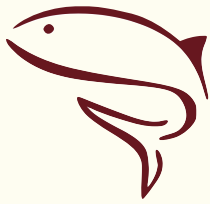


# Laxey Primary School

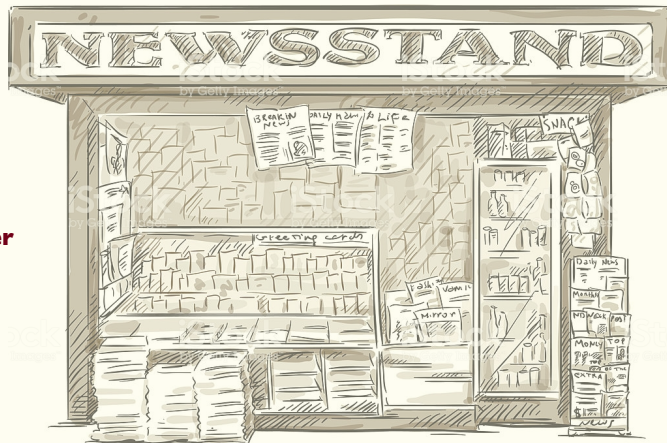
'Bravery, Challenge, Smiling, Honesty, Effort, Failing Well, Positivity, Reflection'



**Executive Headteacher**  
Mr Maxim Kelly

**Head of School**  
Mr Craig Astin

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## NEWSLETTER FEB 2021

### Dates for Your Diary

- 9.2.2021 SNHS Y6 Info Session (4pm in Laxey School. Parents and pupils welcome)
- 10.2.2021 Manx Youth Games Assembly
- 11.2.2021 Open The Book Assembly
- 11.2.2021 SNHS Y6 Open Evening
- 12.2.2021 School closes for half term
- 22.2.2021 School re-opens
- 22.2.2021 Girl Guides Thinking Day
- 26.2.2021 IOM Fairtrade Conference (details to follow)
- 18.3.2021 IOM Cross Country Championships (details to follow)
- 26.3.2021 School closes for Easter break

### Message from Mr Kelly

We have been back for one school-week post lockdown and it feels as though we have never been away. The children have settled down into normal school routines superbly, and this is to their enormous credit. They have, once again, demonstrated true resilience in the face of adversity and I am very proud of them all. I recognise too, as do my staff team, that you – the mums, the dads, the carers and the families – have been through challenging times and I thank you for your buy-in to our remote learning package and for your on-going support of Laxey. Your efforts are very much reflected in the attitudes of the young people in our school and I hope that you, like me, feel proud of the children and of yourselves.

Don't forget that this newsletter can be accessed on our website, where there is a whole wealth of information and links. The various sections are constantly being updated to include any changes. Policies as they are revised, and key events / information will continue to be uploaded. Please do keep an eye out for our social media presence too – "like" us on Facebook and "follow" us on Twitter! We're just a "google" away!

Next week will no doubt fly by, and then everyone can look forward to a half-term break. I wish you well for that, whatever your plans may be.

**Max Kelly,**  
Executive Headteacher

### Y6 Residential Trip

We would usually be planning now for an off-Island trip to Shropshire with our Year 6 children which traditionally takes place in May of each year. For obvious reasons no such trip can take place this year. However, we have taken steps to organise an on-island trip for Y6 to the Maughold Venture Centre. This will be a Monday – Friday fully residential experience (i.e. sleeping over all week) and all of the details will be included in a letter which will be sent home before half-term.

### New Intake

Calling Reception children for September 2021! If you know of any families who have a child due to start at Laxey School next September, please would you ask them to contact us as soon as possible to register their place.

### Y6 – Y7 Transition Arrangements

St. Ninian's High School (SNHS) and Ramsey Grammar School (RGS) have prepared information letters for our Y6 pupils and parents which detail some of the key upcoming events which are planned to (a) help you decide which school your child will move to in September and (b) introduce your child gradually to the teachers, buildings, routines and expectations of their new school. These letters have been sent home today with this newsletter. Two very important dates for the diary in respect of SNHS are a parents evening (to which the pupils are also invited) which is to be held in Laxey School this upcoming Tuesday evening (9th Feb) followed by their open evening at Bemahague School this upcoming Thursday (11th Feb).

### Parking and Traffic

Residents of Quarry Rd have advised the school of inconsiderate parking across their driveways at drop-off / pick-up times. We have also received complaints of poor parking on Minorca Hill. I have invited the Police to be a presence at these times.

### School Uniform Reminder

We continue to strive for all of our pupils to wear our school uniform with pride and to wear it smartly. Since lockdown some children have returned to school in trainers. We recognise that children will have grown over Christmas and the subsequent lockdown has meant it has been very difficult for parents to update shoes, but the upcoming half-term break offers a good opportunity to make sure that your child has the correct uniform in place for when we come back after the break.

### Manx Youth Games Training Programme

The annual Manx Youth Games training programme is being sent home with the children today (Y2 – Y6) which details various sporting opportunities for the children to take part in between now and May 2021, with the culmination of the big day on Saturday 15th May. The children will have an assembly led by the Manx Youth Games organisers next week which will inspire, enthuse and inform them further.

### School Clubs

Clubs will recommence after half-term. We will publish a timetable of our clubs on Facebook for you to see.



We are very pleased to be in a position to announce some **new appointments** to the Laxey Staff Team and to update you all on the **management structure** for the school which will come into effect from April 2021.

## LAXEY SCHOOL MANAGEMENT TEAM



**EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER**  
Mr Max Kelly

Overall leadership and strategic management of both Laxey School and Dhoo School. Max has considerable experience of bringing schools together having served on the governing bodies of Andreas Primary and Bride Infants when they were federated and helped amalgamate Murrays Road School and Ballaquayle School.

Day-to-day organisation and leadership for Laxey School. Craig has a long association with the school and has developed strong relationships with the families and pupils of Laxey. Craig is also our Designated Safeguarding Lead and oversees any child welfare and child protection concerns.

**HEAD OF SCHOOL**  
Mr Craig Astin




**SENIOR TEACHER** **NEW APPOINTMENT**  
Mr Carl Clague

Mr Clague has been appointed as our new Senior Teacher and will be working alongside Max and Craig to help provide an overall steer to the direction of the school. Carl brings significant experience of working on several school management teams over many years and enjoys an excellent reputation as first rate teacher.

We have reached far and wide in our search for a new teacher and Mrs Knight has been appointed from an "OFSTED outstanding" school in England where she worked in a large infants department. Kirsty is qualified as a Forest School practitioner and has recently helped her infant department through an inspection which found her practice to be outstanding (the highest possible grade.)

**NEW APPOINTMENT KEY STAGE ONE LEADER**  
Mrs Kirsty Knight




**KEY STAGE TWO LEADER**  
Mrs Rebecca Walker

**PROJECTS AND INNOVATIONS CO-ORDINATOR**  
Miss Kate Sumner



Mrs Walker and Miss Sumner complete our new-look management team. Rebecca will share responsibility for co-ordinating provision for children with special needs with Kirsty, and Kate will help develop new projects and initiatives across the school. All members of staff in our Laxey management team will be working across the two schools in our Federation with a place on our strategic steering group.

