

Andreas School

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Friday, 12th February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

With two lockdowns under our belt we're becoming experts! The children have settled back into their learning really well and everybody seems very happy to be back in school. Thank you to everyone who responded to our home learning survey, your positive comments are great to hear and it's lovely for the teachers to know their hard work was appreciated and hit the right spot!

Mrs Begbie

Unfortunately Mrs Begbie is now unable to work for personal reasons. I'm sure you'll join me in thanking her for her dedication to the children she worked with here at Andreas School. Mrs Melling and Miss Brindley will continue to work with these children to ensure continuity in their learning and that their needs are met.

Tennis

Years 2 and 3 will be having tennis sessions with a coach on Monday afternoons starting on the 22nd February so please make sure your child has a full PE kit with them when they come back after half term.

MSPCA Day

The annual dress up as an animal day is now on Friday, 26th February. The children can come to school dressed as an animal, with face paints if they wish, for a donation of £1.00, all of which will go the MSPCA. Please remember the children will need to be able to access the toilet and get dressed/ undressed independently. They will also still be going swimming so please take that into account as well! Feel free to provide the animal clothing to change into at school after swimming if that works best for you. Thank you.

Fairtrade Conference

This is on the Friday, 26th February which is the same day as MSPCA day. Unfortunately, if your child is part of the small Fairtrade committee they will need to give dressing up and swimming a miss. They

need to come to school in their uniforms ready to attend the conference. They will be going with Mrs Brook and travel etc details will be sent out when we return after half term.

House Days and The Manx Wildlife Trust

These will start after half term. We've had our house meetings and the children have decided on:

Red House - Fairtrade colours day on Friday, 5th March Yellow House - Activity choice afternoon on Friday, 19th March Green House - Pyjama day on Friday, 23rd April Blue House - Movie and slippers afternoon on Friday, 7th May Please remember to bring a £1.00 donation for our charity, thank you.

Breakfast club

If you intend to use this facility, please return the slip as soon as possible, thank you. Please note that, without enough children, the breakfast club will not be able to run.

Scholastic Book Fair

This will run during the week beginning Monday, 1st March. Further details will follow after half term.

Clubs

We intended to start clubs after Christmas but lockdown had other ideas! Please see the attached letter and fill in the return form to indicate any after school clubs your child will be attending. In addition Year 6 children will be running lunch time clubs for chess, board games, arts and crafts and colouring. These will be available for all children.

Junior Achievement

The team will be joining our Year 6 children on Thursday, 4th March. They will work with the children on real life problem solving and business skills during the course of the day.

Parents Evenings

These will take place on **Tuesday**, **16th and Wednesday**, **17th March**. The teachers will be available on Tuesday 16th from 4 pm until 7 pm and on Wednesday from 4 pm until 5 pm. Letters and request slips will be sent out after half term. Please remember that appointments are for 10 minutes only and slots will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. If you think you'll require more than 10 minutes, please discuss an alternative time and day with your child's class teacher. Thank you.

Cross Country Competition

Mrs Hawkins will be taking a team to Nobles Park on Thursday, 18th March - more details to follow.

School Dinner/Milk monies Spring Term 2020/21

A reminder below, thank you. Dinners @ <u>£2.35</u> per day (cheques payable to IOM Government) **2nd half term (25 days)** £58.75 Milk @ 21p per day (cheques payable to <u>Andreas School</u>) **2nd half term (25 days)** £5.25

Please ensure you pay in advance of each half/full term if your child requires milk. Please note that Mrs Robinson will deduct the 3 week lockdown from milk after Easter.

Easter Celebrations

On the last day of term, Friday, 26th March, we will be having an Easter bonnet parade for children in Curragh's class and a treasure hunt and an egg painting competition for the whole school. More information to follow.

Facebook

Love it or hate it, social media is a great way to promote our school so don't forget to follow us on FB. Please like the 'page' as well as any individual photos and remember that we are trying to develop a good reputation in the wider community so positive, celebratory comments and shares are more than welcome.

Constructive Criticism v Negative Natter

I cannot stress strongly enough that the future of our school depends on its reputation. Negative comments made within the community are extremely dangerous as they damage that reputation and so could discourage people from sending their children here. Like all schools, we acknowledge that we have areas in need of improvement. To support this, we welcome any feedback and are happy to deal with parents directly if they have any issues, questions or concerns. This kind of constructive criticism is really useful as it helps us become more effective. Please avoid 'negative natter' and ensure that you come into school and talk directly to us if you wish to solve any problems. Thank you

Have a great half term, school returns on Monday, 22nd February.

Yours sincerely

Trish Dudley Head teacher