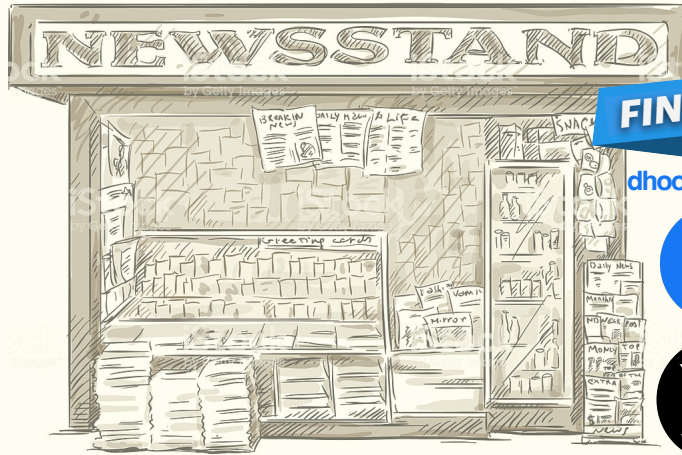




# Dhoon Primary School

'Curiosity, Independence, Determination, Creativity, Collaboration'



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NEWSLETTER  
OCT 2023

## Dates for Your Diary

- 11.10.23 STEMFest for Class 3
- 13.10.23 Coffee and Chat from 3pm
- 14.10.23 Scarecrow displays from today
- 16.10.23 Parents Evening 1 (4pm - 7pm)
- 17.10.23 Parents Evening 2 (4pm - 6pm)
- 17.10.23 Be Safe, Be Seen - launch
- 18.10.23 Scarecrow judging
- 20.10.23 School closes for half-term at 3.30pm
- 30.10.23 School re-opens for 2nd half-term
- 30.10.23 Hop Tu Naa day
- 01.11.23 Flu vaccinations via ManxCare
- 06.11.23 Pedestrian skills and scooter training during the week.

**This is not an exhaustive list! The homepage of our school website has a live calendar of events - check it out!**

Executive Headteacher  
Mr Maxim Kelly

Head of School  
Mrs Sarah Shimmin

01624 861227  
dhooninquiries@sch.im

## Message from Mr Kelly

It has been a fantastic first month of the school year at Dhoon! The ease with which all of our new children have settled into their classes and routines has been heartening. The smiles on their faces as I walked around the classrooms are a testimony to their engagement and happiness. As we advance towards the holiday season, the remaining weeks of this half-term and the ones following are bustling with activities, making them some of the most exhilarating times in our school calendar. While some key dates are listed here, I'd encourage you to keep an eye on the updated diary on our school website's homepage for all upcoming events. Our website is a reservoir of useful information including school policies, correspondence, and past newsletters. Don't forget to follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for the latest updates!

The anticipation is building for our annual off-island trip for our Y6s, planned for May 2024, at our favoured venue in Shropshire. Details, including a payment plan, are outlined in a separate letter sent home today.

Congratulations to our newly selected Pupil School Council: Quynn, Rohan, Soheyla, Rosie, Joshua, and Holly! Our Scarecrow Competition is on the horizon and we are looking forward to seeing your creative entries. Details are contained within this newsletter.

We warmly invite you to our Coffee and Chat afternoon on Friday, 13th October. Arrive at school around 3pm, just before pick-up, for a cup of tea or coffee on us. It's a chance to mingle with other parents, converse with senior staff, and catch-up before the weekend commences. This casual social event aims to foster and strengthen our school community, and we hope to see many of you there!

With best wishes, Max Kelly, Headteacher

In the interest of the well-being of our school community, we wish to remind parents of the 48-hour rule. If your child experiences symptoms such as vomiting and/or diarrhoea, it is imperative that they stay home and are symptom-free for 48 hours before returning to school. This measure helps in curbing the spread of infections and ensures a healthier environment for all.



## Scarecrow Competition

Our cherished Scarecrow Competition is back! Embrace your creativity, display determination, and let curiosity flourish as we come together embodying the spirit of the Dhoon High Five. Whether you're collaborating with family or friends, we're excited to see your spectacular designs! The competition will unfold as follows:

Display: Starting 14th October

Judging: 18th October

Admiration time: Until 1st November

Your scarecrows can adorn the railings or the lawn, but make sure they grab attention! Remember, it's not solely about design; collaboration, creativity, and embodying the Dhoon spirit are equally significant. Prizes and certificates await the triumphant entries. Have queries? Feel free to contact the School Office or refer to the letter below. Let's make this the best scarecrow year yet!

## Parents' Evening

Scheduled for Monday, 16th October (4pm - 7pm) and Tuesday, 17th October (4pm - 5.30pm), Parents Evening is fast approaching. Booking an appointment is easy through our online service on Arbor (<https://login.arbor.sc>), though it operates on a first come-first served basis. While we are encouraging face-to-face meetings this time, do reach out if this arrangement doesn't suit you, and we'll work something out. (Online booking opens on Monday morning!)

## Hop Tu Naa Day

We are embracing the Manx tradition of Hop Tu Naa on the first Monday of the next half-term, 30th October. Children are invited to come to school dressed in themed costumes, though we advise against overly scary or gory outfits. Witches, black cats, and skeletons are much more apt for this occasion. This fun day will be enriched with Hop Tu Naa activities, at no extra charge.



## Rock Kids Concert

A huge thank you to everyone who attended our Rock Kidz Concert! The remarkable show was a platform for many pupils to bolster their confidence and self-esteem through music and performance.

The feedback from both pupils and parents has been overwhelmingly positive, and we are already looking forward to Rock Kidz's next visit.

Scheduled for 1st November, flu vaccinations will be administered to those children for whom Manx Care has received consent. Please note that no child will be vaccinated without parental approval.

