

Papdale Halls of Residence



Summer Newsletter 2021

Welcome to our Winter edition of the Papdale Halls of Residence newsletter. Our newsletter is sent on a termly basis to advise you of future events, consultations, changes, achievements, and to encourage you to participate fully in the service we provide at Papdale Halls of Residence.

Summer Break

Papdale Halls of Residence will close at 17:00 on Friday 25 June. **Papdale Halls of Residence will reopen on Monday 16 August at 10:00 onwards for all pupil's tea and supper will be available. This will allow pupils time to get settled in before the new term start on Tuesday 17 August, you will be emailed over the summer with information about what flight/ferry your child has been booked on.**

Boat tickets

Papdale Halls of Residence will no longer be issuing boat tickets for journeys for the residents. Instead Orkney Ferries will keep a note of the number of young people sailing and will invoice us accordingly. Your Child will no longer need to present a ticket but might need to say they are from Papdale Halls. Any residents who still have tickets can use these for travel until they run out.

COVID-19

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our staff, residents and their parents for their support and understanding during the Corona Virus pandemic. At PHoR, our main priority is to keep everyone safe and well. All residents have had a huge contribution in helping us achieve this with their ongoing support and understanding of the changes we have to make within PHoR. Huge thanks to everyone.

New Residents

Welcome to Hayden Oliver, Tazmine Potts, Jakub Dybisz, Izzy Brough, Bobby Harcus, Nemina Dickinson, Violet McEwen, Ivy McEwen, Caragh Rendall, Alex Poulter, Fraser Stout and Lorna Plaister who join us to continue their studies at Kirkwall Grammar School. We hope they are settling well and enjoying life at Papdale Halls



Staff Changes

Our relief staff member David Hamilton has recently taken up a temporary Assistant House Parent contract and we also welcome Christine Robertson who will be covering Rachel Tait's Maternity leave as a House Parent. We all want to wish Rachel well and look forward to hearing her exciting news. We also say a fond farewell to Susan Smith who plans to retire at the end of the week. Susan has been our cook for 27 years and will be sorely missed by everyone. We hope she can put her feet up and enjoy her retirement. Perhaps we will see her back as our Papdale Halls Bake off judge?



What's been happening in PHoR

With the changing Scottish Government guidelines, we have been able to offer some more activities this term. Residents have had the opportunity to participate in Dungeons and Dragons, Crafts, Kahoot quizzes, Games hall and 3G pitch, Pool, board games and water fights. The nice weather and light nights have brought many residents outside this term.



Supported Study

Due to the ongoing pandemic we have scaled back supported study from S1-S3 and now have it as S1 support. We restarted this in October. S1 Support is from 1800-1830 Monday- Thursday. The purpose of this group is to have a catchup with the residents every evening and help with any homework they may have.

On Monday's, the residents participate in Arts and Crafts. This term the residents have made tiles, chalk drawings and cloth bag designs.

On Tuesday's, we have Topic night. The topic this term has been around Covid and the positives that can be taken from it. Also there have been topics to encourage debate amongst the group.

On Wednesday's, this is homework night. This gives residents time to complete any outstanding homework they may have and gives them the opportunity to work with other residents who may be doing the same homework.

On Thursday's, we have a fun night playing games. This can include board games, computer games, quizzes, going outside to the park or playing Manhunt.

Leavers



Here are our S5-S6 leavers, Jake Topham, Teddy Beale, Andrew Hourston, Arran Walker, Kacey Brown, Frideswide Clackson, Lauren Seatter, Bartek Dybisz, Mia Train, Magnus Risbridger, Phillip Piper, Jack Owen, Molly Cannon. Missing from the photo Sarah Wilson and James Daintith.



Here are our S6 leavers at their leavers parade at KGS. Missing from the photo are Teddy Beale and Bartek Dybisz.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish them luck in their future endeavour and welcome any updates from them.

Questionnaires

All our leavers completed questionnaires before they left PHoR, feedback was really positive. Here are a few comments:

- “Loved my time staying at the hostel. The staff were always friendly towards me, a brilliant home away from home.”
- “Never had any issues with bullying”.
- “Overall the food was nutritious and plenty of options”.
- “Yes, always something that I liked on offer and very yummy”.
- “It was nice knowing that I had a keyworker, if I needed to talk.”.
- “I feel being away from a young age has helped me gain confidence and independence”.
- “I feel I have gained valuable skills which will greatly benefit me when I am at Uni.”
- “I felt that if I had an issue than I could bring it up and it would be acted on. I was also part of the Resident Council”.
- “I rarely had any issues, but if I did they were resolved quickly which I really appreciated.”
- “Never had a complaint”.
- “I always felt they were approachable”, this was in relation to staff.
- 10/10.
- “Good”.
- “I have enjoyed my time at PHoR”.
- “It was good, comfortable and nice place to live”.
- “Cheery staff helped lots”.
- “Perfectly Fine”.
- “It has been a great 2 years. I wish I had come sooner”.
- “Good, great opportunity of organising and time management”.

Leavers interview with Mia Train, Hoy, S6

What year did you come into the Halls?

I came in 2015, 1st year.

What did it feel like to be living in Kirkwall?

It was definitely exciting, I could do so many things in town, it was a bit scary too.

How did your first day at school go?

I honestly don't remember. I did get lost all the time in KGS. I still have close friends that I met in S1 through to S6.

How are you feeling about leaving?

I am just ready to leave but it is also scary thinking about what I am doing next.

Looking back over the years you have spent here, how do you feel about your Halls experience as a whole?

I think it has been really good compared to travelling. It gives you more time, I can make plans after school without thinking what bus/boat is there.

What is your favourite meal from the Halls?

Parmesan Chicken.

Was there anything in particular you missed from home?

I don't know, you have more things like your own stuff but you have your own room and space here, hounded by siblings at home.

What was your first impression of the Halls?

I thought it was really big and nice, quite a fancy building, none of the building in Hoy are this big.

Favourite memory?

Not really, I think in S2 me and other residents were in the coffee bar and we were all playing music and dancing.

Least favourite memory?

Not really.

Favourite activity?

Arts and Crafts

Least favourite activity?

I don't think I have not enjoyed any activities.

What are you planning to do now?

Going to apply for Orkney College for a year to do my Art Portfolio.

Good luck, do you have anything else to add?

That's me 😊

Leavers week

Leavers week was full of activities, there was pool, bingo, kahoot quiz and in the annual water balloon fight outside, this year with added water guns, much fun was had by all. A buffet supper of pizza and snacks then ended the evening.





Pool Competition

A pool competition was held on 19 May with 7 participants. Some tense matches were played with Jerry Brown being crowned the winner.



Wanted You to Ken Board

The wanted you to ken suggestion box is located at participation board outside the library. This is for complaints, comments and suggestions. This is checked weekly by management and we welcome your opinions on all aspects of life at the Halls, including areas where you feel we are doing well. This term there has been no entries into the box.

PHoR Website

We update our news section of the website regularly with events, activities and any other news, so please feel free to browse and let us have any comments or suggestions. Please see here for any up to date information, you can visit our website at <https://www.orkney.gov.uk/Service-Directory/E/papdale-halls-of-residence.htm>. Our website is in an accesible format and features ReciteMe.

Data Protection

The information you have provided Orkney Islands Council and Papdale Halls of Residence with about your child is in order that we can provide your child with accommodation and the support they need while staying with us.

We will also at times ask the school for some information about your child, about their likes and dislikes and about any needs they may have. This will help us provide the right support for your child.

We are legally obliged to collect all this information by the Care Inspectorate who regulate and inspect Papdale Halls of Residence.

More information on how Orkney Islands Council will use your information, your rights and about Orkney Islands Council, as a Data Controller, is available on the Orkney Islands Council's website.

<https://www.orkney.gov.uk/Online-Services/privacy.htm>

We hope you enjoyed reading our newsletter and welcome any feedback. Please feel free to contact us if you have any queries or comments

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