Group on Tuesday 4th October at 7pm in the school. This will be an opportunity for parents/carers and partners to contribute to the work of our school improvement projects and offer comments and suggestions in moving forward. All parents/carers are warmly invited to attend.

Dandelion Project

Last session, some of our Primary 6 and Primary 7 pupils were involved in the Dandelion Project. This involved planting potatoes both in school and at home. During the month of September, the pupils lifted the potatoes and delivered them to the local care homes to cook for their residents.

On Friday 9th September, as part of our harvest celebration, GM7 pupils worked alongside Donald Mackee, chef from The Failte Centre, to make leek and potato soup using our own potatoes. The pupils also helped to make a special celebratory cake. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed making the leek and potato soup and our guests thought it tasted delicious!



Parent Appointments

Parent appointments for all pupils will take place on **Monday 11th** and **Tuesday 12th October**. This will be an appointment in the school with your child's class teacher. You will receive notification of your appointment date and time week commencing 3rd October. We look forward to welcoming parents/carers into the school building again.

Kakatsitsi Drumming Workshops

The Kakatsitsi drummers came to visit our school on Monday 12th September. The Kakatsitsi drummers are a group of traditional drummers, dancers and singers from the Ga tribe of Southern Ghana. They performed to the whole school and nursery and some of the classes took part in music and dance workshops. The pupils and staff thoroughly enjoyed they day!



Cupan agus Cèilidh

We are delighted to announce the return of Cupan agus Cèilidh. Cupan agus Cèilidh is an opportunity for our pupils to develop their Gaelic conversational skills in a real life context. If you are a Gaelic speaker and you are willing to support our pupils to develop their fluency in Gaelic, you are more than welcome to come along to the school on Friday 30th September from 2-3pm.



- **A bheil Gàidhlig agaibh?**
- **A bheil sibh airson cuideachadh a thoirt do ur cuid chloinne le Gàidhlig?**
- **A bheil sibh dèigheil air cupan teatha?**

*Have you got Gaelic?
Would you like to be able to help your child/children with Gaelic?
Do you enjoy a cup of tea?*

Thèid fàilte bhlàth a chuir oirbh ann an Talla Chruinneachaidh Bun-Sgoil Steòrnabhagh, feasgar Dihaoine eadar 2f agus 3f.

Please come along to Stornoway Primary Assembly Hall between 2pm and 3pm on Fridays.

30/09/2022 28/10/2022 02/12/2022

Airson barrachd fiosrachaidh, cuir fòn gu/for more information contact
01851 703418
stornowayprimary@gnes.net

Financial Support for Parents/ Carers

FINANCIAL HELP FOR PARENTS & CARERS

ARE YOU ENTITLED?



TAX FREE CHILDCARE.

- This is a Government scheme to support working parents with childcare costs. You set up an online account which you can use to pay your childcare provider directly. For every £8 you pay in the Government will pay in an extra £2.
- You can get up to £2000 per child per year, or £4000 if your child is disabled.
- You can use this account to pay registered Childminders, Nurseries & After School Clubs

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE IF:

Your child is under 12

The child you are applying for usually lives with you

You live and work in the UK

You, and your partner, are working and each earning at least the National Minimum Wage for 16 hours a week

For further information and to apply visit www.childcarechoices.gov.uk or call the Childcare Service Hotline on 0300 123 4097.



BEST START GRANTS

- This is a package of 3 new Scottish benefits to help parents on low incomes with the costs of having a child.
- The **Pregnancy & Baby Payment** is a one-off payment of £642.35 for your first child, then £321.20 for any younger siblings, to help with the costs of having a baby.
- The **Early Learning Payment** is a one-off payment of £267.65 to help with the costs around the time your child might start nursery
- The **School Age Payment** is a one off payment of £267.65 to help with the costs of having a child starting school.
- You can apply whether you are in work or not.

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE IF YOU ARE IN RECEIPT OF ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

Universal Credit

Income Support

Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance

Income-related Employment & Support Allowance

Pension Credit

Housing Benefit

Child Tax Credit

Working Tax Credit



BEST START FOODS

- This is a pre-paid card that you can use to buy healthy foods for children under 3
- You can apply when you are pregnant or at any time up until your child turns 3
- The payments are:
 - £18 every 4 weeks during pregnancy
 - £36 every 4 weeks from your child being born until they're 1 year old
 - £18 every 4 weeks between the ages of 1 and 3
- You can use this card in any shop which accepts Mastercard
- You can use the card to buy eggs, milk (cow's milk and infant formula), fruit, vegetables and pulses (fresh, frozen, tinned or dried)

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE IF YOU ARE IN RECEIPT OF ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

Pension Credit

Income Support

Income-related Employment & Support Allowance

Housing Benefit and earning no more than £328 per week

Universal Credit and earning no more than £660 per month

Child Tax Credit and earning no more than £17,005 per year

Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance

Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit and earning no more than £7,720 per year

You can apply online at www.mygov.scot/best-start-grant-best-start-foods or call 0800 182 2222



Scottish Child Payment helps towards the costs of supporting your family. It's a weekly payment of £20 that you can get for every child you look after who's under 6 years of age. You'll get the payment every 4 weeks if your application is successful.

You may be eligible if you are in receipt of one of the following:

Universal Credit

Child Tax Credit

Income Support

Pension Credit

Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)

Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)

Working Tax Credit

You can apply online at <https://www.mygov.scot/scottish-child-payment/how-to-apply> or call 0800 182 2222



NHS MINOR AILMENTS SERVICE

- This is an NHS service for children, people aged 60 or over, people who hold a medical exemption certificate and people of certain benefits
- When you are registered for the Service your pharmacist can give you medicine for your child for a minor illness or complaint if they think you need it. You will not have to pay for this.

All children under 16, or under 19 and in full-time education, are eligible to register

To register for the service speak to your local pharmacist or call the NHS Inform Helpline on 0800 224488



WARM HOME DISCOUNT SCHEME

- This scheme could give you £140 off your electricity bill for the winter – a one-off discount given on your bill between September and March
- You could be eligible if you are in receipt of certain benefits, receive free school meals or are in receipt of Child Tax Credits and have a child under 5
- You can still qualify for the discount if you use a pre-pay or a pay-as-you-go meter

To see if you meet the criteria visit www.gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme and follow the link for your electricity provider



Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar – Free School Meals / Assistance with School Clothing

You may be able to get financial help with your child's school clothing and shoes. This help is called a 'school clothing grant'. You apply to your local council.

You may be eligible for Assistance with School clothing if you receive:

Employment and Support (ESA) income related

Child Tax and Working Tax credit income below £20,000

Income Support

Income Based Job Seekers Allowance

Universal credit and earned income

Free school meals are granted to children from families in receipt of:

Universal Credit with a monthly earned income of not more than £625

Both Child tax credit and working Tax credit with an income of up to £7,500

Income Support

Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Child Tax but not working Tax credit with an income of less than £16,105

You can apply online at <https://www.cne-siar.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/application>.

Free Dress Friday

Free Dress Friday will take place on Friday 30th September.

Donation are welcome but not necessary. No fancy dress or football shirts please.

Thank you.

Canteen Menu

Week 2	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Pudding
MEAT FREE MONDAY	French Bread Pizza, Wedges, Carrot Sticks, Spaghetti Hoops, Green beans	Vegetable Soup & Tuna Sandwich	Cauliflower Cheese Wedges, Carrot Sticks, Green Beans, Spaghetti Hoops	Angel Delight & Fruit or Fruit
Tues	Spaghetti Bolognese with Seasonal Mixed Salad	Cheese Salad	Baked Potato with Tuna, Cheese or Beans	Chocolate Crispy & Fruit or Fruit
Wed	Sweet & Sour Chicken with Rice, peas and sweetcorn	Lentil Soup & Egg Sandwich	Baked Potato with Tuna, Cheese or Beans	Ice Cream & Fruit or Fruit
Thurs	Roast Ham, Yorkshire Pud, Mashed Potato, Carrots and Cabbage	Leek & Potato Soup & Ham Sandwich	Baked Potato with Tuna, Cheese or Beans	Seasonal Fruit Salad or Fruit
Fri	Fish Fingers and Chips with Peas & Beans	Carrot & Coriander Soup with Tuna Sandwich	Baked Potato with Tuna, Cheese or Beans	Yogurt or Crackers & Cheese with Fruit or Fruit