



Andreas School

Andreas Village
Isle of Man, IM7 4EZ
Headteacher: Mr Will Nelson
Head of School: Mrs Joanne Hawkins
Telephone: (01624) 880375



An End of Term Message

Today is the last day of term, I wanted to take a moment to extend Christmas wishes to each and every one of you. This season brings with it a sense of family togetherness and I like to think of our school community as one big family.

Over the last term, our school has been filled with laughter, creativity and the boundless energy of our amazing learners. Our children continue to inspire us every day with their curiosity, kindness and enthusiasm for learning. This term has been filled with challenges, triumphs and moments of resilience, from Root Show work to Christmas performances, via mathematical challenges and daily phonics.

I would like to express my thanks to all the staff, children and parents for making me feel so welcome and supported during my first term back at Andreas School. Your partnership is invaluable and together we are building a nurturing and vibrant community at our school.

Finally I would like to wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! May the coming year be filled with happiness, peace and joy.

Mr Nelson
Headteacher

Christmas Fundraising

Thank you to everybody who supported all the various fundraising events over the last few weeks. FAnS raised over £2,000 with their raffle, stalls at the Village Christmas Fair and parents present sales. The school raised £125 with their cake raffle and Y5/6 raised over £250 with their young enterprise stall. All of this money will be put to good use, supporting all of the children at our school.

The retiring collection at the end of the two performances raised £293 which will be split equally between the Queens Pier Restoration Trust and our school fund.

Swimming

Resumes
Friday, 12th
January
2024.

New Parents' Open Morning

On Tuesday, 30th January we are going to be holding an Open Morning for parents whose children are due to join us in September 2024. (Born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020.) The morning will start at 9.30am and last until approximately 10.30am. If you know of anybody who has a child who is due to start school in September, please invite them to come along. Thank you.



Parents' Survey

Earlier in the term we carried out a parents' survey to find out your views about our school. In total we received 22 responses, which means that around 1/3 of our families responded. The survey highlighted three main areas which a number of parents felt could be improved - communication, rewards and recognition, and how children with additional needs are supported.

In the New Year we will be reaching out to you again to explore the theme of communication and to identify ways in which we can improve in this area. Mrs Hawkins has already started to look at how we support those children who need some extra help. She will work directly with their parents to develop a home school partnership to support them. Finally, we will work with the children to look at our current reward and recognition system and take on board their views as, in this area, we feel they are the most important voice.

One of the questions in the survey asked if parents would find it easy to approach the Headteacher, and whilst the majority felt that they would, a number of people commented that they 'never know when he is around', or how to contact me. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to remind you of my typical weekly schedule, along with my contact details.

I aim to be at Andreas school every Monday afternoon, Wednesday morning and Friday morning, and at Jurby every Monday morning and Wednesday and Friday afternoons. I keep Tuesday and Thursday more flexible so that I can address any issues that crop up at either site as quickly as possible.

On days when I am at Andreas, please just pop in if you would like to speak to me and as long as I don't have anybody else already in with me, I will be more than happy to see you without an appointment. Alternatively please feel free to use any of the methods below to contact me at any time. I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Telephone - Andreas School - 880375

Telephone Jurby Community School - 897651

E-mail - will.nelson@sch.im

PE, Swimming and Forest School Kits

We have noticed a growing number of children who don't have a full PE kit in school on a regular basis. The most regularly missing item is a hair bobble and whilst we will always try and find one, doing so often means that the children miss time from their lesson as we do so. Please remember that during PE and swimming lessons, hard headbands and earrings should be removed or taped over.

The PE kit does not need to be anything special or expensive - shorts, a t-shirt and a pair of pumps or non-marking trainers. Whilst we would prefer they had the school PE t-shirt in their house colour, anything is better than nothing. If cost is a barrier to providing a PE kit, please speak to us in confidence as we often have 2nd hand items available.

We have also noticed that many children who attend MSR club after school go home in their kit and some then forget to bring it back in the following week. We therefore ask that from January, children who come along to the after school club bring in a separate kit in with them which they can then go home in, leaving their PE kit in school ready for use the following week. This MSR kit simply needs to be a t-shirt and shorts or jogging bottoms and footwear. School branded items are not needed.

All children also need to have in school a set of old clothes that they can change into for Forest School, again including a hair bobble if they have long hair. A set of waterproof trousers would be even better, although these are not essential.

If anybody has any old PE kit or school uniform, that they no longer need, we will always welcome it and try to re-home.