



# Arbory News



Founded 1834

4th September 2013

## Dear Parents

I hope that everyone enjoyed the summer holidays as we seemed to have had a proper summer at long last. We looked forward to having all the children back in school and we would also like to give a warm welcome to all our new children and families.

## Buses

As from today, Wednesday 4th September, children travelling to Friary Park, Duck Street and Castletown will need to catch the No.1 service bus which will stop at school at 3.34pm. It will also stop at the turning circle by the CRHS car park.

The Ronague bus will run as usual but after the first loop will travel to Castletown and then back towards Ronague, Ballakilpheric, Ballakillowey, Four Roads, PSM Station and onto the Howe. Children who live in these areas will need to stay on the bus until it arrives at their stop.

## Attendance

Good attendance and punctuality is vital in order for children to achieve their full potential during the year. Please, may I remind everyone that children should be in school at **8.45am**. Any children arriving after this time should report to the office and then access their classroom using the **external doors**. (Y2 children **only** may use the lower corridor to enter their classroom)

Also, from the start of this term, all requests for holidays in term-time will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. Holidays in term-time should be avoided.

DEC policy states that, 'if a child takes time off school without leave of absence or is absent for more than the number of days for which leave of absence has been granted, or if leave of absence is only applied for after a child returns from holiday, the school will refer the matter to its Education Liaison Officer, who will arrange for an appropriate letter to be sent to the child's parent(s) by the Manager of the Department's Legal & Administrative Services. This letter will inform the parent(s) that any repetition of their actions will automatically result in legal proceedings being initiated by the Department.'

I would like to thank all the parents who do not request holidays in term-time and hope that all parents will soon follow your lead. Please note that all holidays requested already will be granted, but from September 2013, there will be no holiday form provided and all requests should be made in writing to the Headteacher, stating clearly why the request for holiday time is deemed necessary. Should parents feel unhappy about this situation, please do not hesitate to contact the Chief Education Officer, at the Department of Education and Children. Holiday dates for the next academic year are available on the school wiki and the DEC website. Hard copies can be requested from school.

## School Meals

Please note that the cost of school meals has increased to **£2** per day.

## Booster Seats

If you have any child booster seats that you no longer require, we would be very grateful to receive them to help us transport children on school trips.

**Ballabeg Isle of Man IM9 4LH**

Scoil Chairbre Balley Beg Mannin IM9 4LH

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## Dates

Monday 23rd September  
School Photos  
Manx Litfest Week

Tuesday 1st October  
Meet the teacher - KS2  
5 minute appointments

Wednesday 2nd October  
Information Evening for KS1  
parents

Saturday 5th October  
Friends of Arbory Pig Racing

Monday 21st October  
Trafalgar Service 10am

Thursday 24th October  
Harvest Festival 2pm

Half Term  
28th Oct - 1st November

11th November  
Remembrance 10.30am

29th November  
FOA Christmas Sale

Concerts  
10th Dec KS1 6.30pm  
11th Dec KS1 10am  
11th Dec Y5/6 6.30pm  
12th Dec Y5/6 6.30pm

20th Dec Carol Service Y3/4  
School Closes

### **Christmas Concerts - Advance Notice**

This year the children in Reception and KS1 will perform a joint concert again and the children in Y5/6 will take part in the usual extravaganza. The children in Y3/4 will take part in the end of term carol concert but will have their turn to do a bigger performance in the Spring Term.

### **Elections for School Council**

School leader elections will take place on 20th September and class reps will be chosen on 27th September.

### **Contact Details**

You will shortly receive a contact form from Mrs. Bell. Please check your details and send any amendments back to Mrs. Bell. All forms should be signed and returned even if there are no changes.

### **Friends of Arbory**

Pig Racing at Castletown Stadium - 5th October at 7.30pm - more details from FOA to follow soon.

### **Parents Evenings**

This term, there will be an opportunity for KS2 parents to meet the class teacher and talk to them about their child and how they are settling in to the class. These are only short appointments and give parents an opportunity to give the teachers information about their children as well as to ask general questions.

KS1 parents will have a similar opportunity but will meet as a whole group. There will be time to ask questions and individual teachers will be available on the night to discuss any specific matters.

If you have any concerns, at any time, please make an appointment with Mrs. Bell to meet your child's class teacher after school.

Yours sincerely

JH Ayres  
Headteacher