



Andreas School

Andreas Village

Isle of Man, IM7 4EZ

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6th September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful Summer holiday despite the unseasonal weather! The children are already enjoying learning in their new classes and early indications are new staff and pupils are settling well.

Allergies - IMPORTANT!

We have some children in school with severe allergies to nuts and dairy products. Current advice is that these items should not be banned from school as this leads to a false sense of security and can put a child at risk. However, it is important that **you or your child tell the class teacher** if they have brought any nut and/or dairy products in for lunch or snacks so we can ensure children with allergies are not directly exposed to them. Please be aware that lots of plant based products contain nuts. Thank you.

Breakfast Club

Please make sure enrolment forms are brought in so that the fantastic volunteers running the club have up to date information about your child. New forms can be obtained from the office. Thank you.

Water bottles, uniform and kit

Please ensure your child's PE kit and uniform are all **labelled**. Staff are not as proficient at identifying clothing by smell as some of our pupils are! All water bottles should be clearly named so pupils can access water whenever they need it. Cups are not provided. The **named PE** kits should be in school everyday - thin soled black pumps, shorts and a house coloured t-shirt. PE kits will be sent home half termly for washing.

Second Hand Uniform

Mrs Robinson has a great selection of good quality pre-loved school uniform school would like see re-used. If you need anything please let Mrs Robinson know. They are available at a very small cost and proceeds go to school fund. Please ensure you clearly **label** these.

SPORTS - Swimming/Clubs and MSR

Swimming starts on Friday, 13th September for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6. All children should swim unless they are ill in which case you need to contact school to confirm their absence. It is essential that all children have the right swimming attire as they will not be allowed to swim otherwise. A separate email with attire and DESC expectations will be sent to all KS2 parents shortly.

Before/After School CLUBS - We will be offering a before school FUNdamental Skills Club for Year 1 and Year 2 on a Wednesday. Reception pupils will be able to sign up after Christmas. Children need to be in the school hall for 8.30am. Trainers may be brought from home to be worn. An after school Sports Club will be offered on a Thursday for a variety of year groups and will support MSR competitions/festivals. Starting from Thursday 19th September, we will be offering Hockey to all KS2. There will be a festival of hockey for northern schools at RGS on October 14th for a Year 3/4 team only. We will select our team from children who have attended the club. After Christmas we will be offering Tag Rugby to Years 2&3 only, followed by Kwik Cricket for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 in preparation for a Year 5/6 team event.

MANX Lessons - Years 4, 5 and 6 will each have a term of Manx Language lessons. These will be on a Monday afternoon. Term 1 Y5, Term 2 Y 6, Term 3 Y4.

Continued overleaf

Parent Portal

It's vital we have up to date information on your child so please make sure you check your details and amend as necessary throughout the year - thank you.

PERMISSIONS for the use of apps and software

A very important letter about the use of apps and software across school is attached. Your permission is required for staff/pupils to access the apps. **Please complete and return the tear-off slip as soon as possible.** Thank you.

Tuck Shop

This Year 6 enterprise remains a firm favourite on Fridays at a cost of 30p. Last year the pupils were able to pay for a trip to Laxey for the day, which included lunch as well as the bus and tram for transport. As always there is a small amount of profit left over from this. This year we are hoping to part fund some wet weather suits for the new KS1 class. What a legacy! **Thank you for your continued support.**

HOUSE TEAMS

Year 5 pupils who wish to be considered as Vice House Captain need to prepare a short speech to deliver to their team by Monday 23rd September.

Please consider discussions with your child/children to nominate a charity for school to support for this year. We will also be asking for fundraising ideas from the pupils. The efforts from families last year totalled a staggering £1720 for the Queen's Pier Restoration Trust. The House Captains and Vice House Captains will be organising and hosting 3 fundraising events in 2025. These monies will be split equally between the chosen charity and our school fund. Non-uniform days will take place on the last day of every half term. A minimum donation of £1 per family is requested. These days will be for school fund only.

Dates for your diary

Some provisional dates for the year are attached, if there are any changes I'll let you know as soon as I can.

As always if you have any questions, comments or concerns please talk to me or Mr Nelson directly.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Hawkins
Head of School

PROVISIONAL DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 13th September	Swimming starts
Monday 16th September	Individual School Photos
Saturday 21st September	Andreas Produce Show
Tuesday & Wednesday 15th & 16th October	Parents' evening
Tuesday 22nd October	Harvest Festival @Kirk Andreas, 2pm
Monday 28th - Friday 1st November	Half Term
Monday 4th November	Back to school
DECEMBER	CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAYS
Friday 13th December	School Christmas lunch
Monday 16th December	Christmas production @ 2pm
Tuesday 17th December	Christmas production @ 6pm
Wednesday 18th December	Christmas party with party style lunch
Friday 20th December	Break up for Christmas holidays
Monday 6th January	Back to school
Monday 17th - Friday 21st February	Half Term
Monday 24th February	Back to school
Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th March	Parents' evenings
Friday 4th April	Break up for Easter holidays
Tuesday 22nd April	Back to school
Monday 5th May	Bank holiday
Wednesday 28th May	Sports Afternoon (Reserve Thursday 29th May)
Monday 26th May	Bank holiday
Tuesday 27th May	Reports out
Friday 30th May	INSET day for staff (school closed)
Monday 2nd - Friday 6th June	TT week
Monday 9th June	Back to school
Monday 7th July	Tynwald day
Wednesday 16th July	Whole School Day Out
Friday 18th July	Last day of the school year