



Fiosrachadh do Phàrantan / Luchd-aire agus com-pàirtichean mu Fhèis na Càisge, 3^{mh} - 6^{mh} Giblean 2023

Easter Fèis Parent / Guardian & Participant Information Sheet

Monday 3rd April to Thursday 6th April 2023

Oban Primary Campus, Lower Soroba, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4NS

Riaghailtean san fharsaingeachd / General rules

The week brings together over 130 participants and is organised completely by parents and volunteers. To ensure everyone has a great time learning new things and having fun at the same time we do need to have general rules and expectations. We would like to bring your attention to the following:

- **Registration:** On the **Monday** registration opens at **9.45am only**. **Apart from Monday** participants should be dropped off **no earlier than 10am** on the other days – this allows the volunteers time to get set up and organised.
- **Daily registration** takes place in the main dinner hall on arrival (this applies to both primary and secondary school participants).
- Participants are expected to **attend all timetabled sessions** (including whole Fèis activities such as the Fèis Song) on time. The Fèis movement is committed to the growth of the Gaelic language. Fèis song is an important part of this and for many children who are not Gaelic speakers, it is their main Gaelic language experience during the week. It is a requirement for all participants to take part in the Fèis song session.
- Instruments or technology must be **looked after** at all times.
- We are fortunate to be able to use the school. **Respect the school property** and classrooms at all times
- **Primary school aged participants** must remain on the school campus throughout the day unless Fèis Latharna has been informed by a parent or guardian of the request. If a parent or guardian is wanting to take a child out during lunch, please ensure you inform a volunteer or committee member (identified by name badges – yellow for committee members, white for volunteers).
- Participants should bring a **packed lunch** with them each day.
- **Secondary school aged participants** may leave the campus during lunchtime.
- **Participants should bring their own water bottle** so we can reduce the amount of waste during the week
- The **Tuck Shop** will be open every lunchtime.

- **Playground access** – this is only available to the top playground area and football pitch (weather permitting). If the weather is bad, participants will stay inside in the main hall area once it has been cleared following lunch.
- A range of **lunchtime activities** are being offered throughout the week.
- Participants are expected to **show respect** to all other participants, volunteers and tutors at all times and listen to instructions.
- When entering and leaving the school building please **keep to the pedestrian routes** to cross and pavements as it can be very busy at the start and end of the day.
- Participants should wait within the main building if being collected at the end of the day.
- During Fèis week the top gate may not be open so the one-way system will not be in operation. Please take extra care when driving into the campus as cars may be leaving by the bottom gate.
- Please remember that Fèis is an exciting time and children may be walking unaccompanied through the car park area.

Don't do the following:

- **Go into any classrooms** outwith class times, unless supervised with a tutor or volunteer. Parents - If you need to contact or remove a child, or have any concerns or questions, please come to the staff room.
- Take food or drink outwith the main hall area (to help reduce the risk of spillages, accidents etc).

Participants who do not follow the above are at risk of their parents/guardians being contacted and their behaviour discussed. The Fèis is run by volunteers and we are responsible for ensuring the health and safety of both volunteers and participants. While we are keen to work through issues and support everyone to participate fully in the Fèis week, if problems arise, the decision ultimately sits with Fèis Latharna in relation to continued participation if guidance is not followed.

Safe Place policy:

As part of our child protection and equality policies Fèis na Caisge is a Safe Space zone – this means that all participants, tutors and volunteers will show full respect to everyone regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, physical appearance, race, ethnicity, political affiliation or religion.

Disruptive or discriminatory behaviour, perpetrated by anyone, which prevents others participating or enjoying participation in activities is not acceptable and should be dealt with promptly.

Any child can raise any concerns with identifiable committee volunteers throughout the week.

The full policy is attached in this email and we would ask everyone to read and familiarise yourself with its content.

Slàinte / Health:

Any participant who becomes unwell and experiences sickness/diarrhoea is required to exclude themselves from Easter Fèis for 48 hours.

Covid 19:

Rules are the same as within general school environments:

- Any participant showing signs of being infected by Covid (temperature, cough, loss of smell or taste etc) should not attend Fèis. Please let us know immediately if this is the case. Any participants showing signs during Fèis will be isolated until they are picked up by their parent or guardian.
- Participants should use hand sanitisers provided throughout the day or wash hands regularly. Hand sanitisers and bacterial wipes will be available throughout the school.

A' Ghàidhlig / Gaelic language

The core value of the Fèis is to provide an opportunity for individuals to come together to develop skills in the Gaelic arts & song, dance, drama, and traditional music.

We will throughout the week use Gaelic words and phrases and encourage participants to use the language in a fun and informal way.

Fèis song is a Gaelic song that all the children will learn together. This is a timetabled compulsory activity and is an important part of the Fèis.

We have attached a list of common Gaelic words that participants might want to try and learn during the week.

We are also hosting two fun '**come and try**' sessions in **Gaelic language** aimed at parent/guardian and pre 5's (Book Bug) and a session for parents to come and try.

See the **Easter Fèis Week Timetable** for details

Gaelic Bookbug sessions and Parent Come & Try sessions must be booked in advance - contact 01631 567 886 or e-mail:

Duncan.Macneil@argyll-bute.gov.uk

Clàr-ama Fèis na Càisge / Easter Fèis Week Timetable

Monday: 9:45am – 10am registration opens
3.30pm finish

Evening: 7pm: Tutor Session at The Rockfield Centre, Oban - an informal night of excellent music from our Fèis tutors and some young musicians - come along sit back and enjoy!
(free event - donations welcome)

Tuesday: 10 am registration opens
10am Bookbug Gaelic session for parents/guardians & pre 5s (free) *
2pm Gaelic language taster session for parents / guardians (free)*
3.30pm finish

Evening: 7pm Easter Fèis Family Cèilidh at The Argyllshire Gathering Halls Oban
(£8 adults, £5 under 16's, under 5's free, £20 family ticket) – another great night of music and dance for all ages

The Cèilidh is a major fundraiser for the Fèis which helps keep the costs down to an affordable level.

Please support us and **bring along a raffle prize** on the **Monday at registration** AND please come along to the Cèilidh!

Wednesday: 10am registration opens
2pm Gaelic language taster session for parents / guardians (free)
3.30pm finish

Thursday: 10am registration opens
10am Bookbug Gaelic session for parents/guardians & pre 5s (free)
3.30pm finish

**DON'T FORGET TO BUY YOUR FÈIS LATHARNA HOODIE
on sale throughout the week (£20)**