



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 Craig Astin

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

Parent Forum Group – Agenda 6.3.20

Agenda Item 1New Family Induction

Update & Actions

- Craig explained the Forum had reviewed the Action Tracker last week and the most pressing priority is to develop the Family Induction - pack and process
- Francesca will take a lead developing this, working with the forum members, teachers, parents and building on experience & best practice from other schools.
- The Induction pack might include overview of the School, photos of teachers, Parent Forum members, School Governor, practical information such as start and finish times, lunch and playtimes, Assembly times, 'a typical day' for each class, school uniform, standards of behaviour, explanation of Learning Hero & Magic Moments, Magic Beans etc.
- Mark suggested expanding the pack to include information about and activities around Laxey and the wider community e.g. sports clubs, churches, shops & other services, where to find what etc.
- It would be helpful to send the pack or some info in advance to parents starting school so they can review and ask questions when they visit and/or start
- Debbie will provide Francesca with the old LAXEY School family induction pack and Craig will provide the current school and teacher induction materials.
- The group suggested children could be involved in showing new parents around the school which everyone agreed would be a good idea.
- Craig suggested involving the School Council Rep from the childrens' year/s could write a Welcome Letter to the new children and could do the school tour (accompanied by a Yr 5 or 6 if it is a younger child). They could also tell children and their families about other activities run by the school e.g. Toast Club, other clubs, Parent Forum etc.

Agenda Item 2Class Parent / Parent Buddy

Update & Actions

- Francesca reminded the forum of the Class Parent arrangement in previous schools. This is a Parent or two parents who volunteer to be the point person for communications and updates between teacher, the school & parents for a particular class.
- The class parent often acts as or is responsible for identifying another parent who can act as a buddy for new parents. They help introduce new parents joining mid-year to other parents and families from the class and help to give them an overview of where to find what, who etc.

Agenda Item 3Suggestion Box

Update & Actions

- Francesca asked about the possibility raised in the Action Tracker of having a Suggestion Box in the school foyer to facilitate ideas, suggestions or concerns. It would enable those who might not have access to the school FB site or other technology and those who may want to leave anonymous feedback to have a mechanism through which they can do this.
- Craig explained that the group reviewed this suggestion last week (FDH was away) and agreed to progress with it.
- Joney highlighted that we might also want to remind parents of the Parent Forum email address so they can continue to send ideas, suggestions or concerns to us directly. The group agreed.
- Craig to produce a FB post to remind parents of the forum email address.

Agenda Item 4World Book Day

Update & Actions

- Craig said that World Book Day seemed to be a great success with the children and asked for feedback from the group.
- Joney & Francesca had both received queries from their years with parents confused as to why there was no dress up. Parents were fine when J & F explained the rationale. Craig agreed that it would be helpful next

year to send advance notice if there is no dress up and to explain the rationale (focus on reading & books and to take the pressure off parents to buy or make costumes).

Agenda Item 5Next Week

Update & Actions

- Craig suggested we include a discussion re the possibility of running a Fitness Bootcamp for Parents. The intent would be to link this to a fitness activity that the children would do and encouraging children to see parents and everyone keeping active and healthy.
- He said it might be weekly
- e.g. 'Workout Wednesdays' and would most likely be in the morning for parents and lunchtime for children.
- The group suggested also building in a wider health remit such as fresh fruit juices and smoothies by The Shed to promote healthy nutrition.

Agenda Item 6AOB

Update & Actions

- FOREST SCHOOL: Joney reminded Craig that if the school does want to pursue a Forest School activity, it would need to contact Isle of Play soon as demand is high and places limited so they tend to fill quickly.