

Papdale Halls of Residence



Spring Newsletter 2022

Welcome to our Spring 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.

Easter Break

Papdale Halls of Residence will close at 17:00 on Friday 1 April. **Papdale Halls of Residence will reopen on Monday 18 April at 18:15 for North Isle pupils. Tuesday 19 April at 07:15 for inner and south isle pupils.**

Staff Changes

Since our last newsletter we have had 2 new staff start. Kelly Sinclair joins us as Assistant House Parent and Donna Linklater joins us as Night care Assistant.

It is with real sadness that we have to share the news that after 17 years, Robert Macnamara has resigned from his post of House Parent. Robert has taken up a similar post in Aberdeen. Robert has now moved to his new home in Aberdeen, and we wish him the very best in his new venture.

We have a card at reception for any residents should they like to say a fond farewell.

Robert's post will be advertised in the near future.



COVID-19

Papdale Halls continues to implement covid restrictions to mitigate the risk of infection, this includes staff and residents regularly washing and sanitising hands, wearing face coverings whilst moving around the building and an enhanced cleaning schedule remains in place.

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.

Weekly Round up

We have recently introduced a weekly roundup which is emailed to all parents on a Friday. This gives an update of any important news, what activities have been on and a look at next week's menu. We hope you are finding this useful and would love some feedback on it.

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 baking, games hall, 3G, kahoot quizzes, dungeons and dragons, cultural celebrations and crafts, boardgames, indoor curling, outdoor sports, circuit training, health walks and bingo.

Residents can find activity planners at reception and in the coffee bars.

Pancakes



Outdoor games



Curling



Cupcakes



Easter crafts





Raising Awareness about the dangers of substance misuse.

26 residents took part in a session delivered by Simon Hay, Police Sergeant and Kevin Moar, Orkney Drugs Dog Charity.

This session followed on from an awareness session at KGS on substance misuse earlier in the day. This was an extra opportunity for PHoR residents to talk through recent events, ask any questions and get reassurance.

Residents listened well and several asked questions. Residents were shown the drugs dog Zoe in operation and watched as she located a package that had been hidden for her. They also had the opportunity to interact with Zoe the dog when her working harness was removed.

Residents were then shown the drugs kit which allowed them to see samples of illegal substances, their street names and information on how they can harm.

During the discussion the group was made aware of “Fearless” an anonymous service that’s allows young people up to report crime it also directs them to other youth support services. Kevin Moar gave PHoR some posters and cards about this service and they were distributed all over the building.

All residents were offered the opportunity to speak with Sargeant Hay either individually, or as a small group, and we were very pleased to see that some residents engaged in this.

Fearless

Is a useful website for parents and young people who may be worried about or would like to know more about substance misuse. There is also an anonymous crime reporting site for 11 -18-year-olds. <https://www.fearless.org/>



Staff training

Staff have attended various training sessions this term on Child Sexual Exploitation, Child Protection, Drugs awareness, Mental Health First Aid, First Aid and Autism awareness sessions. These sessions provided valuable learning for staff to help better support our young people.

Cultural Celebrations

Burns night



Chinese New Year

We celebrated Chinese New Year earlier in the term, Jennifer and her team provided a delicious spread of authentic Chinese cuisine.



St Patricks Day Celebrations 17 March 2022

We had an excellent night celebrating St Patricks day on Thursday, Joanna, along with residents and staff, decorated the dining room in true Irish fashion. There were crafts all week leading up to the event. Jennifer and her team have created an extensive buffet menu for the evening, as you will see the food on offer looks amazing. Lots of positive feedback from staff and residents.



Supported Study

Supported study is part of the Junior Support Plan for S1-S2 residents and is a chance to develop positive relationships between the younger residents and staff. As well as homework they may have, residents are given the opportunity to take part in a variety of activities and workshops, that encourage team work, communication, inclusion and developing knowledge and awareness of relevant topics.

This term has consisted of:

- Homework.
- Boardgames.
- Wii just dance.
- Baking.
- Quiz.
- Crafts.
- Outdoor games
- Drugs awareness session
- Flower arranging and vase decorating
- Slime
- Pompoms
- Cultural day crafts
- Pamper night





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.

Suggestion	Outcome
<p>New pool cues.</p> <p>Online access for games.</p>	<p>New pool cues were bought last year and they are still in good condition.</p> <p>We need to know what games, let us know.</p> <p>Update 21.1.22- Still awaiting residents to let us know what games.</p>
<p>New mattresses.</p>	<p>This is something we have been looking at and plan to purchase this term.</p> <p>Update.</p> <p>We will be ordering these in stages with a view to replacing all mattresses over the next year. 20 new mattresses have been ordered this week (18.01.21), these may take 8-10 weeks.</p>
<p>Thank you for everything you do we all appreciate it.</p>	<p>We love to get comments like these, thank you very much.</p>

Suggestion	Outcome
<p>Extend the time bathroom light stays on before it goes off, sometimes having to get out of the shower to turn it back on again.</p>	<p>This is being looked into</p> <p>Update 07.03.22</p> <p>This has now been fixed, the light in the bathroom should remain on for longer.</p>
<p>To have the opportunity to take a packed lunch to school, either we pay for it weekly or we make our own in the morning if we have access to the food.</p>	<p>This has been passed to senior Management for discussion</p> <p>Update 21.1.22</p> <p>Unfortunately, PHoR does not have staffing capacity to provide a packed lunch service for residents, however, this comment has been passed onto colleagues in KGS.</p>
<p>Hot chocolate in all breakout areas please</p> <p>Let guests back in the side rooms.</p> <p>Ice lollies and ice cream at supper..</p>	<p>we provide tea and coffee in all break out area's and whilst we welcome residents to use these facilities for hot chocolate, we would not be providing this as an additional option. Papdale Halls is governed by the National Requirements for Food and Drink in Schools (Scotland) Regulations 2020 which limits the number of sweetened products we can provide.</p> <p>In accordance with our Covid 19 risk assessment, visitors to PHoR are restricted, as we continually move out of Covid restrictions, we will update our risk assessments accordingly.</p> <p>Papdale Halls is governed by the National Requirements for Food and Drink in Schools (Scotland) Regulations 2020 which limits the number of sweetened products we can provide.</p>
<p>Get 1 or 2 toasters upstairs or a microwave. It would really help because it can be a hassle sometimes having to come down (eg to warm milk).</p>	<p>The areas upstairs are not designated food preparation areas, toasters and microwaves are available in the designated food preparation areas downstairs. It may be useful for residents to purchase small thermos flasks to keep milk warm.</p>

Suggestion	Outcome
To have a gym, punching bag, stretching, treadmill, weights. Good for our physical and mental well being and good for us because it would be here (easy access) and we wouldn't have to have a membership or be a certain age to do it.	There is a gym situated in KGS in which all residents are welcome to use. David has been working with residents to set up exercise classes and purchase equipment. Claire is currently sourcing information on the availability of equipment, classes, ages, opening times and pricing for the KGS gym, this will be shared with residents to make them aware of this facility. KGS is in easy reach from PHoR, and we encourage residents to use this facility.
Thank you for all that you do for us, I really appreciate it. It is such a nice and caring place to be in.	This was a very lovely comment and was appreciated by all the staff, it is so encouraging for the team to get this type of feedback. Thank you.
Could we have a pond for frogs.	This needs further investigation.
Full strings on the guitar.	These will be sourced as soon as possible.
Get some sound pads for the drum kit.	These will be sourced as soon as possible.

Fitness equipment

We have been able to purchase some new fitness equipment for use by the residents. We bought mats, skipping ropes, boxing gloves and pads, kettle bells, dumbbells, a step, Swiss ball, balance ball and resistance bands.

These will be used for various activities both inside and outside that Halls, such as circuit training, boot camp, individual sessions, and group sessions. As well as swimming and games hall the residents can also take part in other activities at the Halls like football, volleyball, running, walking and fatburn.

A lot of the residents already take part in a wide variety of activities outside the Halls, which is brilliant to see. Our residents are encouraged to try new sports or activities, and we can help them by offering to arrange for a late tea to be kept for them.

We have funds available to purchase equipment, and the residents can engage with staff by using the resident's council or the "I wanted you to ken" box.



Monthly Campaign Board –

This term has seen campaigns on Charity awareness with donations being sent to the Orkney foodbank, Substance awareness, and Bullying. Lana always provides valuable information on the boards and feedback is positive.

Transitions

Work has begun on transitions to KGS and PHoR. We have had Stronsay and Sanday pupils in for a week's work experience and Westray pupils are coming in this week for an overnight stay and visit to KGS. We have also been working with schools in preparation for S1's and some have started to visit us.

Exams

Pupils will soon be going on exam leave. Study facilities are not available during the day at Papdale Halls of Residence, however study facilities are provided at KGS. Any resident who chooses to stay in PHoR during study leave will be expected to attend school as normal and take advantage of the study areas provided at KGS. Staying in PHoR during study leave should only occur when, for example, there is an exam on the Monday and again on the Wednesday. Any request beyond this should be discussed with the Manager. Can we ask that all residents leaving PHoR after exams please start to pack and take belongings home before their last exam.

Queens Jubilee and Inservice

PHoR will close on Wednesday 1 June at 1700. **Please keep a look out in the weekly round up for leaving times. Papdale Halls of Residence will reopen on Monday 6 June at 19:00 for north isle pupils. Tuesday 7 June at 07:15 for inner and south isle pupils.**

Support

There are a wide range of support services available to young people and their families in Orkney, KGS have put a great section on their website with links to various support systems for a variety of topics, please click on the link to see what's available. [ORKNEY SUPPORT SERVICE - Kirkwall Grammar School \(kgsorkney.com\)](http://www.orkney-support-service.com)

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 www.orkney.gov.uk/PHoR. Our website is in an accessible format and features ReciteMe.

We would also like to remind parents that PHoR operates an open-door policy, and we welcome and highly value visits from parents and siblings, however, due to Covid 19 restrictions, we ask that anyone wishing to visit arrange a time with staff. We are also available by both email and phone from Sunday at 1900 through to Friday at 17.00, if you would like further information on any part of our service, or, you wish to discuss your child's care and support we would be very pleased to hear from you.

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

Papdale Halls of Residence, By Papdale Road, Kirkwall, KW15 1QN.

Telephone: 01856876060.

Email: admin.papdalehalls@orkney.gov.uk or Danielle.leslie@orkney.gov.uk