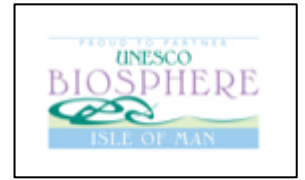




Rushen Primary School

Newsletter

May 2023



Dear Parents/Carers and Pupils,

We have had a busy and successful half term. We had so many events during the last month including our Coronation Celebration, Rock Kidz and Sports Day to name but a few. Thank you to all of our parent volunteers who make our school trips possible, ensuring we have the right adult to pupil ratio and also to our Friends of Rushen who have stepped up to make sure our events run smoothly and are so positive and supportive of our school. Look out for a brilliant photo of the Friends below!

Classes have been performing their class assemblies, we have shared our new school video and each assembly has been followed by a stay and learn session. The assemblies have been very well attended and we have had much positive feedback. Thank you. The parents and carers who have been able to attend the stay and learn sessions have been impressed by the challenge they have seen in the classrooms. 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 updated 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 have added extra sections and most powerful are the contributions of our partners that we work alongside. We are proud of all that we have achieved together.

I wrote to you last year about an issue we have been continuing to face which is being brought into school and causing upset between children. 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.

Ms Owens, Headteacher

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 High School has 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, School Video and Stay and Learn

Glen Mooar Class

The children in Glen Mooar Class were very brave, getting up and telling the whole school and the visitors all about their learning. They were motivated and engaged by their history topic of Gods and Mortals. They told us about how they researched information and found out facts about the Gods. They outlined learning muscles which helped them to achieve the 6Rs. They demonstrated what they had learned in Mathematics - decimals, fractions and percentages by singing a song they had learned. Well done! Glen Mooar Class!



Dhoon Glen Class

Dhoon Glen Class used confident and loud voices to share their learning with the audience. They described what they had learned (knowledge, skills and understanding) and how they used their learning muscles. The children were focussed on and excited about their learning and were clearly motivated. They told us about how they were scientists, carrying out investigations about plants and trying out and testing ideas. They told us about the vocabulary that they had been learning and about their work on the planning of the Town Square in Port Erin. Well done Dhoon Glen Class!





Bishopscourt Glen Class

The children did a very good job of describing our school vision which the whole school has been part of designing. The pupils were confident and totally engaged in preparing for the class assembly, using their learning to learn skills. It was clear that the children were motivated and engaged with the topics they were learning about (WW1, Shakespeare and Africa) and shared their learning, reasoning and explaining their thinking. The idea of a news report was a really good one to use as a vehicle for telling us about their learning. Well done Bishopscourt Glen Class!



Tholt-y-Will Class

The children in Tholt-y-Will Class were confident with loud voices. They told us all about the learning they were doing in mathematics using the Maths Mastery approach. This has hooked the pupils in and motivated them, getting them excited about learning Maths. They told us about the vocabulary they were using to describe the properties of shapes, for example, vertices/corners. Songs are really helpful for learning lots of things, including in Maths, as it helps with remembering facts. It was lovely to see pupils enjoying poetry and reading. They also told us about how they used learning muscles to help them when they were learning. Well done, Tholt-y-Will Glen Class!



Ballure Glen Class

Ballure Glen Class told us about the learning they were doing on climate change. It was clear that the children were motivated to find out information about the topic and that they used the tools in their learning toolkit to work together and independently. They had designed detailed posters to communicate what they had found out. The class video showed fantastic artwork and recorded learning. Well done Ballure Glen Class.



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 2023 Y5

Day 2

What a day! From kayaking and gorge walking to archery and axe throwing... Year 5 have conquered fears on the high ropes, zipped down the zip line at incredible speed and even abseiled out of windows! We have enjoyed a slightly rainy barbecue, discovered a love for corn on the cob and consumed MANY biscuits. A wonderful day had by all.



Venture Centre 2023 Y5

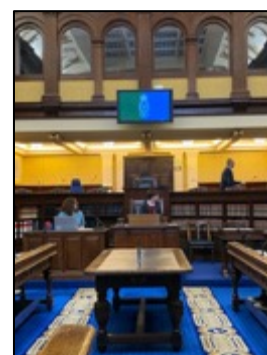
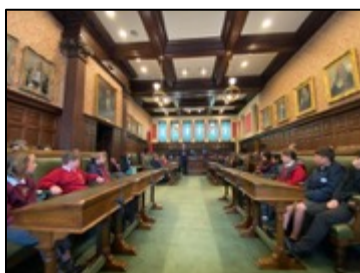
Day 3

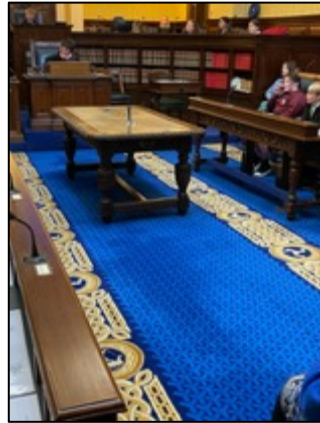
The fun has definitely continued today! Collaboration was key to succeed in the low wires, especially when challenged to complete the route without letting go of your teammates! Then the obstacle course faced us with monkey bars, rope swings, tunnels and lots of mud. Crate stacking revealed excellent balance and strength, particularly when rescuing partners and pulling them back onto the crate towers. One team even managed to stack 15 layers! The afternoon meant a sunny trip to the Mooragh Park for some Year 5s trying kayaking, canoeing and hide and seek games on the island. A great day had by all finished off with a trip to the tuck shop and Operation Phoenix (congratulations to our winners Group 3!)



Y6 Tynwald visit and the House of Keys

Year 6 pupils visited the House of Keys on Thursday 11th May, 2023. The children 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. They thoroughly enjoyed the trip and learned a lot too.





King Charles III Coronation Celebration 2023

We had a fantastic day packed full of coronation celebration activities. Children enjoyed craft activities, dancing, singing and races based on the coronation theme.



Rushen Primary School celebrates King Charles III's Coronation 2023



Friday 5th May

Everybody wear Red, White and Blue

Parents/carers are welcome to join us at the street party to celebrate! Meet on the school playground 2.30pm-3.15pm

(Hoping for good weather as, unfortunately, we won't be able to host visitors if it is raining as the whole school will move to the Small Hall for the street party-we will let you know on the day)



Rushen Primary School

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Dear King Charles,

We are writing to you from Rushen Primary School in the Isle of Man to say we hope that you really enjoyed your Coronation Day and that it was a special day to remember for both you and your new Queen!

It will be a day that we definitely remember, as we have never seen a day like this before! We were wishing you good luck and think that you will do a great job, just like the Queen did for a long time.

Are you looking forward to the big responsibility and all the jobs you will have to do? Thank you for all the hard work you have done so far. We think it is great that you care so much about looking after the environment. We try to do this too! We understand that you recently got a Blue Peter award – that's special!

We were wondering how you were feeling as the day got nearer. Perhaps you felt nervous on the day and it was a little scary at times, but we're sure you were excited at the same time! You must be very proud of how everything went on the day.

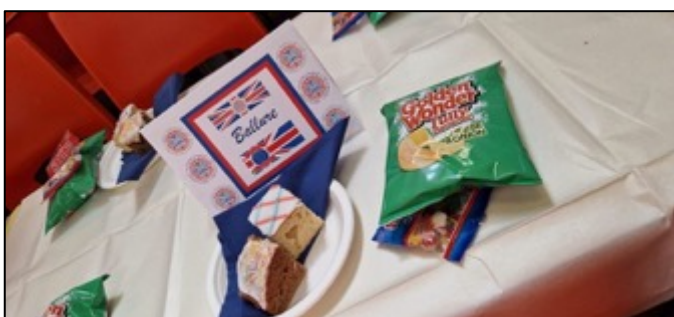
We loved the singing and music in Westminster Abbey and seeing the crown being placed on your head. We have been wondering how heavy it is? You must have to be so careful when wearing it!

Afterwards we enjoyed watching the procession. The people in London were very lucky to be able to be there and watch it go by.

We were busy preparing for our own celebrations last week. Our school dining hall was decorated with colourful bunting and we enjoyed games and activities together, followed by a tea party. We proudly sang the national anthem, along with our own Manx national anthem, wore homemade crowns and waved flags which we had also made. It was an exciting day and great atmosphere.

The School Council wrote a letter to King Charles about his coronation, wishing him luck for the future. We haven't heard back yet but no doubt he is very busy!







Friends of Rushen – thank
you!



Visits and Trips

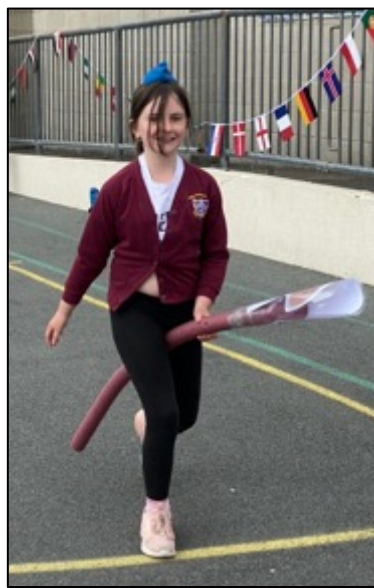
Elfin Glen Class – Beach Trip

We had a wonderful trip to the beach on a gloriously sunny day. The children's behaviour was exemplary and everyone had a lovely day. We viewed human and physical geographical features, such as the headland, cliffs, lighthouses, Milner's Tower, rocks, sand, pier and beach huts, before going on a scavenger hunt and collecting beach materials to create faces in the sand. We used our sourcing, imitating, noticing, imagining and collaborating muscles. We did intend to clean the beach too, but it appeared that the tractor had already beaten us to it leaving no trace of litter for us to pick up! Here are some recollections of the day, Mrs Jones:



SPORTS DAY 2023

Sports Day this year was a fantastic day, enjoyed by all. There was a lovely atmosphere as children took part in teams named after Royal houses, mixed from across the school. It was lovely seeing the older pupils looking after the younger pupils as children from Reception to Year 6 mixed together. The weather added to the atmosphere and parents and families enjoyed watching, sitting/standing in groups on the playground and school field. In the morning the children took part in fun sporting activities and in the afternoon, they took part in traditional competitive events culminating in races on the track – something for everyone!







Some of the children said:

- It was exciting and I enjoyed collaborating with other people, it is different doing activities with the other year groups.
- The egg and spoon race was my favourite because it is always eggcellent! 😊
- The obstacle was one of my favourites.
- The water relay was my favourite.
- I enjoyed the welly throwing!
- I liked doing the parachute with a teddy as my group achieved 132 throws up in the air!

Dolphin Gala

Rushen Primary School pupils did themselves and the school proud, they came 2nd in their category and 3rd overall out of 15 schools. Our pupils are doing very well with their swimming lessons and some pupils also swim after school in a team or take lessons and this combination ensured that they did well. Some of the children won their races and before the relay race, we were in 1st place. The relay team worked well together, gaining them a 2nd place, missing out by only a small margin. We had lots of lovely comments about our new school tracksuit too!

Some quotes from the children:

"It was exciting".

"It was fun".

"You had to use your keeping going muscle".

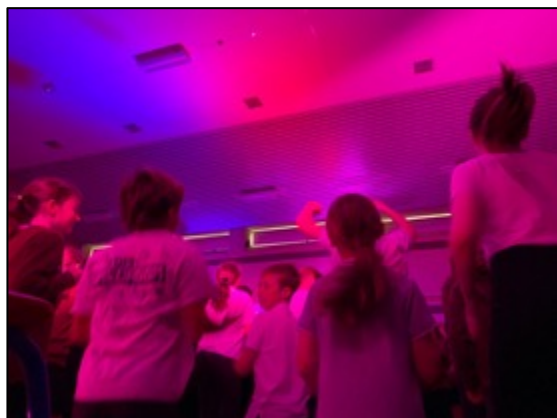
"It was great".

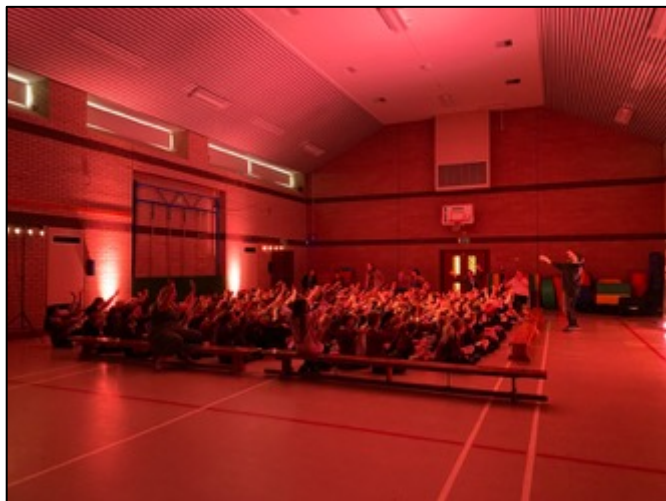
"Everyone was so supportive".



Rock Kidz

Rock Kidz visited us for the second time and everybody enjoyed joining in with singing and dancing. The message was very important and was all about perseverance and resilience.





Diary Dates

Monday 19th June **Ian Bland** poet to visit school

Wednesday 21st June **Glen Helen Class Assembly and Stay & Learn Session 9am**

Thursday 22nd June **Toast Day**

Wednesday 28th June **Elfin Glen Class Assembly and Stay & Learn Session 9am**

Wednesday 28th June **Choir to perform at Villa Marina**

Wednesday 5th July **Tynwald Day/School Closed**

Thursday 20th July **Year 6 Leavers' Assembly 1.30pm**

Friday 21st July **End of Term**