



Rushen Primary School Newsletter

May 2019



Dear Parents/Carers and Pupils,

May has been another busy month at Rushen Primary School, with many events, opportunities for the children and visitors to our school. The children particularly enjoyed the skipping workshop, as they always do, and we plan to set up plenty of skipping opportunities in our outside space.

As you can see above, I have written this newsletter to the pupils as well as to parents and carers. I thought this would be a good opportunity for families to read it together and for the children to see the photographs.

Thank you as always for your continued support for our school.

Ms Owens

Headteacher

REMINDER – PLEASE NOTE THAT NUTS AND FOODS THAT CONTAIN NUTS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN SCHOOL DUE TO THE SERIOUSNESS OF ALLERGIES – please note this includes NUTELLA

Transition

New intake

Our Early Years staff have welcomed our new starters for September with a varied programme of transition. Following visits by our Early Years teachers and support staff to all local pre-school settings, we have been inviting new starters into school to get used to the classroom and outdoor environments and to meet the adults who will be teaching them. These sessions have been a success and the children and their parents and carers have thoroughly enjoyed themselves! We have also welcomed staff from a number of pre-school settings to join us and learn about our provision, building close partnerships.

Year 6 – Castle Rushen High School

A number of transition activities have continued this month with both schools working together to ensure that our Year 6 pupils are ready for Year 7!

Our colleagues from Castle Rushen High School have visited our Year 6's to meet the children and to deliver lessons. Our Year 6's have also visited CRHS to undertake Art activities. We were also pleased to welcome our ex-pupils, currently in Year 7, who shared their experiences with our Year 6's about their first year in secondary school, answered questions, as well as offering personal advice on how to settle in and make the most of this exciting new adventure!

Sports, Competitions and Events

Skipping

Skipping has long been a tradition at RPS and this year was no exception. The children thoroughly enjoyed the skipping sessions, as did our lunchtime staff who also attended. They are hoping to follow up at lunchtimes with skipping activities outside, with the help of some upper Key Stage 2 pupils. This is what the children said:

"I enjoyed the fishing game," Juliette

"I like the games best," Olivia

"FUN!" Maia

"Amazing to learn how to jump into Double Dutch ropes," Ryan

"I learnt lots of new skills," Amy

"It was fun learning a new skill," Summer

"Progress in skipping was explained to the children - start with one skip, that leads to two and then five. Step skip, Jump skip, cross feet, hop, pretzel, cross overs, speed, swing and speed skip, train with a partner are the different types of skipping we learned about."

The Manx Music, Speech and Dance Festival - 'The Guild'

Each year, the Isle of Man holds an annual competitive festival over nine days, which takes place at the Villa Marina. Up to 4000 participants of all ages come together to perform and enjoy the Arts, providing entertainment both to the Island's population and its visitors. This festival is 126 years old this year.

A large number of our children took part. **Mrs Daniel, Miss Irving, Miss Garrett and Miss Wilson** worked with the children to prepare them for the competition. All of the children did extremely well and some won awards for their category. **We had some winners in Y1 and Y2 and all of the children were praised by the Adjudicator, particularly on how well they delivered their poems.**



School Trips

Venture Centre

Our Year 5's went on their trip to the Venture Centre. This experience really engages the children and gives them an opportunity to challenge themselves with new experiences such as abseiling, shooting, orienteering, raft building and wide games to name but a few. It also gives them the opportunity to develop other skills such as collaboration, resilience, building relationships and empathy which link to our 6R learning dispositions and learning muscles. They definitely had to demonstrate a growth mindset to achieve all that they did! For some, it was also the first time they were away from home by themselves and although this is, at first, daunting, the teachers and parents looked after them well. Thank you to those parents who came along.



Tynwald and the House of Keys – written by children from Year 6

Year 6 visit to Tynwald and House of Keys

On Wednesday 1st May, Year 6 embarked on a challenge day of learning at Tynwald, House of Keys and the 'Energy from Waste Facility'.

All children were very impressed with the different chambers that make up our Parliament. Before the visit they chose, planned and practised speeches for a debate in the House of Keys. All speeches were delivered clearly, voting took place, the most popular word became 'Divide', so the electronic voting systems could be used.

At the 'Energy from Waste Facility', children learnt about what happens to our rubbish once it arrives, the large claw was a highlight, as well as peeking at the 'fire' that burns the rubbish.

"Impressive", 'astonishing', 'actually quite interesting' were all phrases used to describe the visit.



Wildlife Park

Sulby, Neb and Foxdale classes visited the Wildlife Park. The children thoroughly enjoyed their day and the teachers did an excellent job protecting the children from the Pelicans, particularly Mrs McMeiken!



Sulby Class really enjoyed their trip to the Wildlife Park. They had an opportunity to put into practice their map reading skills and used tally marks to work out the most popular animal. The highlight of the day was the workshop because they travelled to the 'rainforest' and were able to hold a giant snail and stroke a snake.

In Neb Class the children learnt so much on their journey into the rainforest about the creatures that lived there – and even met some. The children also found out about some of the things we can do to help the rainforests because they are endangered.

Robinson's Fresh Foods, Douglas

As part of their topic, 'Scrumdiddlyumptious', Colby Class visited Robinson's Fresh Foods, Douglas. At Robinsons they were given tours of the oriental shop, Paddy's Fish Market and listened to information about the wholesale side of the business. Each child was also given fruit to sample and a bag of fruit to take home! Some children even got to hold a real-life lobster in the fish market!



Visitors

Isle of Man Creamery and Ramsey Bakery

As part of their topic, '**Scrumdiddlyumptious**', Colby Class had visits from the Isle of Man Creamery and Ramsey Bakery.

Sarah from IOM Creameries taught Colby all about where their milk and cheese comes from and the children also got chance to taste test different types of cheese and milk. Karl from Ramsey Bakery taught our class about the process of making bread, different types of bread and packaging.



Lambs

Groudle Class welcomed some lambs into school. Miss Garrett and her mum brought them in from their farm and the class named one 'Barbara'.



Community

St John's Garden – Biosphere

The RPS garden at St John's has been replanted, continuing with the children's design from last year. Please visit over the TT break and take some shells or sea glass so that you can add to our design.



Class Assemblies

This month it was Foxdale's class assembly and they presented to the whole school and their parents and families. The children demonstrated how confident they were to perform in front of more than 300 people and how they have made very good progress in their learning. We were treated to a number of songs (we won't forget 'Rainforest') and a whirlwind tour of their learning, the skills they use and their classroom. We would like to congratulate the children and thank Miss Wilson.

Foxdale



Walk to School Week

As you can see it was Walk to School Week on the 20th - 24th May. Due to our busy schedule, we didn't have time to promote this and have decided to do this in the second week of the final half term, after the TT Break –



WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK

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INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL MONTH

OCTOBER 2019

[HOW 2018 WENT](#)

week beginning 17th June. Many of our pupils walk, cycle (under adult supervision) or scoot to school and it would be good if we could increase this number during that week and possibly persuade more people to walk to school on a regular basis.

Dinner Money

For those paying half termly, school dinners for the next half term will cost £65.25. Thanks to all those who have already signed up for 'ParentPay', our new secure cashless online payment. If you have not already done so, please would you login using the user name and password provided in a letter sent home with pupils last week. At the initial login you will be prompted to change the username and password to one of your choice. Once you have accessed your account you will be able to check your child's current school dinner balance and pay for school meals online.

Free School Meal Forms have been sent home to all pupils. If you believe your child will be entitled to receive free meals from September 2019, please complete a form and send it to the Department of Education, Sport and Culture or complete an application online as soon as possible at <https://www.gov.uk/categories/education-training-and-careers/school-meals/free-school-meals-and-free-school-travel-application-form/>. Children will not be eligible to receive free meals in September unless an application has been submitted and processed before the start of the new term.

CLUBS

Circuit Training	Monday lunchtimes 12.05 - Years 3, 4, 5 & 6
Badminton Club	Monday lunchtimes Years 5 & 6
Craft Club	Mondays after school Reception, Year 1, Year 2 (currently full)
Netball Club	Mondays after school Years 4, 5, 6
Puppet Club	Monday lunchtimes Year 2's
Girls Football Club	Tuesdays after school Years 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Choir	Wednesday lunchtimes Years 3, 4, 5, 6
Rushen Runners	Thursday lunchtimes Years 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Art Club	Friday lunchtimes Years 3 & 4
Dance Club	Friday lunchtimes Reception, Years 1, 2
Boys Football Club	Fridays after school Years 5 & 6
Gardening Club	Thursday lunchtimes
Agricultural Art Board Competition	Tuesday lunchtimes Year 3
Eco Club	Lunchtime (day to be announced)

Term Dates

Mon 27 May - Fri 7 June	School closed for half term
Wednesday 12 June	Southern Schools Netball/Football Festival at KWC
Wednesday 12 June	Schools in Song Villa Marina (Choir)
Thursday 13 June	Groudle Class Assembly 9am. Parents/Carers are welcome to attend
Thursday 20 June	Year 6 Crucial Crew
Mon 24 June – Wed 26 June	Year 6 UK trip
Thurs 27 June	Silverdale Class Assembly 9am. Parents/Carers are welcome to attend
Saturday 29 June	Millennium Football Competition
Friday 5 July	Tynwald Day – School closed
Monday 8 July	Sports Day (weather dependent)
Thursday 11 July	Dhoo Class Assembly 9am. Parents/Carers are welcome to attend
Date to be confirmed	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly
Friday 19 July	School closes 15.30pm - summer holiday