



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

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

**Executive Headteacher**  
Maxim J Kelly

**Head of School**  
Trish Dudley



**Laxey Primary School**  
Quarry Road, Laxey  
Isle of Man, IM4 7DU

Direct Dial No: (01624) 861373  
Website: <https://laxey.sch.im>  
Email: [laxeyenquiries@sch.im](mailto:laxeyenquiries@sch.im)

## **NEWSLETTER (6) FRIDAY 1st FEBRUARY 2019**

### **Message from Mr. Kelly**

It's hard to believe that the children have been back for almost half a term now, since Christmas – it really has flown by. As usual, all of our pupils have been having a fantastic time in their classes and their topics have certainly ignited their imaginations. The term continues apace with plenty to look forward to. It won't be long before we're inviting you in for parents evening – initial details below. We also have World Book Day and our second Bright Futures Conference for Y6 coming up soon and I hope we can count on your support as usual.

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.

The next two weeks 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.

With best wishes,

### **Important dates**

5<sup>th</sup> February – Safer Internet Day (parent information will be sent home on this day)  
5<sup>th</sup> February - Open Evening at Ramsey Grammar School for Y6 pupils and parents (details below)  
6<sup>th</sup> February – Y6 Parents Information Evening at Laxey School re St. Ninian's @ 4pm (details below)  
8<sup>th</sup> February – Meeting to explore the possibility of a breakfast club at Laxey School @ 3pm (details below)  
w/c 18th February – Half-term  
27<sup>th</sup> February – Music Service Concert at the Villa Marina (details to follow)  
7<sup>th</sup> March - World Book Day (details to follow)  
26<sup>th</sup> March – Parents Evening (details below)  
27<sup>th</sup> March – Parents Evening (details below)  
28<sup>th</sup> March – Isle of Man Cross Country Championships (details to follow)  
5<sup>th</sup> April – school closes for Easter Holidays

### **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.

### **Parents Evening Information**

Formal parents evenings are due to be held in the second half-term. The main parents evening will be held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March (4pm – 7pm). As I'm sure you can appreciate, after all afternoon in the classroom, the teachers will require a short break and an opportunity to prepare for the Parents' Evening; as such, once the children have been dismissed at the end of the school day, the doors for the school will be closed, re-opening for the Parents' Evening at **4pm**. Doors will be locked again from **6.50pm** onwards.

On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March, there will be a shorter parents evening (4pm – 5.30pm) to meet with any parents who were unable to attend on the Tuesday. Again, once the children have been dismissed at the end of the school day, the doors for the school will be closed, re-opening for the Parents' Evening at **4pm**. Doors will be locked again from **5.20pm** onwards.

From **Monday 4th March 2019** until **Friday 22nd March 2019**, there will be appointment sheets on display in the Main Entrance Area. Parents will be able to sign up to an appointment with the teachers they would like to see. **Please can school request that the appointment sheet is filled in by parents and not their children.** Any parents who have not made an appointment by Friday 22nd March will be contacted by telephone and offered free slots.

Obviously if you do not sign up for an appointment for a time of your choosing, the slots offered to you by telephone may not be as convenient to you. Our expectation is that every child will be represented by a parent at one of the two evenings, and we encourage you to sign up for an appointment as soon as possible.

**Year Six Transition to Secondary School**

On Thursday 5th February there is an open evening at Ramsey Grammar School for prospective pupils and parents. I would urge as many of you to attend as possible to help you when you make your final choice as to which secondary school to attend.

On Wednesday 6th February there is a parents information event with regards to St. Ninian's High School. This event takes place at Laxey School from 4pm and will be led by Jo White, the Deputy Headteacher for St. Ninian's High School, and her team. The event is informal and allows you to gain some information about St. Ninian's – buses, lunches, curriculum etc - and provides you with a chance to ask them any questions that you have at the time. It lasts approximately an hour – depending on how many questions they get! There is no need to let us know whether or not you are attending, but I would certainly encourage as many of you as possible to take advantage of this meeting and to make every effort to come along. We'll be meeting in the Year 6 classroom, and obviously it is absolutely fine to bring your child with you!

**Exploring the possibility of a breakfast club**

I have been approached on more than one occasion now by parents who are interested in establishing a breakfast club at Laxey School. After the first enquiry, Mrs Dudley and I contacted all other primary schools in the Island to ask if any ran a breakfast club, and we went to visit the only one we could find. Based on our findings we decided against proceeding with such a venture at Laxey. Since then we have been approached again and we feel it is worth re-opening our interest in this and exploring the potential of such a facility at Laxey School.

It is highly likely that a breakfast club would have to be run on a voluntary basis by willing parents and other helpers. I'm suggesting that anyone who is interested in looking into this proposal in more depth comes along to a preliminary meeting at Laxey School which I'm happy to host on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2019. Clearly this is not yet a commitment to set a breakfast club up, but if the appetite is there and we can all find a way to make it work, I'm sure that can only be a positive thing.

There is no need to let school know whether or not you can attend the meeting. I hope those of you who are interested can make it and I look forward to seeing you there.

**School governors**

With the passing of the deadline for nominations, I can inform you that one candidate was nominated for the vacant position of Parent Governor on the Governing Body of Laxey Primary School. I am pleased to be able to inform you that Alison Kinrade will serve as the new Parent Governor, serving a term of office from 1<sup>st</sup> February and lasting for a two year period. Ali will introduce herself and give some background information on what she will bring to the role in a future newsletter. I'm sure everyone will join me in welcoming her to the team!

I cannot let this opportunity pass without placing on record my thanks to Kevin Quirk who has served as parent governor for the last couple of years. He has given me fantastic personal support when I joined the school, and I know he has contributed towards many innovations that have improved Laxey School, especially helping with the federation with Dhoon School.

The chair of the Laxey Governing Body remains Education Council member Robin Turton. We are currently recruiting to our vacant co-opted governor position and Miss Hastings continues to serve in her role as teacher governor.

**Y6 Residential Trip to Shropshire**

This is just a reminder that the final balance is due to be paid by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February. This is so that we can meet our payment deadlines with the organizing company. Thank you.

**Netball Club**

Netball club for Y4, 5 & 6 will begin this coming Thursday 7th February and run until the Northern Netball Festival in the Summer Term. It will run from 3.30pm – 4.30pm and children are encouraged to bring warm outdoor PE clothing as we will be outside the majority of the time. If you would like your child to attend please complete the attached slip and return to school asap.

**\*\*\*\* ENDS \*\*\*\***

**Reply slips > -----**

I would like my child ..... to attend Netball club on Thursdays 3.30pm – 4.30pm. My child is in Year Four / Year Five / Year Six. This club starts on February 7th 2019.  
At 4.30pm my child is: being collected / walking home / catching a bus home / other \_\_\_\_\_

Signed.....

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