

January 2025

# ST JOHNS SCHOOL



**HEADTEACHER - TRACY WILLOUGHBY BA (HONS) NPQH**

Welcome back to everyone after the Christmas and New Year break. We hope that everyone had a restful time and managed to steer clear of winter bugs and illnesses.

Can I take this opportunity to remind parents that if your child is ill the best place for them is at home to rest and recuperate. Also, if your child has sickness and/or diarrhoea please remember the 48 hour rule and keep your child at home for the full 48 hours **after** symptoms have finished to prevent spreading this bug around other children and staff.

Your help with this is much appreciated.

## ENROLLING PUPILS

September may seem like a very long way off but it is important that we know as early as possible the numbers of children we expect to start each September. Please do not assume we automatically register siblings. If you have a child due to start September 2025 (or 2026) or if you know of anyone who needs to register their child please let Mrs Astill know as soon as possible - ideally before the end of January.

## KIT

All children should have a PE kit in school at all times. PE kit is shorts, a t-shirt and a pair of pumps or (for older children who cannot get pumps to fit) non-marking trainers.

All children in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 should swim every Wednesday. Towards the end of last term we had a few children who did not bring their swim kit and did not give a reason or a note to their teacher.

We do not have spare swim hats or goggles so children need to bring these from home as part of their kit.

Upcoming events this term will be the entry for **The MANX MUSIC FESTIVAL** and preparations for the **SCHOOL PUBLIC SPEAKING competition**.

This years Manx Music Festival dates are from 26th April to 3rd May. We will be entering children in the Spoken Word classes from Year 2 upwards (to learn by heart and recite a poem) and also in one of the choir classes. Many children have entered The Guild in previous years and we look forward to a great entry again in 2025.

Our school public speaking competition will be just after February half term so children who are considering taking part will need to think about their speech in the next few weeks. Mrs Willoughby will be meeting with the speakers regularly to help prepare them for the event.

Separate letters will be given out to interested children with details of what to do and deadline dates for both these events. Both are an ideal way to build confidence and to get children used to speaking in front of an audience.



## Dates for your Diary

**Monday 6th January** SCHOOL OPENS

**Thursday 16th January** - Manx Birdlife Birdwatching Assembly.

**Monday 20th January** - Lempen Puppet Theatre visit.

**Thursday 23rd January** - Open the Book Assembly.

**Tuesday 4th February** - Shearwater Class visit - letter with more information to follow.

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

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

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

**Monday 24th February** - SCHOOL OPENS

The cost of school dinners up to half term is £76.50 and for the full term it is £153.00.

Milk is £15.60 for the term.

# INFORMATION FOR ANYONE WITH PRE SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN



Isle of Man Registered Charity No 1250

## **SINGING JO & CO - NEW SESSION!**



**WHERE: ST JOHNS PRIMARY SCHOOL, Every Tuesday afternoon**

**ENTRANCE: Youth Wing to the right of main entrance.**

**Look for our Sign. Plenty of Parking**

**TIME: 1.30pm for 1.40pm start. Just over an hour.**

**Please feel free to stay in hall until school pickup.**

**Buses run every 30 minutes to Peel.**

**Everybody Welcome. Come and Join Us for some singing Fun!**

**We sing a variety of action songs and rhymes. We dance, play instruments, listen to stories, use imaginations and make friends. We have incredible fun with children from birth to pre-school, supported by parents, grandparents or carers. We know our sessions build self-confidence, help to develop language, simple counting, fitness and nurture a love of music.**

**We guarantee you will have lots of fun and leave with a big smile on your face!**

**Parents say -**

**"The sessions give children fun, independence and they learn so much."**

**After singing, we provide a small snack FREE of charge for the children.**

**SUGGESTED DONATION: £3 PER FAMILY TO HELP KEEP GROUPS RUNNING.**

**Term Time Only (EXTRA HOLIDAY SESSIONS, DATES PUT ON FACEBOOK)**

**FACEBOOK/YOUTUBE CHANNEL: [www.singingjoandco.im](http://www.singingjoandco.im) Email [singingjoandco@gmail.com](mailto:singingjoandco@gmail.com)**