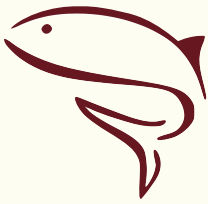


# Laxey Primary School

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



**Executive Headteacher**  
Mr Maxim Kelly

**Head of School**  
Mr Craig Astin

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COVID-19 symptoms can be a high temperature, a new persistent cough, the loss or change in smell and taste, or a shortness of breath



Please continue to practise good hygiene

## NEWSLETTER DEC 2021

### Dates for Your Diary

- 13.12.2021 Non-uniform Week
- 14.12.2021 Police Treat for Y6 (Taking place in Laxey School)
- 14.12.2021 RNLI Torchlight Procession
- 15.12.2021 Christmas Activity Day
- 15.12.2021 Christmas Dinner Day
- 17.12.2021 Last day of term (close 3.30pm)
- 04.01.2022 First day of Spring Term
- 04.01.2022 Swimming (for Yrs 4 and 5) starts
- 04.01.2022 KFC resumes for Spring Term
- 05.01.2022 Elite Coaching Clubs begin
- 07.01.2022 Homework resumes
- 18.02.2022 School closes for half term 3.30pm
- 28.02.2022 School reopens for new half term
- 21.03.2022 Y6 Cycling Proficiency Week

This is not an exhaustive list

### Message from Mr Kelly

We have nearly made it to the end of a very challenging year for Laxey School. The year began in January with a lockdown that saw us shift our school from a physical set-up to a virtual platform. I'm proud of the response of all of our pupils and families, and so grateful to my staff team, for how we all got each other through those times. We'd only been back in school for a couple of weeks before we were plunged into another lockdown which took us right up until Easter. On top of the lockdowns and remote learning packages, we've had to introduce mitigations and restrictions into school-life, and since September the school has been hit with staff absences and, more recently, pupil winter illness and C19. We've also had building works on our roof, road closures on Minorca Hill, so all manner of difficulties to contend with. Despite all of this, the school has somehow enjoyed great success: our remote learning package was second-to-none, the community has continued to support us amazingly well, and we were shortlisted for School of the Year. None of this would be possible without a fabulous set of pupils, committed and supportive parents, and talented and dedicated staff. As I sit here writing this message, I can honestly say that I couldn't be prouder to be associated with Laxey School - surely the best school in the Isle of Man! I wish you all the best for Christmas and a Happy New Year. See you back in Laxey School on Tuesday 4th January 2022. Max Kelly

### The Laxey Torchlight Procession

## EVENT CANCELLED

Mr Kelly has sold his new sticks and torches on sale from his car boot.

Homework has stopped for 2021 - it will resume in the first week back in January!

### Mrs MacLaren

Mrs MacLaren has accepted a teaching position at Andreas School and will be leaving us at the end of next week. Mrs MacLaren is not a class teacher, she covers PPA across the school which is release time for teachers to undertake their planning and admin. We are currently in the midst of the recruitment process to source a suitable replacement for Mrs MacLaren and will make a further announcement in due course. In the meantime, I am sure you will join us in wishing Mrs MacLaren all the very best with her change in school and future career. Mrs MacLaren has worked at Laxey School for many years and has made a big impact in many areas, most recently co-ordinating our Active Travel Week and resultant displays in the main corridor. We will miss her and wish her well.

### Christmas Activity Day

Mrs Walker has helped the teacher organise a special "Christmas Activity Day" on Wednesday 15th December. The children will be working on a range of festive fun activities and will have the opportunity to work with different teachers throughout the day! We think it will be a fabulous learning experience, and a special treat, for all of our pupils!

The last week of term is non-uniform all week! Children can still wear their Christmas jumpers if they'd like, but we will relax the rules around the rest of the uniform too!

Please look out for a letter from Elite Coaching which is coming home with this newsletter. Elite Coaching will be providing opportunities for additional sporting clubs every morning and some lunchtimes / after school slots. Elite Coaching is a paid-for service which will run in addition to the extra-curricular offer made by the school.

We are currently looking for a cleaner to join our team! Please see Mr K for more details!

### Christmas Dinner Day

On Wednesday we will be holding our annual Christmas Dinner. All the children will eat together over two sittings - we will be serving a traditional Christmas lunch (we know some children will still bring a packed lunch!) and the dining room will be festive with crackers and music playing.

### Staff Car Park

A big reminder that the staff car park is precisely that - a staff car park. We don't have capacity to allow parents to use it, and we rely on parents not using it as part of our safety management plan - the car park has a natural bleed into the playground area next to the pupil entrance, so we don't want to increase traffic in this area especially at drop-off and pick-up times when there are a lot of children around. We should also be respectful to our neighbours who reside on Quarry Road. They regularly report instances of poor driving, or their driveways / access points being blocked by vehicles which shouldn't be trying to get into our car park in the first place.



COVID-19 SCHOOLS UPDATE

COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses are currently circulating within our schools. Here are some handy tips to limit the spread:



Wear face coverings inside all buildings and on buses



Test yourself twice a week using lateral flow devices

### REMEMBER TO FOLLOW



If eligible, register for both the COVID-19 and flu vaccines



If displaying any COVID-19 symptoms, isolate and book a PCR test online immediately



For more information please visit [covid-19.gov.im](https://www.gov.im/covid-19)



For more information on testing please visit [testing-results/](https://www.gov.im/general-information/testing-results/)





# Laxey School, Quarry Road, Laxey, Isle of Man

Department of Education, Sport and Culture  
Rheynn Ynsee, Spoyrt as Cultoor

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**Head of School** Craig Astin



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Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Dear parents / carers

From January, Laxey School are pleased to announce that we will be working in Partnership with Elite Coaching, one of our families sports business, to offer new exciting sporting opportunities for the whole school to engage our children in more sports and physical activities before and during school time. *We have invited Elite Coaching to offer their services in an attempt to increase opportunity for sport and wraparound supervision time – parents will need to pay to access these services, but the school's staff will continue to run their own extra-curricular clubs for free, and MSR Club will continue to operate for free as well, so we hope there will be something for everyone.*

Each half term a new varied menu of activities will be published to allow for all the children to take part in a wide variety of different sporting activities.

The below table shows which activities will be on offer from Wednesday January 5<sup>th</sup> up until Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February. The classes state who the sessions are for and how many places are available in each session. The half term block will cover 6 weeks of activities and are to be paid for in 6 week blocks.

|           |                                                                                  |                                                                                          |                                                                                              |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday    | Morning Multi Sports Club<br>8am-8.45am<br>20 children<br>Rec-Y6<br>£5 a session | Dinner Time<br>KS1 Football<br>12-12.45pm<br>20 children<br>Reception-Y2<br>£5 a session | After School<br>KS2 Football Club<br>3.30-4.30pm<br>20 children<br>Years 3-6<br>£6 a session |
| Tuesday   | Morning Multi Sports Club<br>8am-8.45am<br>20 children<br>Rec-Y6<br>£5 a session | Dinner Time<br>Actiphons Phase 5<br>12-12.45pm<br>20 Children<br>Year 2<br>£5 a session  | After School<br>KS2 Dance Club<br>3.30-4.30pm<br>20 Children<br>Years 3-6<br>£6 a session    |
| Wednesday | Morning Multi Sports Club<br>8am-8.45am<br>20 children<br>Rec-Y6<br>£5 a session |                                                                                          |                                                                                              |
| Thursday  | Morning Multi Sports Club<br>8am-8.45am<br>20 children<br>Rec-Y6<br>£5 a session | Dinner Time<br>KS1 Dance Club<br>12-12.45pm<br>20 Children<br>Rec-Year 2<br>£5 a session |                                                                                              |
| Friday    | Morning Multi Sports Club<br>8am-8.45am<br>20 children<br>Rec-Y6<br>£5 a session |                                                                                          |                                                                                              |

### Multi Sports Club

There is no better way to start the day than with some fun sporting activities and studies show that early morning exercise can improve children’s academic performance. Each morning the children will experience a wide variety of different sports from: tennis, football, cricket, dodge ball, golf, athletics and multi sports to name but a few. From here children will be taken to their classrooms ready to start the school day.

### Actiphons

Actiphons is a unique Sporty Phonics Programme which helps children reinforce their phonics through playing fun sporting activities. The programme, co-created by Penguin Book Publishers reinforces the school’s current phonics scheme helping your child become a more confident and fluent reader in a FUN and ACTIVE way! For more information about Actiphons visit [www.actiphons.com](http://www.actiphons.com) [www.ladybirdeducation.co.uk/books/actiphons](http://www.ladybirdeducation.co.uk/books/actiphons)

### Dance Club

For 6 weeks we will be focusing on the ‘POP’ style of Dance!!! We will be mastering some of the styles FUN and FUNKY moves, putting our moves to cool POP music before combining all our moves so that at the end of the block we will perform a showstopping routine to family and friends!

### Football Club

Want to play even more football? Each week we will be providing the opportunity for children in KS1 and KS2 to take part in structured fun football sessions. We will be developing basic skills through innovative and fun games and participating in lots of matches.

If you would like to sign your child up to any of the above classes. Please complete the slip and tick in the table below which sessions you would like them to take part in. We will then allocate the places on a first come first served basis and will notify you about allocated places and more details about the clubs.

.....

Name of child..... Year Group.....

I give permission for my child to take part in the clubs ticked below for the 6 week block.

Signed..... Date.....

Parent/Guardians Name

.....

Parent/Guardian contact details to let you know allocation of places and payment details

Mobile Number.....

Email.....

|                          | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--------------------------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|
| Morning Sports Club      |        |         |           |          |        |
| Lunch Time Sports Club   |        |         |           |          |        |
| After School Sports Club |        |         |           |          |        |

