



# Rushen Primary School Newsletter

October 2019



Cregneash

**Dear Parents/Carers,**

I would like to thank you for your attendance at the 'Meet the Teacher' sessions which so many of you attended. Many parents have also made use of the appointments each Thursday morning to meet the teacher and discuss their child's progress and time at school. Please either see the teacher at the end of the day or leave a message and we will get back to you.

I would also like to thank parents for their support and commitment to working in partnership with the school to help and encourage our children to succeed. We are looking forward to the events we have planned for the rest of the term, some of which are outlined below. I would like to ask you to support your child's learning by sharing books at home and working on their 'Learning Logs'. Teachers are looking forward to seeing the work that you have done at home with your child/ren.

**Ms Owens  
Headteacher**

**Half Term Holiday  
Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November inclusive**

## **Everyone a learner...**

The children have been enjoying their themes this half term (EYFS - My World, KS1 – Towers, Turrets & Tiaras, KS2 – Invaders & Raiders) and have been learning across a number of curriculum areas to focus on their skills, knowledge and understanding. Lessons include an approach called 'split screen thinking', where the children are learning 'something' while at the same time identifying 'how' they will learn using the Learning Muscles and 6Rs. All our learning encourages independence, resilience and the attitude of a growth mindset. Children take some responsibility for their own learning and become learners who will be able to use the skills they are developing throughout their lives.

## **Everyone a leader...**

We have been encouraging the children to develop their leadership skills in lessons as well as outside the classroom. In the classroom, some classes have monitors, some have managers of resources and all children have responsibilities. Some of the children have volunteered or applied for extra responsibilities such as to be a librarian, prefect or school councillor. Some children have been or will be leading lunchtime clubs.

## Tree Donation

Many thanks to the Curphey family for kindly donating an apple tree for our school garden. Well done to Leighton who first planted the pip and then continued to help care for it, until it grew into a young tree. Your patience paid off! You were so proud to plant it with your new classmates. We look forward to watching it grow and to the apples it may produce! Thank you



## Invaders and Raiders

Here are some pictures of Lonan class posing as 'Viking warriors' with their homemade shields. Qualtroughs' building company kindly donated 30 recycled bin-lids so that we could transform them into life-size Viking shields as part of our 'Invaders and Raiders' theme!



## School Council

In preparation for our School Council elections, we invited Juan Watterson MHK into school to talk to us about his role and about leadership, elections and being a School Councillor.



On Thursday this week, every class voted for their two School Council representatives. The results were announced in a whole school assembly where our Reception children joined us for the first time.

We were also pleased to welcome our Chair of Governors, Mr Bateson, and our Governor, Mrs Gill who presented the School Council badges to the elected representatives.

## School Clubs

Badminton Y6 Monday lunchtime

Netball Club Y4 - 6 Monday 3.30-4.30pm

Choir Y2 - 6 Tuesday lunchtime

Badminton Y5 Tuesday lunchtime

Girls' Football Y2 - 6 Tuesday 3.30pm-4.30pm

Art Club KS2 Wednesday lunchtime

Craft Club Y1 - 2 Wednesday lunchtime

Basketball Ball Club Thursday lunchtime

Gardening all year groups Thursday lunchtime

Craft Club KS2 Thursday lunchtime

Enterprise Club Y5/6 Friday lunchtime

ICT Club Y3 - 6 Friday lunchtime

Music Skills Club Y4 – 6 Friday lunchtime

## School Trips

Our KS1 classes visited Castle Rushen in Castletown. Here are some thoughts from the children and some pictures of their trip.



**'That was a fantastic trip, I really enjoyed the castle... but I didn't see the king and queen!' - Aiden**

**'I enjoyed doing the stone rubbings of the castle wall' - Esmae**

**'My favourite part was seeing the dungeon' - Joel**

## On Wednesday, Patrick class went to Southlands

'We made Hop Tu Naa decorations. There were pumpkins, ghosts, bats and black cats. Some residents joined in with us and talked to us about when they were in school. Staff gave us refreshments of juice and biscuits. Then they gave us toffee and chocolate apples and some Haribos. We really enjoyed the afternoon!'



## Remembrance Day

Poppies and other remembrance items (wrist bands/stationery etc.) will be available to purchase in school and we hope you are able to support the poppy appeal again this year. The poppies and a donation box will be placed in the reception area outside the School Office after half term. We will also be preparing a school wreath to present at the Remembrance Day Service at Rushen Parish Church.

## Port Erin Beach/Beach Buddies

Next half term, our classes will be visiting the beach to focus on the curriculum as well as some classes taking part in a beach clean with the Beach Buddies.

We would like to thank all parents and family who volunteer to accompany us on our trips and visits.



## Charity and Fundraising

### Kidney Research

We continue to support local and international charities. Last year we raised money for Kidney Research and we received a 'thank you' message from them.

### PJ Day – Alder Hey Hospital

To support Alder Hey Hospital we held a PJ day. The children really enjoyed the day. We have many pupils in our school who have been treated at Alder Hey and we have managed to raise £358.22. Thank you so much for your support.

### Children In Need

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November we will be fundraising for BBC Children in Need. Pupils may come to school dressed in 'spots and/or stripes' for a donation of £1.00 or more (we ask families with a number of children to donate an affordable amount).



## Fell Runners...

Congratulations to all of the enthusiastic and committed 'fell runners' who took part in the annual fell running event held on Bradda Head.

More than 40 of our pupils took part – a significant number compared to other schools who took part. All of our children kept going and finished when many other pupils pulled out because the run was very challenging.

We had many positive comments from a number of people about our pupil's behaviour.

I would also like to thank Miss Miller who supported the runners on the day and who led the practice sessions for the children before the event. Without her support and commitment, our children could not have participated. Parents – you also did a fantastic job! Thank you for your support.



## Manx, Sport and Recreation (MSR)/After School Clubs

Every Wednesday, this year, we have a coach from the MSR team in school. He is currently taking four of our classes for PE.

Tag Rugby Club was offered to Year 2/3 pupils this half term, led by our MSR coach. The children thoroughly enjoyed the club and have honed their rugby skills! A different sports club will start after half term – your child will bring a letter home with details if they are eligible.

Please collect children from the front door/main school entrance following an after school club. If children use their school PE kit for a club, they will get changed into their uniform and return the PE kit to the classroom.

## Pupil Information, Consent Forms and GDPR

Please let us know if there are any changes to your child's pupil information or your consent (this refers to the form you completed last academic year). Please ensure that emergency numbers are up to date so that we are able to contact you.

## School Meals

For those who pay half termly, school meals will cost £80.50 from half term until the Christmas holiday. This amount should be paid by the first Monday after half term, 4th November. There are a high proportion of families who are in arrears with dinner money – please would you credit your child's ParentPay account with any outstanding dinner money immediately. Meals should be paid for in advance through ParentPay. A new school dinner menu is attached for your information.

We currently have several pupils in school who are severely allergic to nuts. All our school dinners are nut free, however, we would ask that you do not include nuts or nut-based products in packed lunches for any pupil, this includes Nutella, for example. For those who are severely allergic, anaphylaxis may be triggered by being in close proximity to nuts/nut products. Thank you for your support.

## School Photographs

Our school photograph morning went very well. Even with 300 pupils, we managed to finish in the morning session (in similar sized schools this can take most of the day). Thank you for your understanding in letting the secondary school pupils have their photos taken first (this meant they could still be on time for school), as well as allowing families with children with additional needs to go first. The children were all very well behaved while waiting for their photographs to be taken and our photographer, Mr Morrison, commented on this. The siblings collected each other and checked each other's uniform and hair etc. They were lovely together! I would like to thank Mr Morrison again because he worked hard to prepare the photographs quickly.

School Photo Re-sits for those who were absent on the day, or would like a re-sit for any reason, are available at Morrison Photos Studio, Tynwald Street, Douglas, on the following dates. No appointment is necessary. **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October, Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October, Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November, Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November. 9.00am – 1.00pm on all dates.**

## School Trips

We are planning an off-Island Year 6 trip this academic year and a trip to the Venture Centre, Maughold, has been planned for Year 5.

## Communication

So far this term there have been many opportunities to receive information, which has been communicated in a variety of ways:

Newsletter - one each month.

Learning at Rushen letter and information pack.

Reading at Home leaflet.

Letter-join website information.

'Meet the teacher' meetings.

**Thursday morning meetings – please contact your Class Teacher for an appointment if you wish to discuss your child's progress or well-being. The Class Teacher may contact you to arrange a meeting.**

**Class Assemblies** Parents/guardians are invited to attend their children's class assemblies, all of which will start at 9.00am in the Sports Hall.

<b>Braddan</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> November 2019</b>	<b>Marown</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> April 2020</b>
<b>Patrick</b>	<b>28<sup>th</sup> November 2019</b>	<b>Malew</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> May 2020</b>
<b>Andreas</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> February 2020</b>	<b>Bride</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup> June 2020</b>
<b>Lonan</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup> March 2020</b>	<b>Jurby</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> July 2020</b>
<b>Ballaugh</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup> March 2020</b>	<b>Maughold</b>	<b>TBC</b>

*(these dates may be subject to change - we will send a note home should a change of date be necessary.)*