



Rushen Primary School Newsletter

June 2019



Dear Parents,

Just a few weeks left but there is much learning and fun still to be had! The classes are making the most of the outdoor learning opportunities and enjoying the school site.

The staff continue to work together to review our procedures and approaches to ensure that 'the child' is at the centre of all that we do. Along with access to the class teacher at the end of every day, the opportunity to arrange a meeting or telephone call and the Thursday morning meetings where you can discuss your child's progress, we also provide a formal written report. We have reviewed the report format and it will give you a clear indication of your child's attainment, progress and effort for this academic year. We will be sending reports and class information home before the end of term, as we did last year.

Please share this Newsletter with your child as they will enjoy looking at the events of the month and will be able to tell you more about them, particularly the class assemblies!

The 2019 Flower Festival is taking place from 30th June – 6th July. Our school has prepared a beautiful display for Kirk Rushen and it would be lovely if families were able to visit the Church to see our display in situ. Thank you so much to Mrs Daniel, Mrs Edge and Miss Sheppard for organizing our entry.

Kind regards

Ms Owens

Health and Safety

Just a reminder from the Island Road Safety Team:

- Only children who have passed their 'cycling proficiency' test should be riding to school unaccompanied. They should also be wearing protective headwear and their bicycle should be roadworthy. Children should not be riding on the pavement, even if accompanied by an adult.
- Please remember that the 20mph zone is in place before and after school. Some cars have been exceeding the speed limit and the police will be carrying out checks.

Transition New intake

Our new starters have continued with their Transition Programme during this last month. One of the particularly enjoyable sessions saw the parents join their children for a school lunch. Next week sees the new intake parents and carers invited to an evening meeting with the EYFS staff.

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!

One of the recent trips was to participate in an ICT lesson which was very challenging, where the children had to solve problems and learn about 'binary'. Next week Year 6 will go to CRHS for two full days.

The Transition Programme has been comprehensive and the southern group of primary feeder schools have worked closely with CRHS to ensure the transition is supportive. It provides many opportunities for the children to build relationships with pupils and staff so that they are prepared for their move in September. Many parents have communicated that they have been happy with the arrangements and therefore, on behalf of the parents and pupils at RPS, I would like to thank the staff at CRHS for their efforts.

Sports, competitions and events Football and Netball Competition, KWC

We had a fantastic day out at King William's College participating in the Southern Football and Netball competition. The weather was the exact opposite to last year, as you can tell from the blue sky!



Football

The RPS Football Team played well as a team and thoroughly enjoyed the competition. All of the matches were challenging but the team pushed themselves to play really great football with two losses, two draws and two wins. They were so close to advancing to the semi-finals but they lost out on goal difference. Well done to our football team!



Netball



The RPS Netball Team, played really well at KWC and finished in second place behind the Buchan Team. All of the team played well and they improved throughout the competition. Well done to the whole team.

As the Buchan Team couldn't attend the all Island final, RPS were invited and went the next day to compete in the finals competition.

Our Netball Coach, Mrs Collister, sent us a match report:

Thanks to an amazing array of parents and help from the school, we arrived on time for the Netball Finals. Our first match was against Laxey, which we won comfortably. This was followed by a second win against Peel. Our next match, against Ballacottier we knew would be a tough one - and it was, but we won 2-1. We won our final group match and finished Group Winner!

The semi-final was against the runner up of the second group. The girls were very excited by this point, but played some excellent netball for a further win.

Then it was the Final against Onchan. A very nervy first half had us all a little jittery, but thankfully the girls calmed it down and won the match 6-1.

What an afternoon! The netball was fantastic and the level of teamwork, commitment and determination was absolutely incredible. The children were an absolute credit to the school and I for one couldn't be prouder. A massive thanks to all the parents who came to support.

A parent sent us this:

I just wanted to write and express my thanks and congratulations to the Rushen Netball Team who showed over the last two days, and last few years, what it takes to be successful. Resilience, effort, teamwork and most important of all sportsman/sportswomanship while winning and losing. They also made us feel so proud as we watched them achieve their win.

It couldn't have happened without great coaching and a big thanks go to our Coach and her coaching team. It's obvious to see their improvements during their time together as they've bonded to make a fantastic team. It will be such a shame to see them disband as the Year 6s move on to High School, but I know the year 5s they leave behind will continue to do their school proud.

Well done everyone involved! A fantastic example of great learning and very much deserved all round!



This is the first time RPS have won the all island netball competition – well done!

Sports Day

Sports Day will be on Monday 8th July and we hope that the weather will be kind. It was glorious last year and parents and families enjoyed relaxing while watching. Parents are welcome to attend and enjoy this annual event on the field. If the weather is as good, please feel free to bring blankets etc.

KS2 children will start at 9:15am where the children will participate in fun team games, followed by formal races. KS1 and Reception classes will start at 1:15pm and will follow the same format as the morning sessions. Playtimes and lunchtimes will happen as usual. Please ensure that children come to school dressed in sports kit and that they are protected from the sun. Every child **MUST** have a sun hat or cap. Please send a water bottle in for your child (only water is allowed). These can be filled as usual from the water fountains. Please do not bring food for your child as they will have their usual snack and lunch.

Last year we had some safety concerns as we could not identify where the children were when parents came to the area set aside for classes. Please allow the teachers to monitor their classes and ensure parents and families sit on the opposite side of the races so that everyone can see and be seen. Children must stay with their class and teacher throughout the event. Thank you in advance.

Please also see the advice below:



In the event of bad weather, we will move into the Sports Hall and 'Little Hall' to carry out an alternative Sports Day as it is very difficult to rearrange this type of event, with so much happening in school during the last couple of weeks. Following feedback from parents, if this happens, we will not be inviting parents in to watch due to numbers and space.

Community Partnerships

Rushen Primary School adopted Port Erin Beach



Rushen Primary School officially adopted Port Erin beach last year and the official plaque has arrived. We will be attending next week when the plaque is officially unveiled, along with Bill Dale and Port Erin Commissioners.

The school continues to work closely with the 'Beach Buddies' to assist in keeping the beach clean and tidy. The beach is used by the whole community and by children and families of Rushen Primary School, and as such we wanted to show our commitment to the beach.

Class Assemblies

This month Groudle and Silverdale both had their class assemblies.

Groudle



Silverdale's assembly was based on a Science theme which they had been learning about in class and linked with Geography when they studied volcanoes and their location.



Dinner Money

It is a requirement that dinner money is paid in advance. There are several families who currently have outstanding dinner debts, please clear any debts immediately.

Thank you to those parents who have activated their ParentPay account and are making online payments. We would encourage those parents who have not yet activated their accounts to do so as soon as possible using the activation code sent home by letter before half term. If you require a copy of this letter, please let Mrs Awkal know. ParentPay enables you to monitor your child's school meals account and pay online via a highly secure payment site, with a single account login for all your children.

An updated School Meals Menu is attached to this newsletter.

Free School Meal Forms have been sent home to all families. 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 at <https://www.gov.im/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.

Term Dates

Saturday 29th June

Wednesday 3rd & Thurs 4th July

Friday 5th July

Monday 8th July

Thursday 11th July

Thursday 18th July

Friday 19th July

Millennium Football Competition

Year 6 Transition Days CRHS

Tynwald Day – school closed

Sports Day KS2 am, KS1 pm

Dhoo Class Assembly 9am – Parents/Carers are invited to attend

Year 6 Leavers' Assembly 2.00pm – parents/carers invited

School closes for the summer holiday at 3.30pm

Wednesday 4th September

16 – 20th September

School opens for the Autumn Term at 8.45am

Cycling Proficiency will take place for Year 6 (road worthy bicycles and helmets must be provided by pupils taking part please).

A calendar of school holiday dates for the academic years 2019 - 2022 is attached to this newsletter (the early May 2020 Bank Holiday has been moved to Friday 8th May).