



Laxey School, Quarry Road, Laxey, Isle of Man

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

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NEWSLETTER (3) FRIDAY 9th NOVEMBER 2018

Message from Mr. Kelly

I hope that you all had an enjoyable half term break and would like to welcome back all of our pupils and families for what we know will be a very busy and fun-filled half term at Laxey.

All schools in the Isle of Man are required to undertake on-going self review and evaluation and this requirement is defined within Articles of Government for schools, especially Articles 5, 6 & 7. This involves a programme of monitoring all aspects of their own work and to reach judgments about the quality of that work. This process is validated, on a time scale agreed by the Department of Education, Sport and Culture by a team led by an external validator (from the U.K) appointed by DESC. In undertaking this activity, the Department is exercising its responsibility (clause 1(a) of Section 50 of the Education Act 2001) to 'cause inspections to be made of every school and college at such intervals and such standards as appear to it to be appropriate'. Earlier this week Laxey School underwent its external validation. Whilst I am unable to say too much at this stage, I am confident that the full report and summary, which will be shared with the school shortly, will contain many positives. My thanks to my fabulous staff team for their dedication and efforts which were recognised on the day. My thanks, also, to those parents who were invited to meet with the validation team to give feedback on our school.

As soon as I am able to, I will share the summary and point people in the direction of the full report should they wish to see it.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day at the end of the First World War. As ever, we held a special service in the school hall this morning, and I will be accompanying Mrs Dudley and the children's choir to the service in All Saints Church on Sunday afternoon. Our pupils have also produced some stunning art work and visual displays around the school to commemorate this poignant anniversary – pictures have gone up on our Facebook page, but as ever, you are more than welcome to come and take a look the next time you're dropping off or picking up.

On Monday we shall be welcoming our local MHKs, Daphne Caine and Martyn Perkins in to school to present every single pupil with a very special keepsake. Each child will receive a distinctive 50 pence coin featuring red poppies, commissioned by the Treasury. Each coin will be presented in its own individual display case.

Laxey School Remembers

And finally, there is a distinctly seasonal and festive tone to this newsletter, which can mean only one thing....

Blink and it's Christmas!

With best wishes,

Important dates

- 16th November – Laxey School beach clean (see accompanying letter for details)
- 4th December - Laxey School Christmas Fair @ 3.30pm (initial details below)
- 10th December - Reception Class Christmas Production @ 2pm
- 11th and 12th December - Years 1 and 2 Christmas Production @ 2pm
- 13th and 14th December - Years 3 and 4 Christmas Production @ 2pm
- 14th December – Christmas Lunch in School (details below)
- 18th and 19th December - Years 5 and 6 Christmas Production @ 2pm

Reception children for September 2019

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

This half-term the staff and the children will be busy preparing for their annual Christmas Productions. I thought you'd appreciate knowing the dates of our performances in advance – we intend to hold two performances for each production, with the exception of Reception class who perform just the once:

- Reception Class – 10th December at 2pm
- Years 1 and 2 – 11th and 12th December at 2pm
- Years 3 and 4 – 13th and 14th December at 2pm
- Years 5 and 6 – 18th and 19th December at 2pm

These productions are not ticketed events, and parents, grandparents, families and friends are duly 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.

Further details will be sent out in due course, but at least everyone now has the dates for their diaries!

Christmas Fair

I am extremely grateful to the committee of parents who have been busy organising a Christmas Fair for Laxey School. It is absolutely fantastic to have such willing parents – generous with their time and enthusiasm. I am sure that if anyone else wishes to get involved, your help would be most appreciated. Speak to Mrs Quane at the school's reception desk and she will put you in contact with our parents team! Alternatively, you can contact the team via email at laxeychoolfundraising@gmail.com

The Christmas Fair will be held in the Sports Hall and will take place on Tuesday 4th December 2018 at 3.30pm (straight after school.)

We are asking for donations to fill our hampers for our highly anticipated raffles. As usual, we are collecting themed donations across the different year groupings:

- Reception class: please bring in anything suitable for the hamper – items should be green.
- Years 1 and 2: please bring in anything suitable for the hamper – items should be red.
- Years 3 and 4: please bring in anything suitable for the hamper – items should be silver.
- Years 5 and 6: please bring in anything suitable for the hamper – items should be gold.

We are ready to accept donations from MONDAY (12th November) and we need to stop collecting on Friday 30th November so that we can make up the hampers.

We would also like to run a cake stall and would be grateful for any cake-bakers out there to get busy and send in some tasty treats. We will take these in on the morning of the fair – just bring them with you to school in the morning.

Just a final note, we are also planning to run an "adopt a teddy bear" stall and will require donations of quality teddy bears / small cuddly toys which are in good condition. Please drop these off to Mrs Quane at the reception desk.

A big thank you in advance for your support and generosity. We hope that as many of you as possible will be able to join us at this event to help us begin our festive celebrations at Laxey School.

Christmas Lunch for the Pupils (14th December)

On Friday 14th 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 tablecloths, 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).

Laxey Beach Buddies!

We are proposing to take the whole-school to Laxey Beach on Friday 16th November to take part in a beach cleaning activity! Look out for the separate letter from Mrs Walker – also sent home today – with all the details!

Maternity Leave

I'm sure everyone will join me in congratulating Mrs Gale who recently gave birth to a lovely little boy called Stanley! Mrs Gale had been working across the school releasing teachers for their paperwork time, and we are pleased to inform you that her position will be covered for the duration of her maternity leave by Mrs Walker (who is increasing her hours in the school) and Mrs McGeehan (an experienced supply teacher.)

**** ENDS ****
