



# Arbory School

Headteacher: Mr J H Ayres BEd(Hons) NPQH

“A caring community of creative, confident learners.”  
“Co-phobble kenjal dy ynseydee chrootagh as yarrooagh.”



Dear Parents

Please take a few minutes to look at the latest news and information for this month.

## Operation Christmas Child

Thank you to everyone who provided a shoebox for the appeal. The Y1 children took the boxes down to Colby Station on Tuesday 6th November to put on the ‘Shoebox Express’. They met volunteers from Operation Christmas Child and had a surprise meeting with Father Christmas who was travelling on the train.

## Harvest Celebration

The Harvest Celebration was a really enjoyable event and the hall was packed. There was a retiring collection which raised £186 for Tear Fund.

## Sport

Well done to the Badminton Team who took part in the recent Southern Schools’ Festival, they were a credit to the school.

The next team to compete will be the Tag Rugby team who are taking part in a competition this Wednesday at CRHS. The young leaders from CRHS with the help of Mr Wiseman have worked hard to get the team ready and we wish them all the best for the event.

## Remembrance

The Year 5 children led the service well last Friday and all the children apart from Year R were able to go to church and take part in this annual service. Poppies were on sale all week and hopefully we will soon know how much we were able to raise.

## Fruit

A big thank you goes to the mums who come in every day to prepare fruit for the children. They do a great job first thing in the morning and we are grateful to them for their commitment. If you would like to become part of the team, please see Yuki Martin (Lisa’s mum in Y2).

## Reception 2013

You may have seen an announcement in the papers last week from the DEC about registering children for school. If you, or anyone you know needs to register children for Arbory School, please contact the school office.

## Minibus

This academic year we are hoping to raise enough money to get the minibus replaced. Last week we had to put the minibus through the test and we were given a bill for £1,500 for

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the work that had to be done to it. It is now in full working order, but as you can see, we need to get it replaced as soon as we can to avoid such huge bills in the future.

### **Jumble Sale - This Friday 6.30pm- 8.00pm**

Please support the jumble sale this Friday as money raised will go to the Minibus appeal. We need to raise at least £5,000 before we can even start looking at replacements.

If you are able to help sort jumble or be responsible for a stall, please contact Mrs Bell at the school office.

### **Travel**

As from January we will need to ask for an increased donation for school trips.

£1 - South      £1.50 - Peel/Douglas/Laxey      £2 - North

### **Primary Music Initiative**

After putting in a request to the Schools' Music Service, we were delighted to be told that we had been chosen as one of the schools to take part in the Primary Music Initiative. This involves staff training, music events and music lessons which are delivered by the peripatetic team. At present we have whole classes learning instruments and we hope to improve the profile of music and love of music throughout the school while at the same time developing our skills. All the children were able to attend the Music Roadshow in the school hall recently and classes are learning the following instruments;

Year 3 - Violins

Year 4 - Penny Whistles

Year 5 - Guitars

### **Child Safety**

Road Safety Officers were around school last week checking on booster seats. The main issues that were encountered at schools during the week were;

- Numerous drivers are bringing their friends' children to school but do not have booster seats for them.
- Sometimes mum & dad have different cars and the seats are kept in the other car.
- Sometimes the child dictates that they are sitting in the front without a booster seat but there is one sitting unused in the back seat.
- Some children are too tall for the booster seats (more than 135cm / 4ft 5in) and the seat belt sits lower on their body than designed.

### **Investing in Children**

After a lot of hard work from Mrs Collister and last year's School Council, we were delighted to hear that we were successful in being validated as an Investing in Children School.

The Investing in Children Membership Scheme recognises and celebrates examples of imaginative and inclusive practice with children and young people. It was established in 1995 and there are currently 450 members across the UK and Isle of Man. We are only the second school to gain this award under the new validation process, and only the fourth on the Isle of Man.

Last Friday, we were pleased to welcome DEC political members, Juan Turner MLC and Tony Wild MLC to present the award. We were delighted Y6 members of last year's school council were able to join us with their families and take their place with the rest of last year's group.

This is only the beginning of the journey in some respects as we will now have a yearly validation. The new school council will therefore be working hard in order for us to keep this award. Well done to everyone involved.

### **School Council**

The Council has organised a pyjama day for this Friday as well as a cake sale. All proceeds will go to Children in Need. Posters with more information are around school.

### **Christmas Concerts - Reminder**

This year there will be separate concerts for Y3/4 and Y5/6. Reception and KS1 have a joint concert this year.

Monday 10th December - Y3/4 Concert - **6.30pm**

Tuesday 11th December - FS/KS1 Concerts (Classes R, 1, 2) - **10am and 6.30pm**

Tuesday 11th December - Y3/4 Concert - **2pm**

Wednesday 12th December - Y5/6 Concert - **6.30pm**

Thursday 13th December - Y5/6 Concert - **6.30pm**

### **Dates For Your Diary**

Wednesday 14th - Southern Tag Rugby at CRHS 4pm-6pm

Thursday 15th November - Y5 at Manx Museum 12pm-3pm

Friday 16th November - Pyjama Day - 50p Donation and Cake Sale in the afternoon.

Friday 16th November 6.30pm-8.00pm- Jumble/ Good as New Sale

Monday 19th November - Christmas Displays - 3.45pm -5.30pm

**If you can help please contact Mrs. Bell or Mrs. Collister**

Monday 26th November - The King of Copenhagen - West Midland Children's Theatre

Monday 26th November - Y1 at Manx Museum

Monday 3rd December - Father Christmas switches on the parish lights - 6.30pm

Wednesday 5th December - YR visit to the Grove Museum - 12pm-4pm

Friday 14th December - Y4 Visit by the Community Farm - 1.20pm-3.15pm

**Parties** - FS/KS1 - 17th December

Y5/6 - 18th December

Y3/4 - 19th December

21st December - 2pm - Carol Service

21st December - School Closes

Monday 7th January 2013 - School Opens

Yours sincerely

J H Ayres  
Headteacher