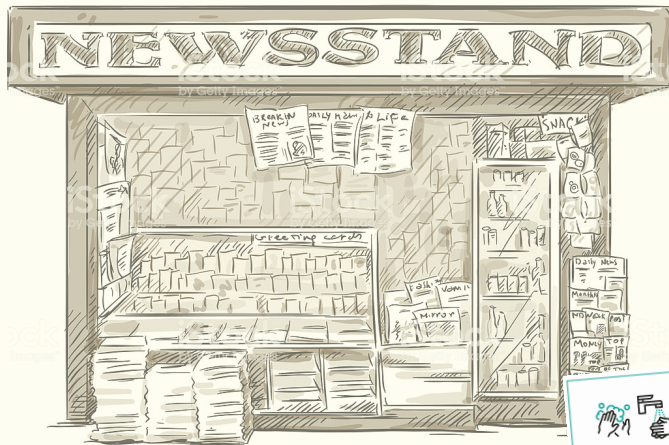




# Dhoon Primary School



## NEWSLETTER MAY 2021

**Executive Headteacher**  
Mr Maxim Kelly

**Head of School**  
Mrs Sarah Shimmin

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### Dates for Your Diary

- 10.5.2021 Webinar for Y6 Parents re Venture Centre Trip
- 11.5.2021 RGS Transition Event for Y6 (details to follow)
- 17.5.2021 Y6 Venture Centre Trip all week
- 31.5.2021 Bank Holiday
- 4.6.2021 INSET Day for staff (no children in school)
- 7.6.2021 TT Week (school closed)

This is not an exhaustive list!



Please continue to practise good hygiene

### Message from Mr Kelly

It has been fantastic to see our lovely school community gradually return to normal since our return from lockdown. Last month I wrote to you all to inform you of the C19 mitigation measures that we had put in place to help manage the ongoing risk. Some of these were temporary to see us through the initial period immediately post-lockdown, and with a stable position becoming apparent across the Isle of Man we are ready to relax some of these safeguards. Whilst we will remain cautious in school about mixing children frequently and unnecessarily in indoor situations, we feel that with our movement trackers and hygiene measures we can return to running our extra-curricular clubs and assemblies. Our increased ventilation policy remains in place as does our hand washing / sanitizing programme which see children cleanse their hands regularly, and as a minimum, on entrance to the school building in the morning and afternoon, and before lunch. I am aware that some children (and adults) are experiencing dry and broken skin from the increased hand hygiene and I have taken steps to acquire a new hand sanitizer which is medical grade but crucially non-alcohol based and with a built in moisturiser. This product is now used in the NHS in the UK and hopefully will be kinder to our children's hands. Mrs Kelly has been away from school this week and I appreciate that this has meant it has been a little trickier for some parents to reach the school with messages and phone calls. Thank you for bearing with us; normal service will resume from next week. As always, please keep an eye on our website /social media for updates and news, and if you ever wish to see me or a member of my team please get in touch and make an appointment.

Max Kelly

### CLASSES FROM SEPTEMBER

As a parent myself, I completely understand the anxieties and worries we all experience at this time of year, when schools can appear reluctant to share plans about class structures for the next academic year. Decisions about teacher allocations are made by the Department of Education, Sport and Culture and are done so in a fair and equitable way which takes into account many factors, including pupil numbers. This is a huge, island-wide exercise, and as I'm sure you can appreciate, there is still a lot to be sorted out between now and next term. It would not be appropriate for me to enter into a running commentary of how things are progressing or to start speculating with parents about possible scenarios and situations – and neither myself nor my staff will be doing so. Similarly, I would like to make a polite request that parents refrain from making speculative conversation themselves as this can fuel rumours which often turn out to be misinformed and incorrect.

Please rest assured that this matter is being progressed in the appropriate ways, and do take my assurances that parents will be informed of classes / teachers for September towards the end of the Summer Term, which is entirely in keeping with our usual timescale for organising for the next academic year.

MAX KELLY, EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER

### Conduct of adults

Dhoon School expects that parents and visitors will always speak to our staff members politely. We will not tolerate abuse of any kind and will take steps against those who do this.

### Public Service Bus Parental Responsibility

Dhoon School cannot police the behaviour of their pupils out of school, nor can the school accept responsibility for its pupils out of school. That said, the school will regularly remind pupils of the expectation to behave outside of school, especially if wearing our uniform as they are ambassadors for the school. Where we hear of behaviour out of school that falls below our expectations, we will express our severe disappointment to the pupils involved, and notify parents so that they can follow up at home by discussing the incident with their child and agreeing with them how it may be avoided in the future. If the poor behaviour occurs on the public service bus that many of our pupils catch at the end of the school day, we may talk to the children involved on the bus operator's behalf and issue a sanction on behalf of the bus operator (e.g banning a pupil from using the service.) We would only do this at the request of the bus operator, and would do so in full consultation with parents. Where serious incidents have occurred on the bus and are brought to the attention of the school, again, the school will agree to notify the parents of the children involved that there has been an incident, so that parents are able to follow up at home with discipline and the reinforcement of expectations for good behaviour. We will always talk to our pupils about maintaining positive behaviour out of school, and will work with parents where we learn this has not happened.

### Uniform and PE Kit

Please can parents ensure that PE kits are in school every day. It is really helpful for all items to be named.

Please do try to ensure that children wear black school-style shoes as part of their uniform.

Please could those children wearing head bands and alic bands ensure that they are suitable for school. We are seeing lots of unicorns, cats and other such accessories which are not part of our uniform code.

**LAXEY SCHOOL**  
and  
**DHOON SCHOOL**  
**Y6 VENTURE CENTRE TRIP BRIEFING**

Monday 10th May 2021  
6.00pm via Zoom Webinar  
With Mr Max Kelly  
Executive Headteacher

