

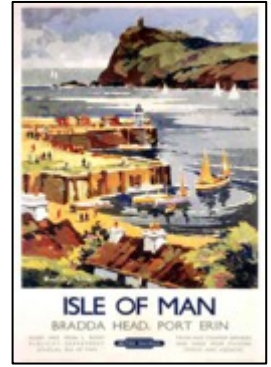


Rushen Primary School

Newsletter

January 2023

This newsletter serves as a method for ensuring clear communication as well as a record and history of our school.



January 2023 RPS

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a fantastic start to the Spring term at Rushen Primary School. The children are happy and focused on being learners. Classes have started new topics and the children are motivated to find out about new things, to learn and improve their skills and understanding. Children spend time applying what they have learned and solve problems. There was a lovely moment today when a group of Year 6s came to my office to talk about our school for our updated video. They spoke confidently to each other and were enthusiastic and keen to explain about learning and about how they enjoyed being part of the RPS team. I left them to it and could overhear how they were collaborating and how motivated they were. We are so proud of all members of our RPS team.

Coming to school in PE kit on PE days seems to be working well. Thank you for working together with us to try this out. It means the children receive more quality PE time. Wearing the school jumper with kit means we all feel like part of the RPS team. Please can you help children stay safe by wearing only stud earrings in their ears and no other jewellery in school (on PE and non-PE days), as well as long hair tied back and not in their eyes - this will help them to learn and focus without distraction.

It has been lovely to talk to so many parents, carers and families since we returned to school and to hear how well their children are doing. Please remember, we are always here to help and to work in partnership. When things do go wrong, we also work together to support each other and resolve situations. Looking forward to the second half of the academic year we have new themes and topics, visitors, theme weeks, sponsored events, mental health and well-being activities and lots of exciting opportunities.

Your support is much appreciated, take care, Ms Owens, Headteacher

Coming up...

Date	Event
9th February	EYFS New Starters Open Morning...meet the team, tour of the school and coffee and cake
6 th -10 th February	Walk and Talk, mental health awareness week, families welcome (see flyer below)
13 th -17 th February	Money Week
TBC	Class assemblies and stay and learn, dates to be confirmed
2 nd March	World Book Day – dress up as your favourite character from a book
3 rd March	Toast Day
17 th March	Red Nose Day – track down a red nose and wear it to school! ‘all in red’ clothes day-bring a donation

Rushen Primary School 'Walk and Talk'

Monday 13th February 1.30 – 3.00pm

Come to school in PE kit
and footwear suitable for walking in.

Parents and Carers very welcome to join us on our walk!

Children can be collected at the end of the walk from the classroom exterior door.

This is a non-fundraising event.

All children and staff will be walking around the school for the afternoon as part of
our

'Mental Health and Well-Being Week'.

6Rs

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

- ★ I keep going until I find the answer to a question.
- ★ I like to hear what people say about the things I have done.
- ★ I find other people's advice helpful and useful.
- ★ If I cannot work out how to do something one way, I'll try a different idea.
- ★ I am prepared to take risks.
- ★ I learn from my mistakes.

Visitors

On Monday 16th January Dhoon Glen Class and Tholt-y-Will Glen Class were visited by Hello Little People for their 'Once Upon a Time' Storytelling workshop. We remembered and retold the story of Cinderella, using connectives, expression and actions. We used our 'Imagining Muscles', 'Listening Muscles' and 'Making Links Muscles' to create our own 'Once Upon a Time' story where the character "BobbleJeff the Banana" was born! We watched Chloe and Michelle bring their newspaper puppet to life, made our own puppets and learnt puppetry skills. Our favourite skills were how to make the puppet look like it's breathing and how to give the puppets the most lifelike walk. Thank you to Chloe and Michelle for a wonderful day of storytelling! It is always lovely to welcome past pupils back to our school!





Chloe and Michelle were brilliant at helping the children with their puppets.

Manx Bird Life

Anna from Manx Bird Life visited Laxey Glen Class and showed the children pictures of some common garden birds that can be found in most gardens. The children compared the bird calls and the appearance of the birds, looking at colours and shapes. They listened to a story about a Blackbird looking for food and then pretended to be a bird and went on a bug hunt around school. It was too cold for some of the insects so they didn't find a lot. Anna discussed how we can help the birds during the winter and then showed them how to make bird feeders from pinecones.

The children thoroughly enjoyed the session:

“I enjoyed looking at the pictures, I like the robin.”
“The mealworms and lard were smelly.”
“Bug hunt was the best bit, but we didn't find that many.”

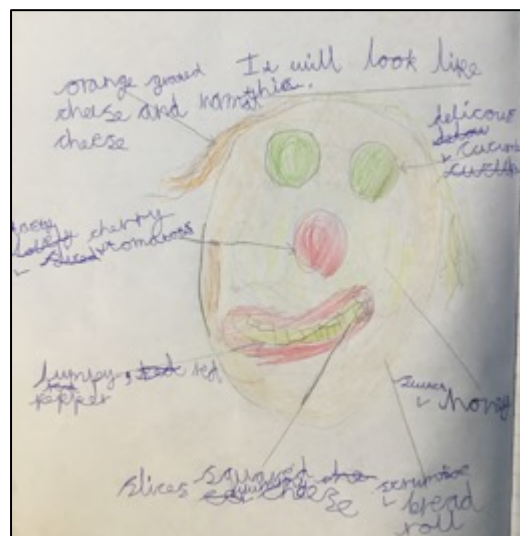




Learning about Healthy Eating – Dhoon Glen Class

Dhoon Glen have also been learning about exercise and healthy eating in science.

We learned about food groups, health and hygiene and used simple kitchen equipment to grate, chop and slice. The children planned a healthy sandwich design – using their imagination – and then REALLY enjoyed eating it afterwards. We even had children who tried unfamiliar foods and found that they liked them – hopefully they let their parents know!



Manx Youth Games 2023

SPORTING CLUB MANX YOUTH GAMES



Our MSR Coach, Mr Delaney, led an assembly telling the children all about the Manx Youth Games. His message was, 'take part and try something new'.

Countdown:

The 2023 SPORTING CLUB MANX YOUTH GAMES training sessions start in...

9 : 18 : 35 : 34
Days Hrs Mins Secs

<https://msr.gov.im/sdu/sporting-club-manx-youth-games/>

**This year the Sporting Club Manx Youth Games will be held on
Saturday 13th May 2023**

Sporting Club Manx Youth Games 2023

The Sporting Club Manx Youth Games is the biggest multi-sport event for children on the Isle of Man which attracts over 1000 participants in 13 different sports. It is open to children in school Year 2 - 10. The programme offers young people the opportunity to try new sports or activities from January until the games, and encourages participants to continue with sport throughout the year.

If you have any questions or would like any more information, please contact Gareth Lloyd on gareth.lloyd@gov.im.





Year 6 Transition

Year 6 recently went to a meeting at Castle Rushen High School with their parents and carers to begin the transition programme. We have already started talking to our Year 6s about their move to high school. If they have any questions or worries it is important that they share those with their teacher so that we can answer them and support them. Our Year 6s will be ready for their move. At Rushen Primary School our focus on learning and learning to learn (Learning Muscles) prepares children for the move. We encourage independent learning and developing responsibility through our 'everyone a leader' focus. Our restorative approach, high expectations and how we value positive relationships, encourages children to make good choices and to relish responsibility. The children will have lots of skills in their toolkit as they move forward with their learning.

New Starters/EYFS Transition

Our teachers work closely with local Nurseries, building links and will be making visits to meet our new starters. We are also holding an open morning where the families of new starters are invited to visit our school, undertake a tour, and meet the team, on Thursday 9th February.

What we do around here...

'What we do around here... at Rushen Primary School' is how we work towards our vision and is based on what we, (pupils, staff, Governors and the whole school community) believe is important to us. We focus on 'learners' and 'leaders', relationships and community. It is about what we aspire to and the sort of people and learners we want to be, and it explains what we do to demonstrate this on a day-to-day basis.

We have included photographs which show the children demonstrating 'What we do around here...'. The children have given quotes to show how we are learners and how we use our learning to learn skills – Learning Muscles.



Parents' Meetings

Please continue to make an appointment to see your child's teacher, if you wish. We aim to meet parents about once a term and more if necessary. Please send an email to book an appointment.

We hope this approach to meeting the teacher is helpful. Parents can make an appointment to either see the teacher in person or to make a telephone appointment. Each appointment lasts about 15 minutes and will give you plenty of time to discuss your child's progress, learning and behaviour. We feel this is a much more personal approach and allows more time for you.

Newsletters and school-home communication

Just a reminder that we have communicated with parents in a variety of ways, this academic year. Newsletters are sent home each month with comprehensive information, record of events etc. Thank you again for the continued positive feedback regarding the Newsletters, which are a lovely record of what the children have learned and experienced. Parents are also provided with a class curriculum overview for the term, which some enjoy sharing with their children. Don't forget that Thursday mornings are available for parent appointments to see the class teacher. If you need to speak to the class teacher (who is the first contact) and are unable to meet after school, please telephone and leave a message and teachers will get back to you.

Dinner Money

Dinner money must be paid for in advance. Please would you check your Parent Pay account regularly to ensure it is in credit.

School will close for half term at 3.30pm on Friday 17th February, 2023.

School will re-open at 8.45am on Monday 27th February, 2023.