



Rushen Primary School Newsletter April 2022



Dear Parents/carers,

- **Safety Issue – on 4th May at 15.30, a member of the public who was cycling past the school was knocked off his bicycle by a driver opening their car door into the road without checking. The cyclist was badly bruised but this could have been much more serious than that. The cyclist has contacted the school and asked us to remind all families collecting their children to be very aware of other road users. He has sent me a video link which outlines the correct way to open a car door called, ‘the Dutch door opening technique’. Please watch the video.**

<https://youtu.be/WeM984dk220>

- **Previous advice from the police has been for the school to close the entrance in the Ace Base car park, as this is for deliveries and not for pedestrian access. This would mean that everybody would need to access the school through the gate near the zebra crossing and from the entrance near the lower car park. We will review this advice and let you know.**

We had a very short month in April as the Easter Break fell in the middle of the month, this year. I anticipated that this would be a shorter Newsletter, however, it seems we have been very busy in April!

The children came back from Easter ready to learn and settled back in really well. We have a lot of learning to do this term before the summer break. This term we also have a number of events planned and hopefully the weather will be kind to us!

We have been planning a Jubilee celebration to mark the 70th year of Queen Elizabeth’s reign. We will have more information soon and will send home a flyer with the details. We are planning a two-day focus during the last week of this half term. We are hoping that parents will volunteer to help and attend part of the celebrations. Watch out for further information. We are also looking forward to a couple of fundraising events for school fund. During the last 5 years we have been focusing on raising money for local and international causes and have not taken any money to top up our school fund. This year we have had one event so far where we have raised money for the school fund. The money in school fund is used to purchase special resources to support priorities or projects and also for supporting families in need.

This time last year, I wrote to you all and said that, ‘Attendance has been excellent since we have returned to school, thank you. We will be able to support the children with getting back on track if they are in school, so we encourage everyone to come to school, unless they are unwell.’ The attendance percentage was 97.8% for the year so far in 2021 and this year it is 90.8%. Obviously, we had a situation with Covid earlier this academic year so it is important that we now encourage as many pupils to be in school as often as we can. Thank you for your support with this.

We are continuing with our class assemblies and our ‘stay and learn/school tour’ events. These have been very well attended and we have had a large number of parents staying to take part in the activities. Thank you so much for all your positive feedback. We hope this will help you understand better, ‘what we do around here’ and why we do it. The tour includes KS1 and KS2 and enables parents to see what the children are learning in classes across the school. This also enables you to get a good understanding of the school ethos and the work of the staff, to ensure that our children attend a good school and do well with their learning.

Please click the following link to find out what to do if your child is covid positive. There is no need to ring the school for advice but please leave a message to let us know they will be absent and why:

LINK: <https://covid19.gov.im/about-coronavirus/testing-positive-for-covid-19/>

Thank you, as always, for your support.
Ms Owens,
Headteacher



Class Assemblies/Stay and Learn/Tour of the School

The children and staff of the school decided that we would perform class assemblies and have a stay and learn session afterwards. Along with this a tour of the school would take place, talking about 'what we do around here' and visiting KS1 and 2 classrooms. This would allow parents to see what and how the children learn across the school and to get a feel for the ethos of the school. The stay and learn sessions and tours have been very well attended. Parents only need to join the tour once, as many have siblings across the school.

Shearwater Class Assembly



Shearwater Stay and Learn

“I liked having my mum help with maths”

“Even though my parents weren’t there I still tried my best.”

“I liked having parents to stay and learn.”

“It was nerve-wracking but I felt confident as we had practised and improved it”.

“I was happy that my dad got to do maths. Next time we could do art or science.”

All of the children really enjoyed the school video.



Kittiwake Assembly





Kittiwake Class Stay and Learn

Our recent 'Stay and Learn' workshop was a great success and we enjoyed sharing our learning with parents and carers. We've been using concrete resources to continue improving our understanding of fractions.



Puffin Class Assembly





Puffin Stay and Learn



Learning at RPS

Kittiwake

We certainly had to use our sourcing, collaborating and planning muscles to create our models of Laxey Wheel. We learned about being patient, resilient and trying different ideas.



What is a Growth Mindset?

The term 'growth mindset' refers to a way of thinking, learning and taking on challenges. A person with a growth mindset is open to constructive criticism, takes feedback and uses it, takes on new challenges, pushes themselves outside of their comfort zone and shows resilience and perseverance.

Studies show that it is people with a growth mindset (as opposed to a fixed mindset) who achieve in life, are successful in all they do and are happy.

6R Learning Dispositions

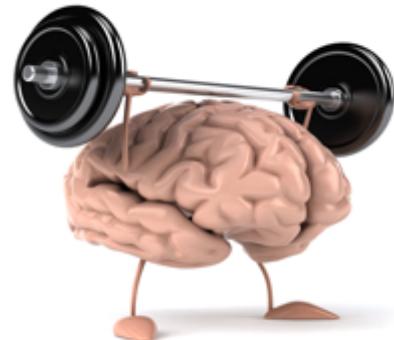
This half term's 6R focus is 'Relationships':

- ✓ I can work with others, take turns and share ideas/resources.
 - ✓ I can respect other people's opinions and not argue.
 - ✓ I care about other people and how they feel.
 - ✓ I know when to say sorry.
 - ✓ I tell the truth.
- ✓ I value friendships and know how to be a good friend.

Learning Muscles

1. Reasoning.	10. Interdependence
2. Making links	11. Collaborating
3. Managing distractions	12. Imagining
4. Keeping going	13. Planning
5. Noticing	14. Imitating
6. Questioning	15. Absorbing
7. Improving	16. Sourcing
8. Listening	17. Empathy
9. Learning to learn	

Knowing what to do...



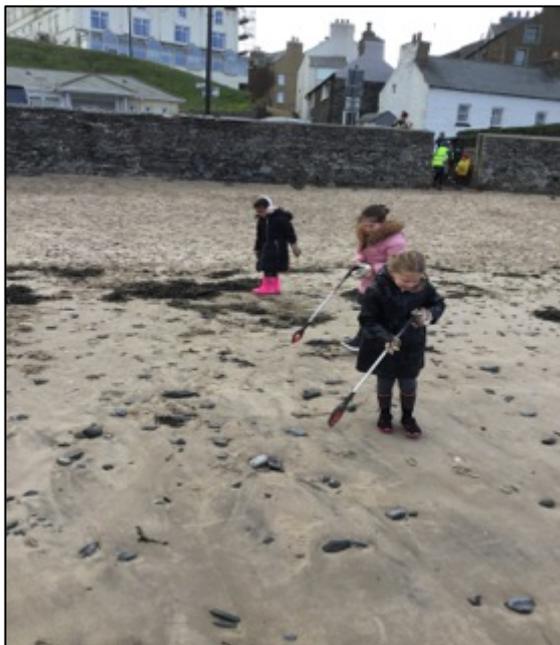
...when we don't know what to do!

Events/Visitors

Beach Clean

Kittiwake and Merlin Classes enjoyed their recent beach clean. We showed commitment and teamwork, despite the weather not being on our side!





Mental Health Awareness Week 9th – 15th May 2022

During this week we are planning some activities as well as a fund-raising opportunity for 'Isle Listen', below.

Mental Health/Isle Listen - Friday 13th May

'Green Day' - wear green – donate £1 to raise money for Isle Listen

To help raise awareness of the importance of mental health, as well as vital funds to ensure that the charity, 'Isle Listen' can continue to build upon their work, we will hold a non-uniform day on Friday 13th May, where staff and pupils will wear something green in exchange for a small donation of £1 in aid of Isle Listen. For more information about Isle Listen, click on the link to their website: <https://www.islelisten.im/mhaw/>

EYFS Transition – for next year's Reception pupils

We will continue with our transition arrangements for our new starters and have sent new families details of the arrangements.

Dinner Money

School dinners cost £61.10 for the first half term (£49.35 for Year 5 pupils attending Venture Centre) or £129.25 for the full term (117.50 for Year 5 pupils attending Venture Centre). If you have not yet paid dinner money for this term, please could you top your Parent Pay account.

Term Dates

Isle Listen 'Wear Green' Day £1

Sports Day

Friday 13th May

Wednesday 15th June