



# Rushen Primary School Newsletter



October 2022



Dear Parents/Carers,

We had a fantastic first half term where children settled into their classes and spent time building relationships and getting used to routines and expectations. We have spent time building consistency over the last few years and this aids and supports transitions from year to year.

We have vacancies for school cleaners, relief school cleaners (who can work on a temporary basis when required) and lunchtime assistants. Please see information below and the attached the job description and person specification for lunchtime assistants. The jobs will be advertised soon on Jobtrain:

<https://www.jobtrain.co.uk/iomgovjobs/vacancies.aspx>

Dear Parents & Carers,

Do you have any free time in the afternoon and early evening?

The Department of Education, Sport and Culture is currently recruiting relief cleaners for our Primary Schools. This is a great way to earn extra money whilst not being committed to regular hours and you will be providing an essential service to our schools.

For more information please call Angela Tongue on 254149 or email [angela.tongue3@gov.im](mailto:angela.tongue3@gov.im)

Thank you for a number of emails from parents and carers thanking staff for their efforts and telling us that their children are enjoying school. The staff of the school are extremely committed to our school and about ensuring children are supported and happy in their learning.

In order to follow up from the parent meetings that took place in September, with information that you can access easily and at any time, please go to our school website and the tab, 'Learning at Rushen'. Along with a brief introduction about 'what we do around here', you will also find:

- Class curriculum overviews for the autumn term
- Our 6Rs and Jigsaw (PSHE - Personal, Social, Health & Emotional) overview
- RPS Learning Muscles
- Information about academic assessment and moderation process
- How to Help at Home information sheet for English (from EYFS through to Level 5)
- How to Help at Home information sheet for Mathematics (from R through to Year 6)

This link will take you to the 'Learning at Rushen' section of our school website:

<https://rushen.sch.im/pages/index/view/id/66/Learning%20at%20Rushen>

See below about when Rock Kidz visited our school. Here is the link which features pupils and staff talking about the day...

<https://www.manxradio.com/news/isle-of-man-news/mental-health-group-visiting-primary-schools-on-the-island/>

Take care, Ms Owens, Headteacher

## Dates for your Diary

**Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal** - poppies/wristbands/pencils etc. will be on sale at school from Monday 7th November. Year 6 will visit all classes to sell poppies/stationery/wrist bands etc. There are no set prices, but if your child would like to purchase an item in support of the Poppy Appeal, please could they bring a donation to school this week. Year 6 will visit the classrooms daily this week, however, there are limited supplies of each item. Thank you for your support.

**Children in Need – Friday 18th November** - this year's official theme is **SPOTACULAR** and children should come to school wearing bright coloured clothes with spots and any 'Children in Need' themed accessories/clothes, for a donation to this charity.



**Odd Socks Day - Monday 21st November** - children are asked to wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique, as we start our anti-bullying week.



Christmas Performances - Dates and Times	Christmas Parties - Dates and Times
13/12/22 KS1 Christmas performance 14.00 14/12/22 KS1 Christmas performance 10.00 14/12/22 Year 5/6 Christmas performance 14.00 15/12/22 Year 5/6 Christmas performance 09.30 15/12/22 Year 3/4 Christmas performance 14.00 16/12/22 Year 3/4 Christmas performance 09.30	19/12/22 Year 3/4 Christmas Party 13.30 20/12/22 Year 2 Christmas Party 13.30 21/12/22 Reception/Year 1 Christmas Party 13.30 21/12/22 Year 5/6 Christmas Disco <b>16.30 - 18.00</b>  <u>Children in Reception and Years 1/2/3/4 may bring a change of clothes to school on the day of their party - to change into after lunch, if they wish.</u>

We are looking forward to you joining us for the Christmas performances. We will not be issuing tickets this year - there will be sufficient seating available for two family members per child to attend each performance. We would ask that babies/toddlers do not attend if possible as they can be a distraction for the children on stage, who will have worked hard to learn their lines/songs. Thank you for your support.

## Year 1 Music Trip

Year 1 visited QE2 High School on Thursday 6th October. They were very excited about their trip, especially the coach journey where they spotted lots of animals and exciting buildings. When we got to QE2 we went into their big hall and sat on the adult chairs! We listened to the story of Peter and the Wolf which was accompanied by 5 different instruments (flute, oboe, clarinet, french horn and bassoon). Each instrument represented a different character in the story. The story was exciting and scary in places! Our favourite instrument was the clarinet because we liked the cat. We are going to continue learning about woodwind instruments over the next half term and some of us really want to learn to play them. Miss Smiley.



### Everyone a learner...

The children have been enjoying their 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 in order to achieve the 6Rs. All of 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 and responsibility in lessons as well as outside the classroom. In the classroom, 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.

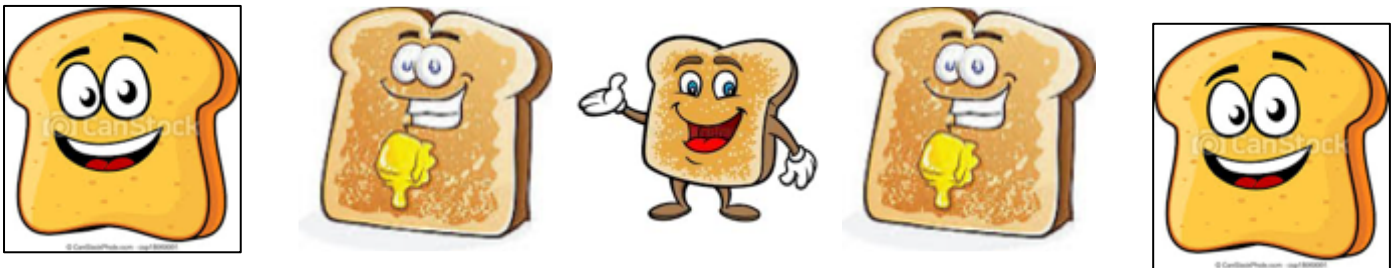


### School Photographs

Our school photograph morning went very well. 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.

As you can imagine, it is sometimes challenging to get the children to smile properly and to pose when needed. If you require a re-sit for those who were absent on the day, or you would like a re-sit for any reason, there is one more opportunity available at Morrison Photos Studio, Tynwald Street, Douglas, on **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November. 9.30 – 13.30.** No appointment is necessary.

### Toast



On Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October we all enjoyed a slice of warm, buttered toast (gluten and dairy free options were also available). Thank you to everybody for your donations which will be added to our school fund.

### THANK YOU TO THE FRIENDS OF RUSHEN AND MRS SHAW FOR ORGANISING AND SUPPORTING!

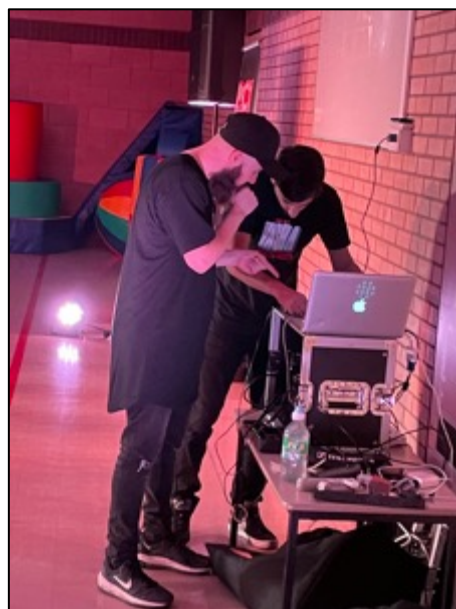


Rock Kidz visited us earlier this term. The work they did on the day supported our 'what we do around here' and growth mindset approach.

Pupils undertook health, well-being and self-esteem workshops.

Much FUN was had by all, while children learned an original song called 'Nobody Like Me' which reminds them that they have a completely unique place in the world. A short engaging message was delivered during the session which encouraged pupils to love themselves the way they are.







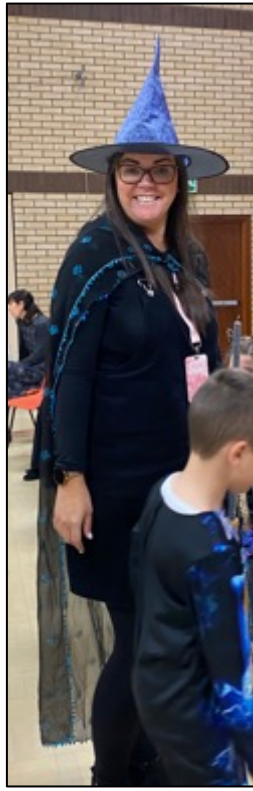
## Manx Tradition...Hop Tu Naa



Jinny the Witch (who was just a nice old lady who whooshed around with baskets of herrings on a broom/duster stick) visited our school and introduced our assembly. We had several other visitors that day and very few staff and children! 😊







## Communication

So far this term there have been many opportunities to receive information about our school, what is happening and what is planned, which has been communicated in a variety of ways, for example via email, by SMS, through our website and in person. These have included:

Newsletters

Learning at Rushen information

Reading at Home information

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. Please also see your teacher after school on days where teachers do not need to attend staff meetings.

**Buildings update – We have had new girls’ toilets and an accessible toilet fitted in our KS2 building.**



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

Every Wednesday and Thursday this year, we have a coach from the MSR team in school. Mr Delaney is currently taking our classes for PE on both days.

An after school Hockey Club was offered to our Year 3/4 pupils prior to half term, led by our MSR coach. The children thoroughly enjoyed the club. This half term Mr Delaney is running a Badminton Club for Year 4/5/6 pupils.

Please collect children from the front door/main school entrance at 4.25pm following an after-school club.

### **Pupil Information**

Please ensure that emergency numbers, consents etc. are up to date on the Arbor Parent Portal and that you amend these when necessary so that we are able to contact you.

### **School Meals**

For those who pay half termly, school meals will cost £94.00 from half term until the Christmas holiday, or £11.75 per week. Please would you credit your child's ParentPay account with any outstanding dinner money immediately. Meals should be paid for in advance via ParentPay.

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.