



Dhoon Primary School

'Curiosity, Independence, Determination, Creativity, Collaboration'

Executive Headteacher
Mr Maxim Kelly

Head of School
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COVID-19 symptoms can be a high temperature, a new persistent cough, the loss or change in smell and taste, or a shortness of breath

Please continue to practise good hygiene

NEWSLETTER DEC 2021

Dates for Your Diary

- 10.12.2021 School Council Film Night
 - 12.12.2021 Carol Service at Dhoon Church
 - 13.12.2021 Non-uniform Week
 - 13.12.2021 Christmas Concert at 2pm
 - 13.12.2021 Christmas Concert at 7pm
 - 14.12.2021 Police Treat for Y6
 - 15.12.2021 Christmas Dinner Day
 - 16.12.2021 Christingle Service in School
 - 17.12.2021 Last day of term (close 3.30pm)
 - 04.01.2022 First day of Spring Term
 - 04.01.2022 Swimming sessions resume
 - 07.01.2022 Homework resumes
 - 18.02.2022 School closes for half term 3.30pm
 - 28.02.2022 School reopens for new half term
 - 14.03.2022 Y6 Cycling Proficiency Week
- This is not an exhaustive list**

Message from Mr Kelly

We have nearly made it to the end of a very challenging year for Dhoon School. The year began in January with a lockdown that saw us shift our school from a physical set-up to a virtual platform. I'm proud of the response of all of our pupils and families, and so grateful to my staff team for how we all got each other through those times. We'd only been back in school for a couple of weeks before we were plunged into another lockdown which took us right up until Easter. On top of the lockdowns and remote learning packages, we've had to introduce mitigations and restrictions into school-life, and since September the school has been hit with staff absences and, more recently, pupil winter illness and C19. Despite all of this, the school has somehow enjoyed great success: our remote learning package was second-to-none, the community has continued to support us amazingly well, and we were shortlisted for School of the Year. None of this would be possible without a fabulous set of pupils, committed and supportive parents, and talented and dedicated staff. As I sit here writing this message, I can honestly say that I couldn't be prouder to be associated with Dhoon School - surely the best school in the Isle of Man! I wish you all the best for Christmas and a Happy New Year. See you back in Dhoon School on Tuesday 4th January 2022. Max Kelly

The last week of term is non-uniform all week! Children can still wear their Christmas jumpers if they'd like, but we will relax the rules around the rest of the uniform too!

Thank you for supporting our Christmas Fair! We raised over £800!

Christmas Lunch

On Wednesday we will be holding our annual Christmas Dinner. All the children will eat together, we will be serving a traditional Christmas lunch (we know some children will still bring a packed lunch!) and the dining room will be festive with crackers and music playing.

Christmas Productions

DHOON SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS CONCERTS
MON 13th DECEMBER

COVID SECURE

YOU CAN VIEW OUR FULL RISK ASSESSMENT AND PLANNED MITIGATIONS ON OUR WEBSITE: Homepage > COVID19 > Christmas Concerts 2021

ADULT VISITORS, PARENTS AND STAFF ARE ASKED TO WEAR A FACE-COVERING - THERE WILL BE PLENTY OF DISPOSABLE COVERINGS AVAILABLE AT THE PRODUCTIONS... WE'LL BE LEAVING THEM OUT ON YOUR CHAIRS!

VISITORS AND STAFF ARE ENCOURAGED TO TEST FOR C19 VIA A FREE LFT KIT PRIOR TO THE CONCERTS... "KNOW BEFORE YOU GO!"

WRAP UP WARM... THE SPORTS HALL DOORS AND WINDOWS WILL BE WIDE OPEN TO PROMOTE BETTER VENTILATION! BEFORE YOU GO!

WASH YOUR HANDS BEFORE YOU COME ALONG. WE'LL HAVE PLENTY OF HAND SANITIZER AVAILABLE TOO!

WE ARE ENCOURAGING YOU TO ONLY BRING TWO ADULTS PER CHILD TO EACH PERFORMANCE. LIMITING AUDIENCE NUMBERS SEEMS REALLY SENSIBLE AT THE MOMENT (WE'LL BE PROFESSIONALLY PHOTOGRAPHING THE CONCERTS SO THERE ARE KEEPSAKES FOR THOSE UNABLE TO WATCH THIS YEAR).

SEE YOU THERE!

- Afternoon performance - Monday 13th December 2pm
- Evening performance - Monday 13th December 7pm

Our traditional support of the Children's Society Loose Change Appeal continues this year. We are sending home candle boxes with the children today - we'd be delighted if you could build these candles (it's really easy to put them together!) and fill them with any "loose change" you have going spare. Please bring these in on Thursday for the Christingle Service.

The Dhoon Church Carol Service takes place in Dhoon Church on Sunday evening at 6.30pm. We have written under separate cover to those children involved, but all are welcome to attend.

Homework has stopped for 2021 - it will resume in the first week back in January!

Christingle Service

Nigel Cretney from Dhoon Church is leading a Christingle Service in the School Hall on 16.12.20 at 2pm. All of our pupils will be attending - we'd like to extend the invite to all parents too. If you'd like to come along, the doors by the sports hall will be open from around 1.45pm. There's no need to let school know whether or not you'll be joining us. We hope to see you if you can make it - please LFT beforehand and bring a face-covering to wear.

The Giving Machine

The Giving Machine really is a simple way for you to help raise money for the school - and it won't cost you a penny! All you have to do is visit www.thegivingmachine.co.uk, search for Dhoon School and register as a "giver". Once you've done that, simply visit The Giving Machine site before you get on with your online shopping and follow the link to the shop of your choice (all major high street and online stores are there!). Then, for anything you spend, the school receives a commission!

COVID-19 SCHOOLS UPDATE

COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses are currently circulating within our schools. Here are some handy tips to limit the spread:

- Wear face coverings inside all buildings and on buses**
- Test yourself twice a week using lateral flow devices**
- Remember to follow:**
 - Hands
 - Space
 - Face
 - Fresh Air
- If eligible, register for both the COVID-19 and flu vaccines**
- If displaying any COVID-19 symptoms, isolate and book a PCR test online immediately**

For more information please visit [covid-19.gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk/covid-19)

For more information on testing please visit [covid19.gov.uk/general-information/testing-results/](https://www.gov.uk/covid-19/testing)