



"Inspiring minds to ignite lifelong learning"



Onchan Primary School

School Road, Onchan, Isle of Man IM3 4PD

email: OnchanEnquiries@Sch.im

tel: 01624 673465

Spring 1 Newsletter – Reception

Key Dates for your Diary

Monday 5th January – Return to school

Friday 6th February – Isle Listen – Coffee and Cake afternoon (dress down – wear green)

Tuesday 10th February – Parents Evening – Face to Face

Thursday 12th February – Parents Evening – Teams

Friday 13th February – MSPCA Dress as an animal day

Friday 13th February – Wood and Craft day (Reception)

Friday 13th February – Break up for February Half Term

23rd February – Return to school

Welcome to Foundation Stage!

Happy New Year

We hope you all had a lovely Christmas break and a Happy New Year. We are delighted to welcome the children back to school and are looking forward to an exciting and busy term ahead, with lots of engaging learning and new experiences planned.

Our team consists of: Miss Diack (Owl Class) and Mr Jones (Penguin Class). Classes are supported by Miss Kirk, Miss Dale, and Mrs Cowin. Miss Wooding (teacher) will be covering PPA sessions throughout the year, as well as Andy from MSR.

Topic

Throughout the term, we will be stepping into the exciting worlds of dinosaurs and animals, with a special focus on jungle animals and their habitats. The children will be uncovering fascinating facts about dinosaurs, while also exploring the amazing animals, plants and environments found in jungle habitats. We will then end the term by looking at Valentine's Day and Pancake Day!

Snack

Your child will be provided with a healthy snack and a choice of milk or water. This term, we will be starting our Tesco trips to buy the weekly snack. Children who have written permission will accompany Miss Kirk and Miss Dale on a Monday to Tesco to help choose the snack for the week. The children will then help to prepare the snack for that particular day. This is extremely beneficial, as it helps the children learn about money, weight, road safety, and much more!

Snack costs £15 per half term and we kindly ask for this to be paid in cash to a member of the team. We would really appreciate it if this could be paid in a named envelope.

Onchan School Values

Compassion - Integrity - Endeavour - Courage - Respect



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PE Kits

Reception will continue to have PE lessons on Thursday. Your child will need both an indoor and an outdoor PE kit in school, which will be sent home with them at the end of the term. Long hair needs to be tied up and earrings need to be removed before they come to school.

Outdoor Learning

As a school, we are delighted with our Outdoor Learning Area and incorporate it into our learning as much as possible. Outdoor Learning will continue to take place on a Tuesday, so Reception children will need to come to school wearing clothes that can get muddy! No school uniform is needed on a Tuesday for Reception.

If your child does not yet have a pair of wellies in school, please could these be brought in as soon as possible ready for our outdoor learning sessions to commence.

Phonics Learning Logs

Phonics is taught daily within classes, focussing on two new sounds each week. One session has a reading focus, and the second has a writing focus, including formation and handwriting. We have recently begun learning tricky words, which are words that cannot be easily decoded ('sounded out' and read). These words must be learnt by sight.

Phonics Learning Logs will be sent home each week with the two new sounds, so you can practise them at home with your child whenever you have a spare moment. Please feel free to use the space next to the new sounds to practise writing them. Phonics Learning Logs will be collected on Thursdays and checked in school with the children at the end of the week.

Reading Books

Books will be changed at the start of every week, so please make sure they are kept in book bags. The reading record is where we will note how your child has read that day, and we also encourage parents to write a comment about their child's reading at home. Please try and read with your child as much as you can at home, we know this can be tricky with busy routines, but even short, regular sessions make a big difference to their learning and enjoyment of stories.

Reception Clubs

Reception children will have the opportunity to continue attending a Multi-Sports Club with Andy (MSR) on Wednesdays at lunchtime. This half term, Mrs Cowin is running a Singing Club for Reception on Mondays at lunchtime. There is no need to sign up for these clubs – children can decide each week whether they would like to attend. Normal lunch routines will not be affected.

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Onchan School Website

Make sure to keep an eye on our school website <https://onchan.sch.im/> as we will be regularly updating our page with newsletters/blog posts and photos of your children's learning journey!

Home-School Communications

If you have any queries or need to record absences, please email the school office at onchanEnquiries@sch.im and they will pass on any relevant information. If you require a more in-depth chat, please see your class teacher to arrange an appointment suitable for all.

If you have any questions,
please feel free to pop in and speak to a member
of the Foundation Stage Team ☺

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