



Rushen Primary School

Newsletter May 2022



Dear Parents/Carers and Pupils,

We have had a fantastic and busy half term. We had so many events during the last month including a visit from a poet, Ian Bland, which gave us a chance to laugh and find joy in performance poetry. The children's faces during the assembly where he read his poems were priceless; ask your child about the 'Dinner Lady Dance' poem. The following link takes you to Ian performing the poem on youtube (not our school):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MvtcLs7WX5Q>

Classes have been performing their class assemblies followed by a stay and learn session and we have also been conducting tours of the school. During these tours we show you around the school and parents are able to wander in and out of classrooms. This is a typical morning at Rushen Primary School. The Deputy Headteacher and I have been telling you about our vision in action, what we do around here and about the improvement projects we have been working on. We explain about our unique approach to behaviour and relationships which includes a restorative approach, as well as how the children are learning to get on and fall out and get on again. These tours have been very well attended and we have had much positive feedback. Thank you. The children and staff of our school are proud of what we have and are achieving and want you to know that this is a good school at the heart of our community.

Another exciting project has been our school video. This aims to show parents and carers, the local community and visitors, what our school is all about. Good relationships, humour and the children's take on everything we do is so clear to see when you watch the video. We are currently updating more sections and will share this with you later in the year.

We also had a Rushen Primary School Bake Off where we raised money for our school fund. This fund helps to contribute to school trips and events and we pay for special resources from there. This is much appreciated and on behalf of the school I would like to thank the whole school and local community for their support. See below for details of the Bake Off.

We have been facing some issues which are being brought into school from home. This has included issues around the use of social media such as TikTok, whats app, snapchat etc. Although many parents supervise their child/ren when using social media, it is not possible to always be there, in the moment. Some children struggle to understand the impact words can have on others, especially when recorded on social media. Please access the 'Safer Schools App' for support and advice regarding social media and online issues such as cyber bullying. These apps have a minimum age of mostly 13 years, although some are 16 years. We are finding that our children are not old enough to manage their emotions yet and this is impacting on their learning and relationships in school.

Thank you as always for your continued support for our school and it is important, now more than ever, that we work together as genuine partners so that we can support our children and each other as a team. See below for details of our wonderful Platinum Jubilee celebrations 2022!
Ms Owens, Headteacher

Mrs Bott is Retiring!



After 37 years at Rushen Primary School, Mrs Bott is retiring. She has taught so many children over the years, as well as their parents and other family members. She knows so many of the families in our community and she will be missed by staff, children and families alike. Mrs Bott, thank you for all your hard work that has touched the lives of so many of the children who have attended RPS.

In assembly, Mrs Bott gave our school an apple tree which we are planting in the grounds of the school. Good luck and enjoy your well-deserved retirement!

Coming up...

School Commonwealth Sports Day 2022

Wednesday 15th June 9.15am – 3.30pm

Children will be sorted into 10 mixed age teams to represent a Commonwealth country. An opening ceremony will take place on the playground at approximately 9.15am where we will sing the Manx National anthem and each team will parade behind their flag.

Fun, novelty team activities will take place during the morning and into the afternoon. Sprint races for year groups will take place at approximately 2.15pm.

Parents are welcome to attend and support during the day, however we ask that you leave the school premises during our lunchtime as the children will be resting, eating and relaxing to prepare for the afternoon session.

Children are to come to school dressed in their PE kit (shorts, t-shirt, tracksuit bottoms), school jumper, raincoat. Please ensure they have a water bottle. Sun hats must be worn and sun cream already applied.



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 may 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 been planned to ensure that our Year 6 pupils are ready for Year 7. This year Castle Rushen have been in direct contact with parents regarding some of the planned events and the children will be also be attending whole days at the school later this term.

Class Assemblies, Stay and Learn and Tour of the School Peregrine Class Thursday 5th May



Merlin Class Wednesday 11th May



Curlew Class Wednesday 18th May



Tours of the school



The Great Rushen EASTER Bake off!



We held a fantastic bake off just before the Easter holidays. It was a great success. Thank you so much to all the parents, carers and families who baked together and to those who avoid baking at all costs, but donated 'bought' cakes!

We raised £541 for school fund - what an achievement, thank you.

Thank you also to the 'Friends of Rushen School' for all of their support, planning and the running of the event - they are just brilliant!

All parents are welcome to be part of our 'Friends of Rushen' team. If you would like to take part, please contact the office before an event.





The Great Rushen EASTER Bake Off!

Thursday 7th April, 2022

The children of Rushen Primary School are raising money for School Fund. The money in School Fund subsidises school trips and transport and sometimes individual families in need, so that pupils can attend residential trips. School Fund is also used to purchase extra resources or to fund a particular event or project.



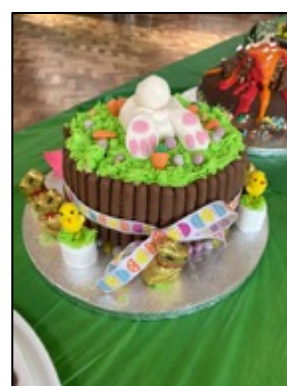
***PLEASE AVOID NUTS AND LABEL ANY GLUTEN/DAIRY FREE CAKES**

SHOWSTOPPERS NEEDED!

Please bake a SHOWSTOPPER! This should be a whole cake, decorated with an interesting design, maybe on an EASTER theme and taste absolutely yummy! Please bake together as a family if you can. The top ten SHOWSTOPPERS will be shortlisted and compete for a 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize and for the glory of winning the GREAT RUSHEN EASTER BAKE OFF 2022! Any SHOWSTOPPERS not shortlisted will be sold as part of the cake sale. The Top 10 SHOWSTOPPERS will be raffled. Raffle tickets will be available for £1/strip of tickets at the sale. Our 'celebrity' judges will make their decision and this will be announced in Assembly that week.

We also need as many cakes as possible to be donated for the cake sale. Please bake or buy cakes that we can sell including: muffins, cookies, sponges, fairy cakes, etc. All cakes should be delivered on the morning of Thursday 7th April, at the usual drop off time (8.45am). Please leave your cakes with the 'Bake Off Team', who will be waiting at the playground door, next to the Headteacher's room.

The cake sale will take place from 3.25pm onwards in the 'Dining Hall' in the KS1 building. KS2 pupils will be able to visit the sale before the end of the school day and may bring money to buy cakes with a maximum of £2.00 please (no notes if possible). All parents welcome!



Venture Centre Y5

Here are examples of our daily updates for parents from our Y5 Venture Centre trip. Thank you to those parents who agreed to accompany the children. We also appreciate the fact that staff are willing to volunteer and give up their time, as residential trips would not be able to take place without this commitment. On behalf of the children and parents of the pupils who went on the trip, I would like to thank all staff and parent volunteers!

Venture Centre 2022 Y5

Day 1

The children arrived safely and went straight into Operation Phoenix. In the afternoon they took part in activities including crate stacking, tree climbing and the assault course. They then went inside to get warm and dry until tea. After that they did shooting – air rifle, archery and axe throwing. All were intact after those activities and enjoyed hot chocolate, toast and then off to bed! Everyone is having a great time and been very well behaved so far.



Venture Centre 2022 Y5

Day 1

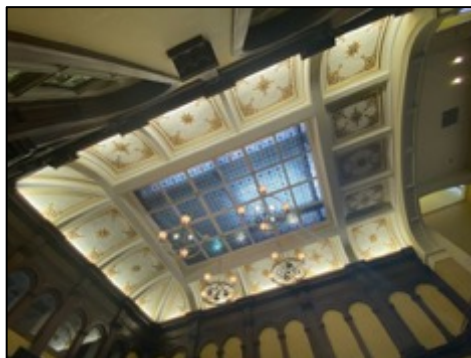
T Day 2 was another tiring but fun day. Group 7 started off with some crossbow while groups 5 and 6 played 'Predator'. All groups joined together for 'Bushcraft' which included fire lighting and cooking our lunch on the well-lit fires – we need to add cowboy sandwiches to our menu!

The afternoon consisted of gorge walking which finished with a jacuzzi (a cold one!). Our evening activity was the famous coastal walk. We kept smiling and singing the whole 5 miles. Everyone slept well and had to be woken up at 7.30am ready for breakfast.



Y6 Tynwald visit and the House of Keys

Year 6 pupils visited the House of Keys on Thursday 12th May, 2022. They were shown round by some fantastic staff and also by Juan Watterson, the current Speaker of the House of Keys and Rushen MHK. The children got the chance to look inside the House of Keys and to take part in a debate, followed by a vote. The children were confident and asked lots of well thought out questions. The Headteacher attended the trip and was very proud of our pupils. The pupils particularly enjoyed the ghost story and the loud BANG!



Ian Bland Poet

Ian Bland visited our school. He began with a whole school assembly where children learned and joined in with his performance poetry. He then stayed with us for two days and worked with each class to support the children in writing and performing their poems in a workshop setting. We finished the two days with a whole school assembly where children performed their poems. Ian really inspired our children and we would like to say thank you to him for a fantastic two days.



Sponsored Walk

On Friday 27th May, the pupils, parents/carers and staff of Rushen Primary School undertook a sponsored 'Walk and Talk' as part of Mental Health Awareness Week. We aimed to boost our well-being by walking and talking while enjoying the fresh air and the beautiful green fields of our school site. Children took home sponsor forms and we are in the process of collecting their sponsor money to put towards school fund. Thank you to so many families who turned up to walk and talk with their child/ren. It was a lovely day and the weather was kind. Thank you.



Rushen Primary School
Sponsored Walk and Talk
(as part of our well-being week focus)
Friday 27th May
1.30 – 3pm

Come to school in active wear: waterproof coat/cap/hat/sun cream and suitable footwear

Name	Amount

Collect sponsors to support you in **walking and talking** for the 1 1/2 hours.
All money raised will go towards school funds.
All parents or relatives welcome to walk and support their children to keep fit, enjoy the fresh air and promote well-being.



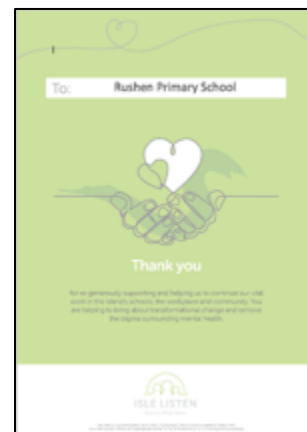


GREEN DAY

The children and staff of RPS dressed in green and made donations to recognise 'Green Day'. This was in support of the charitable initiative and Mental Health Awareness/Well-being Week. People were asked to show their support by wearing something green on Friday to highlight the importance of mental health and the vital early intervention and prevention work Isle Listen does in schools, the workplace and community.

We raised £173.01 to send to Isle Listen

Well done and thank you to all...



Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee 2022

Two days of fun filled activities at the end of the half term were enjoyed by all pupils and staff. Parents also joined us for our wonderful 'Jubilee Street Party' on May 31st. We began with activities which culminated in a party where we ate cakes from our Jubilee Bake Off. We started by singing the Manx National Anthem followed by the British National Anthem. We announced the winners of the bake off and then set about eating the cakes. Thank you to all families for contributing and to the parents who volunteered to help ensure the event was a success! Thank you also to staff who put a lot of effort into the organisation of the event and on the day.



Rushen Primary School celebrates the Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022



Monday 30th May

Rushen Bake Off - Platinum Jubilee themed

Enter a showstopper cake, cupcakes or biscuits.

(All entries will be judged and then eaten during celebrations on Tuesday! ☺)

Tuesday 31st May

Come and join us!

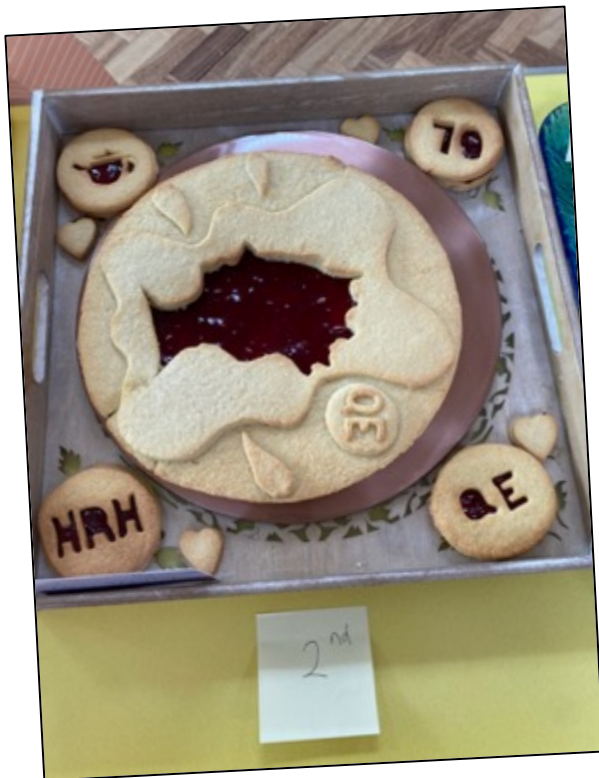
We are looking for volunteers to run or help supervise activities as well as to join in with our street style party celebrations.

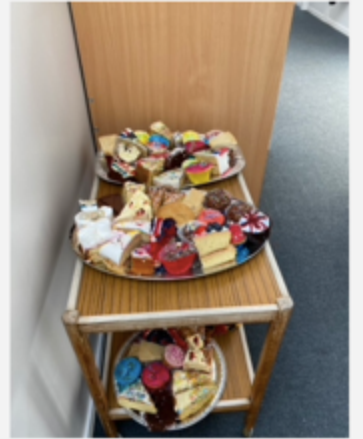


If you are willing to help us out to make an afternoon to remember, please email rushenenquiries@sch.im

Please let us know if there is an activity you would like to run or would just like to help with an activity.



















Hope you had a lovely half term TT break 2022

