



# Rushen Primary School Newsletter



September 2023



This photo was taken on September 8<sup>th</sup>- remembering the beautiful weather!

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Welcome back to the new school year 2023-24 Learning and Growing at Rushen Primary School

Welcome to our returning families and to all of our new families. We have had a fantastic start to the new term and the children have been excited to be back in class and to play with their friends. I see lots of happy, smiling faces as they get on with learning and move around the building, chatting to the people that they pass. They look so smart in their uniforms so thank you for organising that over the summer break!

Coming into school in PE kit on PE days is working really well. Almost all children are remembering to bring/wear their school jumper on those days as well as wearing plain leggings or joggers. Just a reminder that children with long hair should tie it back every day as it gets in the way when learning, eating lunch and playing.

The 'Meet the Teacher' meetings were a success and I know the meetings with our new teachers were particularly well attended. I would like to thank those parents I spoke to for their positive feedback about our school and how happy their children are at our school. We value home/school links and our positive relationships with parents and carers. Thank you, as always, for your support. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher if you have any queries.

Our Newsletters aim to ensure good communication regarding events, information about the school and as a record of the school's history. As you are aware, we can't always take part in every event on the Island but we try to take part in a range of activities throughout the year, which are showcased in our Newsletter.

We thoroughly enjoyed the stay and learn sessions, class assemblies, school video viewing and the tours of our school that we undertook last year and we look forward to more opportunities this academic year. The feedback was very positive and it built on the already strong partnership that exists between home and school – thank you for your enthusiastic response. The whole school community is rightly proud of our school and the children, staff and families have worked hard in partnership to build a happy and successful school. 😊

We look forward to the school year ahead and the staff and I look forward to speaking to you all, as the year progresses.

Take care, Ms Owens, Headteacher

**Please encourage your child if they wish to stand as a School Councillor as the elections are coming! More information for parents, to follow...**

# Dates for Your Diary

**Class Assembly Dates** – we look forward to seeing you at our Class Assemblies. All will be followed by a stay and learn session and you are welcome to stay and learn with your child. Please arrive in plenty of time to start at 9am until 10am approx

- |                               |                                |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Tynwald Class – 11.10.23   | 6. Maitland Class - 7.2.23     |
| 2. Fenella Class – 18.10.23   | 7. Ben-my-Chree Class - 6.3.23 |
| 3. Peveril Class – 8.11.23    | 8. Manannan Class - 27.3.23    |
| 4. Kissack Class – 22.11.23   | 9. Orry Class – 24.4.23        |
| 5. Hutchinson Class – 24.1.23 |                                |

- ★ Photograph Day – Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October
- ★ Y6 to Stemfest – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October
- ★ Y6 Cycle Training – Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

## Times of the School Day

	Years R	Years 1, 2, 3, 4	Years 5,6
<b>Day Begins</b>	08.45 Doors open 08.50 Register opens 09.00 Register closes	08.45 Doors open 08.50 Register opens 09.00 Register closes	08.45 Doors open 08.50 Register opens 09.00 Register closes
<b>Break</b>	10.35 - 10.50	10.35 - 10.50	10.35 - 10.50
<b>Lunch</b>	11.50 (and Year 1 and 2)	12.05 (Years 3 and 4)	12.15
<b>Afternoon Session</b>	13.05	13.05	13.15
<b>Break</b>	14.15 - 14.30	14.15 - 14.30	14.15 - 14.30
<b>End of Day</b>	15.30	15.30	15.30

## Classes

We decided that we would like to continue with our theme of 'everything Manx' and named our classes after Manx transport – trains, boats and trams.

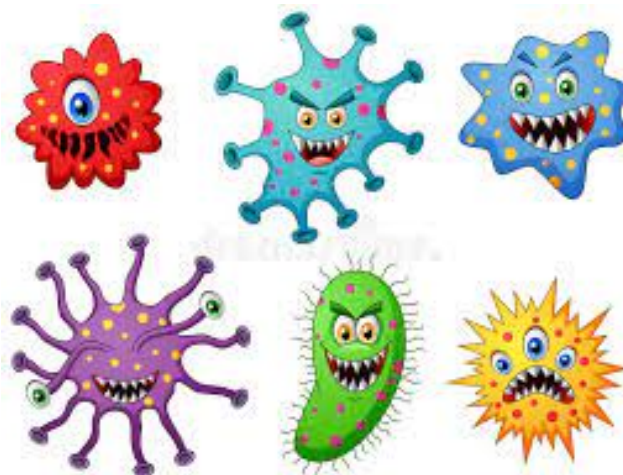
Class Name	Year Group	Teacher
Ben-my-Chree Class	R	Mrs McMeiken
Manannan Class	1	Mrs Jones
Orry Class	2	Miss Smith
Peveril Class	3/4	Mrs Griffiths
Tynwald Class	3/4	Mrs Dunajewski
Fenella Class	3/4	Miss Merriman
Kissack Class	5/6	Miss Smiley/Miss Annesley
Hutchinson Class	5/6	Miss Andrew
Maitland Class	5/6	Miss Ablett
Viking Class	Ace Base/Unit	Mrs Hermann

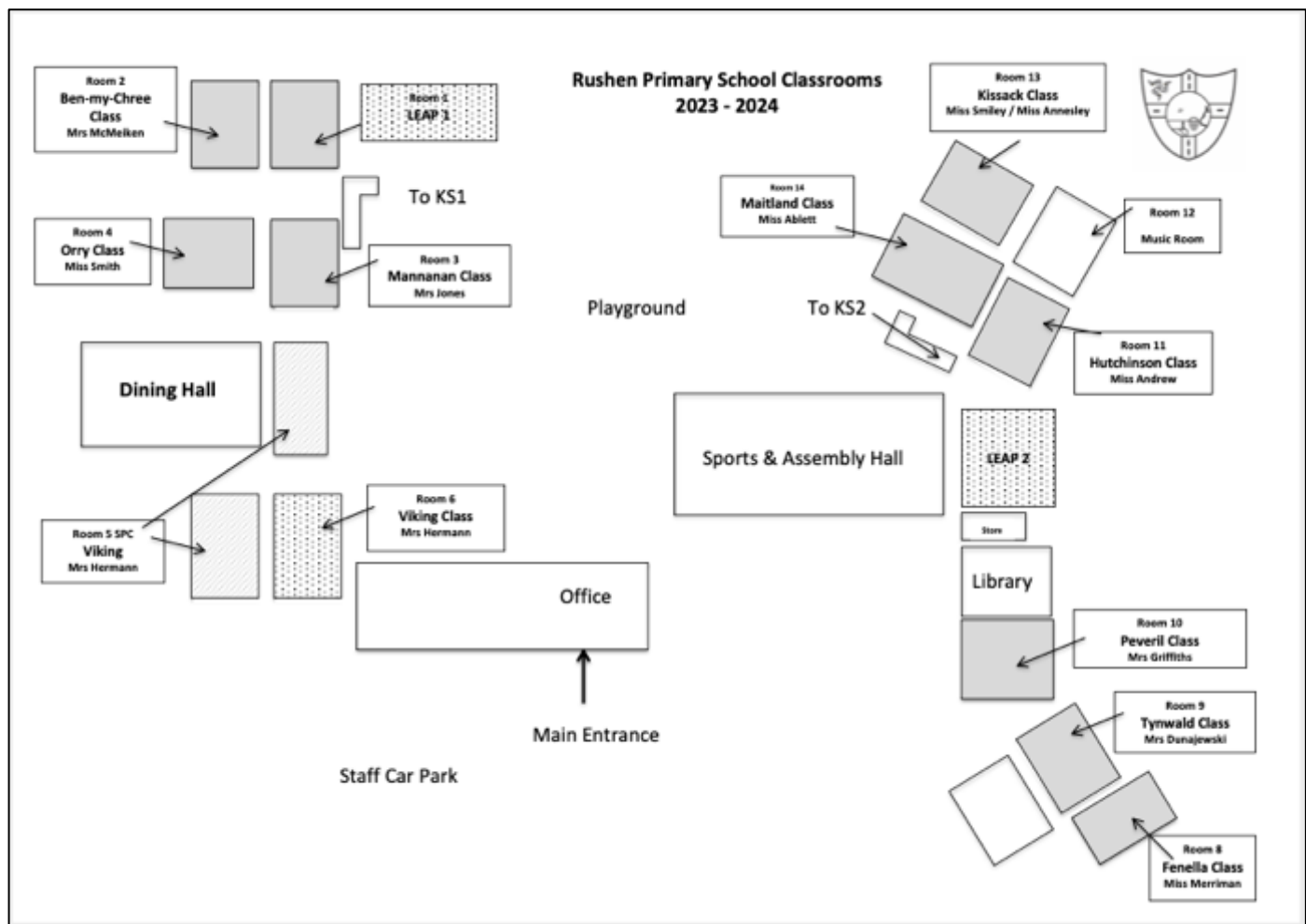
## Hand Hygiene and Ventilation

Please watch this video (from the NHS) with your child to remind them how to wash their hands. Hand hygiene continues to be very important, particularly as we move into the autumn/winter period.

We will also continue to wash hands and ventilate/open windows where possible.

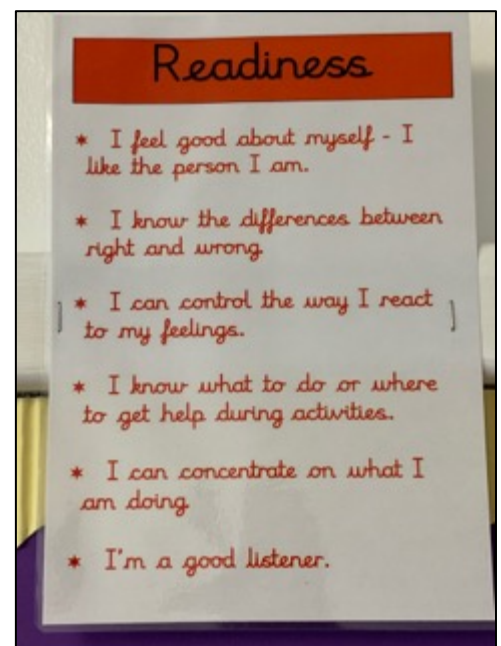
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9VjeIWLnEg>





**Readiness...** This is the first of our 6Rs and something we ask you to focus on with your child, talking about how they can be ready for school and for learning. Please encourage independence and involve your child in their own preparations.

- ✓ Children should be in school every day. They should arrive on time for the school day at 8:45am (8.51am will be marked as late in the Register) and be collected promptly at 3:30pm. Children who arrive early should be supervised by parents/carers. Teachers have commitments before and after school so are not available to provide supervision at these times. Children should be made aware of their own end of school pick up arrangements before they leave for school in the morning. If there is an emergency and parents are going to be late, please contact school in advance in order to share alternative arrangements.
- ✓ **Coats** – it is essential that all children bring a suitable (waterproof) coat (named) with a hood, to school every day. The children will be going out in all weathers.
- ✓ **Uniform** – children should wear a maroon sweatshirt/cardigan, white polo shirt, black/grey skirt or trousers, black school shoes. Each item must be named. No jewellery, except a watch (no smart watches) and stud earrings, no hoops are allowed. Long hair (all children) should always be tied up with a simple hair ‘bobble’ (no large bows or bands please). Children must not wear make-up or nail varnish to school. Please ensure skirts are not too short and wear shorts underneath, as the children sit on benches and will be moving about in their uniform during learning activities - this will also be outside. PE kit – white or maroon t-shirt and black shorts/pumps/trainers with joggers/leggings when it is colder. Please remember to wear a school jumper on PE days.
- ✓ **Water Bottle** – children should bring a water bottle and these must contain only water which can be topped up at school



# Everyone a Leader

## Prefects

As part of our 'Everyone a Leader' focus, every one of our Y6 pupils will be expected to be a prefect. This is an honour and relies on each prefect to be an excellent role model and able to build positive relationships with younger children and adults in and out of school. They may be called on to represent the school, meet visitors and take on extra responsibilities, as well as being good learners. We will change the prefects every term and look forward to all of our Y6 pupils taking part. Congratulations! We are very proud of you.



## Librarians

What a fantastic team! We have more volunteers than ever before to take on the responsibility for the school Library. We are very proud of so many children wanting to contribute to our school and take on a leadership responsibility.



# Everyone a Learner

## Our Early Years Foundation Stage, Reception Class

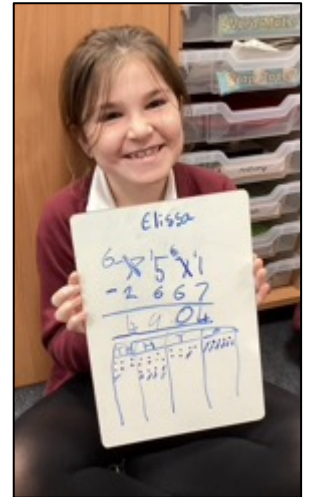
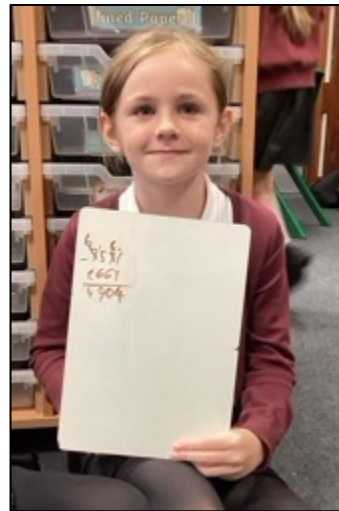
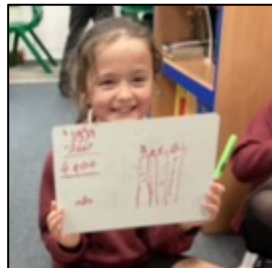
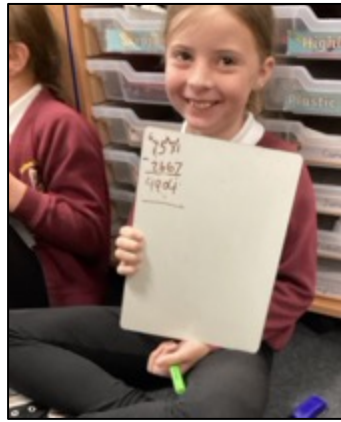
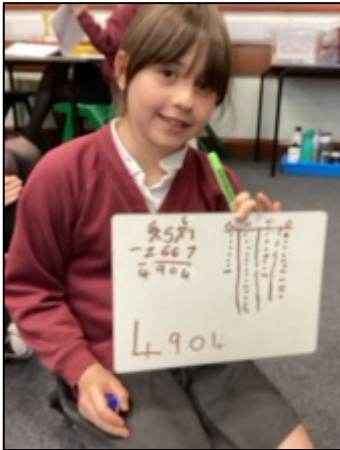
Ben-my-Chree Class have settled well into their first term at school. The children have spent time exploring the different areas of learning within the classroom and are learning the class/school routines and expectations. They are getting to know each other and forming relationships. The children are beginning to understand the importance of using their words to help them to communicate their wants and needs to others.



# Everyone a Learner

## Maths challenges in Kissack Class

Developing their subtracting with exchange skills...



'The flying machine' was a Maths challenge where the children were given a budget and a shopping list. They had to buy enough materials to build a flying machine, ensuring they stayed in their budget, and flexed their 'collaborating muscle' to work together. Great fun!



## Attendance

Attendance is very important, helping to ensure that children make the best progress that they can. Absence in term time will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances. It is the Department of Education, Sport and Culture's policy that parents **request** an absence by writing to the Headteacher.

Please let the school know about any absences due to illness by 9am on the **first day** of absence. It is the Department of Education, Sport and Culture's policy to closely monitor attendance.

## Communicating with School

Please contact the class teacher in the first instance with any questions or concerns. If your child has a medical/dental appointment, a written note should be given to your child's teacher. Please be aware that Mrs Awkal has many administrative and financial tasks and responsibilities and is our only member of office staff. Please leave a voicemail if the line is busy or unable to be answered and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

**It is crucial that you update your contact information when something changes. We *MUST* be able to contact you in an emergency.**

## Curriculum

Manx – all children in Key Stage 2 will be learning Manx this year and Years 3-6 will be learning to swim. Further curriculum information can be found on the curriculum overviews and the level/age related expectations information on the 'Learning at Rushen' tab on the school website.

## School Dinners

We encourage all children to have a school dinner. We have a committed kitchen staff who cook fresh, healthy and nutritious options on site. Pupils can choose daily from a healthy hot meal menu and a salad bar. We believe that this is good value for money when compared to buying ingredients for a packed lunch. Should your child decide to swap from school dinners to packed lunches or vice versa, please give us one week's notice in advance (in a written note/email), so that we can alert the kitchen and arrange for meal charges to be stopped for your child. School dinners this term cost £79.20 until half term, £175.20 until the end of term or £12.00 per 5 day week.

**Please ensure school dinners are paid for in advance, via Parent Pay.**

## Medical

Inhalers (named) **must** be left in school every day. Children will take these with them if they go out of school for any reason. Please ensure that your child has anything they need for a medical reason in school, including up to date Epi Pens and other medications such as Piriton, for those that have been diagnosed with an allergy (or alternative medication prescribed by a doctor). Other medication must be administered by parents at home.

Asthma forms have been sent home with all pupils who have an inhaler in school. Thank you to the families who have returned their completed asthma forms. It is vital that this information is kept up to date. If your child has an inhaler in school and has not given you a form, please speak to Mrs Awkal. Please ensure that any updates are communicated to school immediately.

Any children with medical needs, such as epi-pens, have their own poster with their photograph on it. The specific arrangements for each child are listed and displayed in staff areas and around the school, so that staff can be familiar with the children and their needs.

Please inform Mrs Awkal if there are any medical updates as soon as possible.

## Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October - School Photograph Day

Please ensure your child is smartly dressed in full school uniform. All pupils will be photographed individually, with their school age siblings and their class during the day. If you wish your preschoolers and secondary school children to be photographed with their Rushen Primary School siblings, please take your children directly to the Sports Hall at 8.20am. Any families with secondary school pupils will be photographed first, so that they can get to school as early as possible. Any families whose child has additional needs will also be prioritised. Thank you in advance for your co-operation in our efforts to ensure that the photos are taken quickly and the process runs smoothly. 😊

# WHAT WE DO AROUND HERE

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- READINESS
- REMEMBERING
- RESILIENCE
- RESOURCEFULNESS
- RELATIONSHIPS
- REFLECTIVENESS



- COMMITTED
- MOTIVATED
- ENVIRONMENTALLY AWARE
- POSITIVE CONTRIBUTORS
- INDEPENDENT
- CONFIDENT
- CREATIVE THINKERS
- PROBLEM SOLVERS
- EMPATHETIC
- RESILIENT
- CURIOUS

**BUILDING**

**LEARNING**

**POWER**