



Rushen Primary School Newsletter



November 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to thank many of you for your positive feedback about the school and some of the new approaches and systems this academic year. We are always happy to talk about any issues and hopefully resolve them together, but it is less usual for people to come and tell us good things! We are very proud of the good relationships that we have between staff, children and parents and, having been at Rushen Primary School for one half term, I can see that the teachers are fully committed to the well-being of the children in our care. So far, parents have commented on the new format newsletter as well as how teachers have been supporting their children in class. Parents have also told me how positive the teachers are and how they spend time building the self-esteem of their children and showing that they care. Please come and tell us any good feedback!

Volunteers We need your help!

We are still looking for volunteers to accompany us to our swimming lessons, which take place each Tuesday morning.

We would also be grateful to anybody who could assist us in a range of areas including reading, literacy, group work and individual support (in and out of class) and in the School Library. We also need parents to accompany us on trips. If you are interested please see your child's Class Teacher.

Hop Tu Naa

As you know, we would like to celebrate 'Everything Manx' and what better way than to come to school dressed as a witch or as a Manx cat to celebrate Hop Tu Naa.... We had a fantastic day on the final day of the last half term. So many children dressed up and joined in! Many families carved their 'moot' and we displayed and viewed those in our Sports Hall. Also, well done to our teachers, who all made a big effort to dress up! We particularly liked Mrs Awkal's spiders! We would like to thank parents for their hard work in supporting our event, particularly with the carving of the 'moot', which I discovered took me around three hours on my practice run!

All of the teachers took part...





Girls' Football

Well done to our Girls' Football Team who recently took part in the Girls' Football Festival at The Bowl Stadium, Douglas.

The girls were really excited beforehand and did a wonderful job representing our school.

Well done girls! A big thank you to Mrs Griffiths and Ms Grainger who run our Girls' Football Club and escorted the girls on the day.



Badminton Competition

On Thursday 16th November, 2017, a group of Year 5 and 6 pupils attended a Badminton Festival at the NSC. Many schools from across the Island took part. Rushen Primary School achieved 6th place overall, which was a brilliant result as some of our pupils have only been playing for a short time. Everyone enjoyed themselves and won at least one of the games they played. The children were a credit to our school and showed great sportsmanship throughout the event. Well done to our team, and to Mrs Ollier for coaching our Badminton players.



The local community...

The 5th November, Firework Display at Port Erin Beach was held on Tuesday 7th November (delay due to the weather). It was a crisp, cold but clear night and lots of well wrapped up children and their families attended. It was lovely to see so many of you there and thank you to all those who said hello to the Headteacher!

The display was wonderful and the fireworks were very impressive and very worthy of the applause.



School Council – Community Links

This half term 3/4M have visited Southlands to undertake activities with the residents. Classes 5H and R/1S will be taking part in Beach Litter Picks on Port Erin beach in support of the local group 'Beach Buddies'.

Playtime

We would be grateful if pupils could keep a pair of trainers in school that they could change into if they wish to play on the field during playtimes.

Car Parking, Drop Off and Pick Up

Thank you so much for your support regarding the access/car park arrangements we have put in place to ensure the safety of our pupils/families. Just a reminder - pupils should walk around the sides of the school building to the playground or to RG and 1RS classrooms. Neither of the car parks on Church Road at the front of the school should be used for morning or afternoon pick ups/drop offs.

Consent Forms

Consent Forms and Data Collection Sheets were sent home last week with pupils. Most parents have now returned them, however, if you have not yet done so, please would you complete, sign and return the forms to school as soon as possible. It is imperative that we collect all of these as quickly as possible, so that we can inform the Department of Education and Children that we have one on file for every pupil.

Communication

We would be really grateful if you could send any correspondence, messages about appointments, dinner money payments etc. to school with your child for them to hand in to their class teacher. Please remember to submit any cash in a named envelope or purse. Class Teachers will remind pupils daily to hand in these items. If everybody could do this it would really help reduce the congestion at the School Office. Thank you for your support.

Social Media

We hope that your child's time at Rushen Primary School is happy and productive. We are always happy to discuss matters with parents and carers to ensure every child achieves his or her full potential. If, at any time, you have any concerns about your child at school, then please do not hesitate to contact the Class Teacher, in the first instance.

We would ask that parents and carers please support the school in our constant drive to raise standards, by discussing any concerns or issues with us, rather than on social media sites, which could be potentially damaging for the school and its pupils.

Calendar Dates

Wednesday 13 December 2017	Years 3, 4, 5, 6	Christmas Performance	2pm
Wednesday 13 December 2017	Years 3, 4, 5, 6	Christmas Performance	6pm
Thursday 14 December 2017	Years R, 1, 2	Christmas Performance	2pm
Friday 15 December 2017	Years R, 1, 2	Christmas Performance	10am

(Performance start times may need to be adjusted slightly once we have started rehearsals – we will send a slip home to notify you if this is the case.)

Monday 18 December 2017	Year 1	Christmas Party	1pm
Tuesday 19 December 2017	Years 3 & 4	Christmas Party	1pm
Wednesday 20 December 2017	Reception	Christmas Party	1pm
Wednesday 20 December 2017	Years 5 & 6	Christmas Disco	6pm – 7.30pm
Thursday 21 December 2017	Year 2	Christmas Party	1pm

Children may bring a set of party clothes to change into after lunch on the day of their party.

Friday 22nd December 2017 If pupils would like to, they may wear a Christmas jumper to school instead of their school sweatshirt on the last day of term. Pupils are also welcome to bring a Christmas Cracker to school for lunchtime that day.

Christmas Performance Tickets

Please would you complete the slip below and return it to your child's class teacher as soon as possible to reserve your tickets. Fire regulations dictate how many tickets we are allowed to distribute, therefore we need to limit tickets to two per family per performance, initially, on a first come/first served basis. If you would like more than two tickets, please add these to your request slip and we will distribute any spare tickets that are available on Friday 8th December. These performances are not suitable for babies or pre-schoolers, so please only bring them if absolutely necessary. Babies/pre-schoolers attending a performance must have a ticket. Please note that tickets must be shown at the door on the day of the performance to comply with these regulations. Thank you.

Christmas Performance Ticket Request

Pupil Name	Class		<u>Number of tickets</u>	<u>Extra tickets</u> <i>(if available)</i>
Wed 13 December 2017	Yrs 3, 4, 5, 6	2pm
Wed 13 December 2017	Yrs 3, 4, 5, 6	6pm
Thurs 14 December 2017	Yrs R, 1, 2	2pm
Fri 15 December 2017	Yrs R, 1, 2	10am