



Laxey School, Quarry Road, Laxey, Isle of Man

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

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NEWSLETTER (4) FRIDAY 1st DECEMBER 2017

Message from Mr Kelly

It has been another busy and successful month at Laxey School. When I stop to reflect on everything that has happened I am amazed at how much we manage to fit in, and I'm in awe of the teachers here for providing such a relentlessly positive set of learning experiences for our pupils. We've marked Remembrance with an extremely well-attended and very moving service in school, a coffee morning for guests and visitors after the Remembrance Service, welcomed the St. Ninians High School Roadshow into Year 6, welcomed a postman into Reception Class to talk about his job, planted daffodil bulbs with the Garff Commissioners, organised a Children in Need Day complete with a visit from Pudsey Bear, invited a plethora of people into school to give talks and presentations in assemblies and continued to offer high quality lessons on a daily basis. We've also had a visit from Mr. Geoff Moorcroft, the Isle of Man's Director of Education, who was very impressed with our recent improvements to the school's interior decoration.

The pupils have taken it all in their stride and I have seen some exceptional levels of progress. You should give yourselves a big pat on the back too! School really couldn't do everything it does without the wonderful support of the parent community – I really do owe a HUGE thank you to the fabulous parents who have formed a committee to organize and run our keenly awaited Christmas fair on Tuesday. This group of parents has been instrumental in generating ideas, producing resources, liaising with people and organizations and having a healthy dose of enthusiasm and passion to sprinkle over all the plans! So a sincere thank you – and I can't wait to head along to the fair on Tuesday between 3.30pm and 5.00pm! See you there?

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 aiming to get a "Youtube" channel launched too during 2018 – we're just a "google" away.

Finally it just remains for me to wish each and every one of you a restful, peaceful and happy Christmas, a prosperous and positive new year and a well-earned break (when it comes!)

With best wishes,

Important dates

1st Dec – Children decorate the tree
1st Dec – Christmas choir rehearsals start
5th December - School Christmas Fair @ 3.30pm
11th Dec – Reception Class Christmas production
12th & 13th Dec – Yr1/2 Christmas production
13th Dec - Torchlight Parade (details below)
14th & 15th Dec – Yr3/4 Christmas production
15th Dec – School Christmas Lunch
19th & 20th Dec Yr5/6 Christmas production
18th Dec – Choir singing at Glen House
22nd Dec – Break up for Christmas
8th January – school opens for Spring Term

Message from the Christmas fair Committee

Cakes, biscuits, and traybakes will be greatly appreciated for the Cake Stall at the Christmas Fair. Please drop off your baking on Tuesday morning. See you at the fair!

After School Club – Information

Manx Sport and Recreation (MSR) will hold a Sports Club (a variety of different sports, games and activities will be offered over the weeks) after school on Thursdays. The club will commence on Thursday 11th January 3.30 – 4.30. Last term the club was offered to children in Year Five and Six, so this term we are offering the club to children in Year Three and Year Four only. Places are limited so if you would like your child to attend please complete the slip at the bottom of the newsletter and return to the school office by Monday 18th December. After returning your slip please assume your child has a place guaranteed at the club unless you hear from us to the contrary.

We will advise parents and children of any other clubs that are offered as the school year progresses.

Reception children for September 2018

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 the school as soon as possible to register a place with us.

Christmas Productions

Well done to all the pupils (and teachers) for the superb efforts being put into the Christmas Concerts. As you've already heard we intend to hold two performances for each production, with the exception of Reception class who perform just the once:

- Reception Class – 11th December at 2pm
- Years 1 and 2 – 12th and 13th December at 2pm
- Years 3 and 4 – 14th and 15th December at 2pm
- Years 5 and 6 – 19th and 20th December at 2pm

These productions are not ticketed events, and parents, grandparents, families and friends are invited to turn up to whichever performance is most convenient. If you enjoy the first you are more than welcome to attend the second! Productions are performed in the sports hall, and as usual we'll be filming them so that you can purchase a DVD copy as a keepsake.

Christmas Jumpers

School is aware that children like to accessorize their uniforms at Christmas time, with girls wearing Christmassy alice- bands and boys wearing festive hats. This is absolutely fine. In addition, although I would like children to remain in school trousers / skirts, school polo shirts and appropriate school shoes, I won't object to children wearing Christmas jumpers in school during the entire month of December.

This is entirely optional, and children can obviously continue to wear their school jumper if you do not wish them to come to school in Christmas jumpers or do not have a Christmas jumper for them to wear. I also have to stress that this is not an invitation for children to dress up in things beyond a Christmas jumper, and the rest of the uniform must be observed as stated above. I will relax the rule further for the final week of term when children will be free to wear non-uniform: that's anything from jeans and football tops through to pretty dress-up clothes and fancy shoes!

As stated, this is entirely optional and is not part of a fundraising drive: we ask for nothing in return. It is simply to enjoy the festive fun of Christmas and help make the time as seasonal and as special as possible for the children.

Christmas Lunch for the Pupils (15th December)

On Friday 15th December, School Lunch will be Mrs. Corlett's famous Christmas Dinner! This will be the meal given to all children who usually have a school lunch. The dining hall will be decorated with table cloths, festive music will be played and all the children will have crackers. If your child has packed lunches you may wish to think about sending in a festive feast on the day (e.g. turkey and cranberry sandwiches, mince pies etc).

Live at Home "Coins at Christmas Appeal"

Mrs. Julia Trace from Live at Home visited school yesterday to talk to the pupils about the "Coins at Christmas" appeal. Obviously participation in this appeal is entirely voluntary, but for those of you who would like to help let me explain all the details you need to know!

Empty paper coffee-cups can be found in Mrs. Quane's office. If you help yourself to one – or give permission to your child(ren) to go to the office and collect one – then your challenge is to try and fill it as full as possible with any spare loose change you have lying around the house or rattling around in the car etc! An information slip with additional information is attached to the top of this newsletter. Please take note of the closing date of this appeal, which is 15th December 2017, and ensure that your cup(s) is/are returned to Mrs. Quane in the school office by this date!

Thank you in advance for your generosity and help with this very worthwhile cause!

Torchlight Procession

The Laxey Torchlight Procession takes place on 13th December. Taking part in the procession is open to all pupils but is entirely optional. If you'd like to take part then please gather down on the beach at 6.30pm. Mums, dads and carers will need to accompany their children. Glow sticks and torches will be on sale from the school office from Monday 4th December (priced at £1 and £2.50 respectively) and can also be purchased on the night. Mrs Dudley is requesting that the "bell ringers" come along so that they can give a little performance at the end of the walk.

Reply slips > -----



I would like my child to attend MSR Sports club on Thursdays 3.30pm – 4.30pm. My child is in Year Three / Year Four. This club starts on January 11th 2018.

At 4.30pm my child is: being collected / walking home / catching a bus home / other _____

Signed.....

