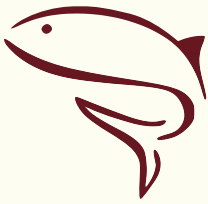


Laxey Primary School

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



Executive Headteacher

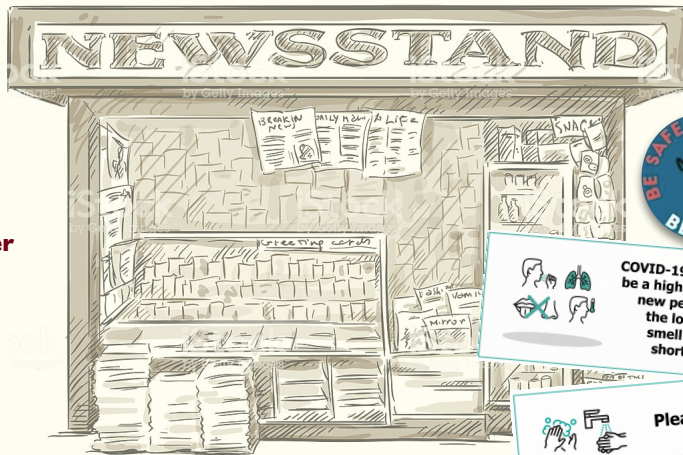
Mr Maxim Kelly

Head of School

Mr Craig Astin

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NEWSLETTER JAN 2022

Dates for Your Diary

- 04.01.2022 First day of Spring Term
- 07.01.2022 Homework resumes
- 10.01.2022 French / Spanish Club resumes
- 11.01.2022 Swimming (for Yrs 4 and 5) starts
- 12.01.2022 First Aid lessons for Y6 children
- 19.01.2022 Morrells Handwriting Workshop for parents - details to follow
- 26.01.2022 Big Splash Launch event
- 18.02.2022 MSPCA Dress As An Animal Day - details to follow!
- 18.02.2022 Close for half term 3.30pm
- 28.02.2022 School reopens for new half term
- 21.03.2022 Y6 Cycling Proficiency Week
- 07.04.2022 Girls Football Tournament

This is not an exhaustive list

Message from Mr Kelly

Happy new year everyone! I trust you all had a super Christmas and a decent break. Hopefully everyone is feeling recharged and enthused about the year ahead - I know that all the teachers are! This time twelve months ago, we didn't even make it to the end of the first week back after Christmas before being plunged into lockdown and switching at speed to remote learning. This year, despite the continuing pandemic, things do feel different. The spread of C19 is being mitigated against through measures such as trying to increase ventilation, and an expectation for adults to wear face-coverings. Many of the steps and measures we take in school reflect decisions made in central Government, in the Department of Education, and by COMIN. I appreciate that there will be a range of views amongst all of you as to what we are doing, but I do hope that the consensus is alive and positive around doing all we can to make sure that the school remains open. Undoubtedly the biggest pressure currently facing our school is concerned with making sure we have enough staff available to operate. Isolation rules are clear; however we are lucky to have a flexible and adaptable team at Laxey, and, fingers crossed, our contingencies are working. Away from COVID, the school has a busy term planned and, as always, the teachers have organised fantastic learning experiences for your children. Your continued support is truly appreciated. With best wishes, Max Kelly.

If you have a child due to start with us at Laxey School in September, please get in touch asap to register their place! If you know of any families in and around Laxey with children who will be school age in September, please encourage them to get in touch with us so they can register a place too!

Homework has resumed as per our recent Homework Policy. The first homework for this term has been sent home today

Social Media Use

Last term we became increasingly aware of a large number of children with access to social media accounts. This has correlated with an increase in incidents of children using inappropriate language around school. We urge parents to remind children that social media accounts are not appropriate or legal for primary-aged children. Unrestricted and unsupervised access to the internet is similarly unwise, and we urge parents to review their children's access to devices at home. We will be considering a range of support measures during this term including a parents information session and Police visits to the classes as part of our pupil education programme.



We are a Centre of Excellence!

We are delighted to share the news that Laxey School has been awarded "Centre of Excellence" status for inclusion following a full assessment in November 2021. The assessment was led by an inspector from the UK, Rekha Bhakoo. The review included interviews and meetings with various staff members, a scrutiny of documents and policies and a chat with our very own Pupil Council (pictured above). Being a Centre of Excellence is a tremendous achievement and I am so proud of all of our pupils and staff who make Laxey School what it is!



Swimming
Swimming sessions will start this coming Tuesday (11th January) and will be for children in Year 4 and Year 5. Please remember to bring your kit!

Punctuality
A reminder that school starts at 8.50am. We have an increasing number of children arriving closer to 9am, and several children each day arriving between five past and ten past. Please ensure that your children arrive on time for school.

We recognise that school is a little colder than usual due to our attempts to promote better ventilation. Therefore, we have relaxed our uniform code to allow for extra layers, jumpers and hoodies as accessories to the usual uniform.

Our usual reminder that the staff car park is precisely that - a staff car park. We just don't have the capacity to open this up to parents. Please do respect this as we don't wish to have to escalate our enforcement of the policy.



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:

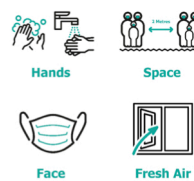


Wear face coverings inside all buildings and on buses



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 [covid19.gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk/covid-19)

For more information on testing please visit [covid19.gov.uk/general-information/testing-results/](https://www.gov.uk/covid-19/general-information/testing-results/)

