

# ST JOHNS SCHOOL



HEADTEACHER - TRACY WILLOUGHBY BA (HONS) NPQH

What a great way to start 2025

Over recent years, the giant planters at the front of school by the Robin, Puffin and Flamingo entrance had become overgrown with gorse and other large shrubs and weeds. Early last year the IOM Probation Service cleared the shrubs, and the plot was covered with carpet to allow the large roots to rot. In December, Mr Connelly and Mrs Douglas dug out all the roots, covered the area with cardboard and placed a thin layer of Ballaneven compost (provided by MWT) on top.

A couple of weeks ago when the weather was dry, some of the children planted up the prepared beds. First they mixed the native seeds with sawdust, then carefully sprinkled the seed mix onto the designated area, and finally lightly trod the seeds into the compost. We now look forward to watching this pollinator patch flourish.

A big thank you to Lucy Chapman, Team Wilder Coordinator, from the Manx Wildlife Trust and the Isle of Man Probation Service for supporting this project.

## EXPERT VISITORS

We have some expert visitors working in school at the moment.

Experts from Young Engineers are working with the Raven, Peregrine, Shearwater and Puffin classes each week.

Please look at the school website to see some of the amazing constructions they are making.

## STAFFING NEWS

Our hard working cleaner Mr Bob Corrin retired at the end of January. Mr Connolly will be very sad to see him leave but we have welcomed Ms Fargher to St Johns as his replacement.

## SHOE BOXES

Mrs Douglas is desperate for lidded shoe boxes so that she can do a technology activity with Year 2. The shoe boxes must have a lid that can be removed - not a lid that is attached to the base. If you have any to donate please can you bring them to the office. Thank You



## Dates for your Diary

**Tuesday 4th February** - Shearwater Class visit - STARS event at Peel Cathedral.

**Thursday 6th February** - Eco School Assembly.

**Friday 7th February** - School Disco arranged by Friends of St Johns.

**Monday 10th February** Puffins, Peregrines, Ravens - Museum of the Moon artwork visit.

**Tuesday 11th February** - Tag Rugby Tournament.

**Wednesday 12th February** - Dr Litman to see Key Stage 2 children about Cathedral Choristers.

**Thursday 13th February** - Beach Buddies Assembly.

**Friday 14th February** - non uniform day - MSPCA - see info on reverse of newsletter.

**Friday 14th February** - SCHOOL CLOSSES FOR HALF TERM

**Monday 24th February** - SCHOOL OPENS

**Thursday 27th February** - Open the Book Assembly

**Monday 3rd March** - School Public Speaking event.

**Tuesday 4th March** - Parent Appointments after school - letter will be sent out.

**Thursday 6th March** - World Book Day - "Slip into a good book" - separate letter sent.

**Thursday 6th March** - Assembly by Love Tech with book presentation.



# FOSJ DISCO



**Friday, 7th February**



**3:45pm-5pm**



**St Johns Primary School Hall**



**£4 per ticket (includes Hot dog  
and a drink)**



Sweets and glitter tattoos available to purchase on the day (please bring cash!).  
Quiet colouring available for those who need it.

**Tickets available from the school office -  
please advise of any dietary requirements.**

**We hope you can join the fun!**



# Animal Day



Friday 14<sup>th</sup>  
February  
2025

**Dress up as an animal day is returning on Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> of February 2025. It is an all Island dress down day for preschools, schools and workplaces!**

Adults and children will be given the opportunity to dress up as an animal for the day and donate £1 to a great cause.

Schools and workplaces will be encouraged to carry out their own further fundraising activities on the day. Examples could be cake sales, raffle and face painting to raise extra funds.



Those choosing to take part may also be lucky enough to receive a visit from our ManxSPCA Team!

To register please email  
[Krish@manxspca.com](mailto:Krish@manxspca.com)

Ard Jerkyl, East Foxdale, Isle of Man IM4 3HL

Registered Charity no. 26a | 01624 851672 | [info@manxspca.com](mailto:info@manxspca.com)

[www.manxspca.com](http://www.manxspca.com)

Children can wear a jumper, hoodie, tee-shirt or any kind of top with a picture of an animal.

Onsies, animal hats or animal print clothing is allowed.

Face paint, whiskers, animal head bands are all good.

Don't forget to send your donation for this charity day.