



# Rushen Primary School Newsletter

## March 2024



Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a fantastic spring term with so many visitors, events, and competitions – everything seems to have happened in March, hence the length of the Newsletter! I would like to thank you for your support whether it be positive feedback, issues that we can sort out, donations to national and local charities and to school fund, support at the swimming pool and accompanying trips and competitions. We truly are a partnership with the children’s best interests at heart.

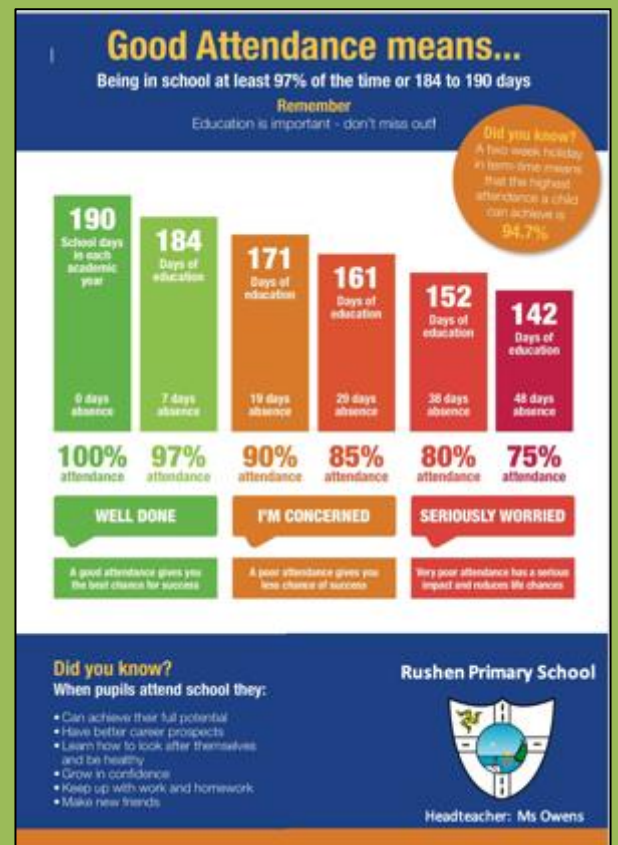
Our Year 1 pupils in Manannan Class and Y3/4 pupils in Peveril Class did a brilliant job with their class assemblies in March, demonstrating their confidence and sharing their learning with the whole school and their families. We are welcoming more parents/carers and families to our class assemblies and stay and learn sessions than ever before. Thank you for working in partnership with us.

So many of our pupils took part in competitions and events this month and we continue to invite visitors and go on trips linked to our curriculum.

Our Spring fair was a triumph! Thanks to all the Friends of Rushen who helped and supported and the parents/carers and families who baked cakes for the Great Rushen Easter Bake Off and attended the Spring Fair. Particularly popular was the face painting stall, as well as the competitions.

I would like to thank the staff for all that they do in ensuring the children feel safe and happy at school, and the commitment they show in promoting positive relationships and developing pupils’ learning toolkit.

I hope you had a lovely Easter break, and we are looking forward to the Summer Term, Ms Owens



# Everyone a Learner

## Events, Visitors and Competitions

### RNLI Week – 200 years

Lewis from the Port Erin branch of the RNLI visited year 5/6. He talked to us about the history of the RNLI, showed us some videos of an RNLI boat being launched and how they rescue the boat when it capsizes. We asked Lewis lots of questions about the RNLI and learnt a lot, especially about how to keep ourselves safe in/near the water! We are going to use our research to write persuasive arguments for 'why the RNLI is vital to the Isle of Man'.

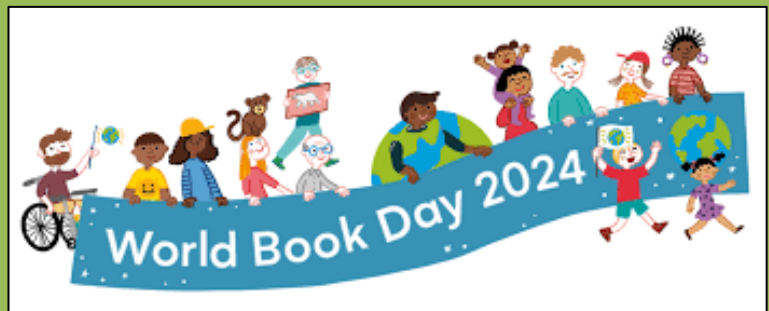
Miss Andrew was a willing volunteer!



### World Book Day

World Book Day was a great success as always! Thank you so much to all families who made such an effort to celebrate books and reading. The whole school had so much fun and lots of reading events were enjoyed...







## Community Comic Relief – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March

- ★ Pupils came to school dressed in red to raise money for Comic Relief 2023
- ★ Thank you for the donations which have been sent to Comic Relief from Rushen Primary School.

★ We raised £180.65





Different Comic Relief noses – a 2024 gold nose (1/60<sup>th</sup> chance), a 2024 nose, a 2021 fox nose and a vintage nose from 1991, my favourite!



## Spring Fair 2024

The Spring Fair was a triumph! Thank you to all parents and families who volunteered to help and to all the visitors.



**We raised £1,171.91 for school fund, to be used to further develop our outdoor provision.**

Thank you on behalf of the children and staff.

Thank you also to staff who volunteered to ensure the Spring Fair took place. Lots of parents passed on their thanks to the children.







## Everyone a Learner – Mannanan Class – Creative Arts

Mannanan Class enjoyed making tie and dye placemats and bookmarks for the Spring Fair. We used our noticing and imagining muscles in the steps we took to make them.

### Tie and Dye

Firstly, we used elastic bands to tie small stones into a rectangular shape of calico fabric. Next, we mixed the dye with salt and warm water. Then we added six litres of warm water to the dye and added the tie and dye bundles. We stirred them regularly for an hour. After that, we removed the tie and dye bundles from the dye and cut off the elastic bands, taking out the stones. We rinsed the cloth to remove excess dye and allowed the fabric to dry. Finally, we looked at the lovely sunburst patterns we had made.

### Tying the Stones into the Fabric





## Class Assemblies and Stay and Learn

### Peveril Class

Peveril Class did a fantastic job in their assembly, demonstrating confidence and using loud voices so that the whole audience could hear. They shared lots of their learning with the audience, including the way they learned using different strategies including Learning Muscles and 6Rs - they had so much to remember for this assembly and they did very well to learn their parts.

Peveril Class told us all about syllables and now we'll never forget how to find out how many syllables there are in a word! Syllables help us to break words down for reading and for spelling and supports the flow of our writing. The audience particularly liked the dancing styles, and everybody was having fun.

Our whole school big focus at the moment, is on improving writing, so we really enjoyed when the children shared some of their writing with us. We were also very impressed with our mathematicians and how the maths songs help us to remember facts and strategies. Lovely singing Peveril! The challenge is to use and apply what we've learned in the songs to our learning.

We also heard from our Peveril scientists about friction, forces and gravity and about the human body. The class have been investigating and explaining why things happen. They also told us about their learning in History - we learn about local Manx history...and we want to celebrate everything Manx and be proud we live on this island. Class assemblies help to make learning memorable. Well done Peveril Class!



## Manannan Class

The children did so well! They were confident and spoke loudly so that the audience could hear. They told the audience all about their learning and the learning to learn skills that they use.

The class started off with a lovely kindness song and performed it very well! Manannan Class told us all about Mental Health Awareness Week...about the importance of feeling good about yourself, about being kind to each other...and this makes us feel part of our Rushen Primary School family. If we make a mistake, that's ok, we are learning and it's about making things right and always having a fresh start. They told us about what they had been learning and how they learned using Learning Muscles which are part of our learning language. At Rushen Primary School we use a strategy called split screen thinking in our learning sessions...what we are learning, knowledge and skills, and how we will be learning, which builds up the children's learning toolkit.

Mannanan Class have been learning about traditional fairy tales and they have been playing lovely music which helps us 'be there' while using our imagining muscles. Everybody gets a chance to play an instrument and Mannanan Class demonstrated how they have been learning to be musicians. It is wonderful when learning is magical with music and imagination and song. Very brave soloists and duets...we saw that this theme hooked the children in and they are motivated, inspired and interested. They have worked very hard with their writing which is our whole school focus at the moment, and we can see this on the display and in their books and recorded learning. Well done Mannanan Class.



# Everyone a Leader

## Manx Folk Awards – 20<sup>th</sup> March

Olive took part in the Manx Folk Awards, and she did very well – we are all proud of her – well done! Olive has written about the competition:

On the 20<sup>th</sup> March, I took part in the Manx Folk awards! I played my violin in several different categories. Firstly, the instrumental music-making class, where I played as part of an orchestra of fiddle players. Next, I played in an ensemble group with five other musicians. Finally, I played two solo pieces on my violin. They were manx folk pieces, called 'Tune for Grandad' and 'Car y Phossees', Tune for Grandad is grade 3 while Car y Phossees is grade 4. I was very happy to win first prize for my solo! I won a medal and a boot scraper. In 2022, I also won first place in my solo, so I was overjoyed to be awarded a second medal! The Folk Awards is a fun and friendly competition for young musicians.



## Tennis – Day of tennis at RPS and Tennis Event NSC







## Athletics Festival at the NSC

Our Athletics team took part in the Athletics Festival on the 18<sup>th</sup> March. The children who took part had this to say:

- ★ “I recommend this club because it is very fun. It is also a way to stay fit and healthy”.
- ★ “This sport shows you what you are good at and what skills you need to improve”.
- ★ “Your teammates support you the whole time”.
- ★ “I liked the running events because it was very well organised, and it was very fun. We improved from last year”.
- ★ “Everyone at the event were nice and kind. I loved the challenge”.
- ★ “I loved how we got to do a variety of events like jumping and running”.
- ★ “I had the best morning”.



## Football – RPS Girls Team

On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> of March, a girl's football tournament took place at the Bowl in Douglas. We entered two teams, the Rushen Stars and Rushen Diamonds. The Rushen Stars, being our younger team, played very well and did some amazing playing but sadly did not make it in the second round, but they played some friendly matches (where scores did not count). Meanwhile, our other team are the Rushen Diamonds who are a slightly older team who had Year 5 and 6 pupils in it. They cleared up by winning all 5 matches by at least one goal and as a result they made it to the quarter finals. We then played Port St Mary School and beat them 2-0, and therefore we made it to the semi-finals but sadly lost to Valajeelt School, who we took many shots against but they had an exceptional goalie. Overall, this was an amazing experience, and we would suggest this to anyone who would like to start football next year. Written by players from the team...

