



'Learning together to be the best we can'

*"Ynsaghey cooidjagh dy ve cha mie as
oddysmayd"*

Meadow Crescent, Braddan, Isle of Man IM2 1NN

Tel: 01624 670844

E-mail: Va_ajeeltEnquiries@sch.im

Website: scoillvallajeelt.sch.im

 [@scoillvallajeelt](https://twitter.com/scoillvallajeelt)

Headteacher: Miss D Lyon

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Scoill Vallajeelt Newsletter Sept 2024

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Welcome to the first newsletter of this academic year.



I would also like to welcome all the new children who have started at Scoill Vallajeelt in Reception and other year groups across the school. Reception children are exploring their new classroom and getting to know their teachers and have started to come to assemblies with the whole school. The children from other year groups have been extremely kind and caring as they help them settle.

We also welcome two new members of staff to school. Mrs. Entwistle has joined us as an Educational Support Officer and will be working in KS2. Mr. Cleworth has also joined our campus as Assistant Caretaker. I know they are enjoying getting to know our school and campus.

Curriculum enrichment in school this term

To make learning more meaningful and within a context, we organise trips and invite visitors and organisations into school.

All the children have the opportunity to do **yoga** on a Thursday afternoon during the school year. Y3, Y6 and Y4 will doing yoga this half-term. A specialist yoga teacher comes into school to lead these sessions and the cost is met by school.

Y2 is having **dance** lessons on a Wednesday afternoon led by Laura, a professional dance teacher. They are improving their body awareness and co-ordination. The cost of this tuition is met by the school.

Isle Listen, a charity who support mental health, lead age-appropriate sessions across the school roughly once every half term. In KS2, they led 8x30mins sessions across the school year on such topics as Everyday Feelings, Shield of Positivity, What impacts our Mental Health and Positive Relationships. They will continue with this programme this year.

In KS1, Isle Listen lead three assemblies during the year and talk in a more general and age-appropriate way about mental health - feelings, worries etc. They then follow each assembly up with an activity back in the classroom.

Each class will be going to **Forest School** (run by Isle of Play in the Donkey Woods on Saddle Road) on a Monday morning in blocks throughout the year.

Y5
Mon 9 th Sept
Mon 16 th Sept
Mon 23 rd Sept
Mon 30 th Sept
Mon 7 th Oct

Y6
Mon 14 th Oct
Mon 21 st Oct
Mon 4 th Nov
Mon 11 th Nov
Mon 18 th Nov

Y2
Mon 25 th Nov
Mon 2 nd Dec
Mon 9 th Dec
Mon 16 th Dec
Mon 6 th Jan

Y3
Mon 13 th Jan
Mon 20 th Jan
Mon 27 th Jan
Mon 3 rd Feb
Mon 10 th Feb

Y1
Mon 24 th Feb
Mon 3 rd Mar
Mon 10 th Mar
Mon 17 th Mar
Mon 24 th Mar

R
Mon 31 st Mar
Mon 28 th Apr
Mon 12 th May
Mon 19 th May
Mon 9 th June

Y4
Mon 16 th June
Mon 23 rd June
Mon 30 th June
Mon 14 th July

An email will be sent nearer the time with a reminder about clothing and costs. Forest School costs £3.50 a session and we are asking for voluntary donations via Parent Pay.

School Photo Morning Thursday 26th September

Steve Woodley is coming into school on Thursday 26th September to take individual and sibling photos of the children which can then be purchased at a later date. If you would like to take the opportunity to have photographs taken of any pre-school children, you are welcome to come to school at 8.30am via the main entrance. Agreement for school photographs is included in the consent form parents are asked to sign when their child starts school.



Rock Kidz Thursday 3rd October

This will be Rock Kidz third performance at Meadow Campus! Rock Kidz will lead a day's workshop on self-esteem - a blend of rock music and incredibly energetic children's TV presenters!! The children enjoyed it SO much last year that they asked could we book it again - so we did!

Rock Kidz transform the whole school into Rock Stars and inspire them to be the best they can be. The team will be teaching the key message of self-esteem through their unique Rock Kidz songs. After school on the playground, Rock Kidz will also be selling some merchandise - t-shirts, hoodies etc and these proved really popular last year.

For this day, the children can come to school dressed as ROCK STARS to really get in the mood.

Parent's Evening Monday 21st / Tuesday 22nd October

Parent's Evening will be held on Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd October in the Sports Hall. Information will be sent nearer the time about how to book appointments using the portal on Arbor, the school's management information system.

Y5 Day at Ardwhallan Outdoor Education Centre Tuesday 8th October

Y5 will be attending a full day at the newly-opened Ardwhallan Outdoor Education Centre on Tuesday 8th October. They will be collected from Meadow Campus shortly after registration and be back at school before the end of the school day. The children will take part in various outdoor activities and further details about the trip will be sent out nearer the time.

Y1 Harvest Assembly - Wednesday 16th October

Y1 invite their parents to come and watch their class assembly based on a harvest theme. They will perform at 9.15am and parents and friends are welcome to attend. Please come into school via the main entrance.



Donations for the Foodbank at Harvest Time

In the tradition of harvest time activities, we are going to collect donations from the whole school for the IOM Foodbank. With the current economic climate, the foodbank is being used by more families and even a small donation makes a huge difference. If you can spare anything from the list below, it would be gratefully received by Friday 25th



October:

- Tinned meat or fish
- Tinned stew, curry, sausages, meatballs etc
- Chickpeas, lentils etc
- Breakfast cereal, porridge oats etc
- Tinned fruit
- Rice pudding
- Custard-instant, tinned or long-life cartons.
- Instant mashed potato
- Rice / noodles / pasta sauce
- Instant pot meals (needing only a kettle to prepare)
- Tea, coffee, sugar-small packs and jars are best.
- UHT Milk
- Fruit juice.
- Tinned vegetables
- Biscuits
- Condiments and stock cube

Hop tu Naa Moot Carving Competition Friday 25th October

From 3.30pm on Tuesday 22nd October, the Friends of Scoill Vallajeelt will be running their annual 'Moot Hollowing' event ready for the Moot Carving Competition on Friday 25th October. In celebration of Hop tu Naa, the Manx tradition is to carve a turnip rather than a pumpkin. The Friends will send out more information about how to order your pre-hollowed moot (or turnip in English!!) and then all you need to do is to carve a design on the outside and send it in for the competition on Friday 25th October. There will be a prize for the Best Decorated Moot in each class.

KS2 Swimming

Swimming started for all Y5/6 children on Friday 13th September. To try and reduce the chance of swimming sessions being cancelled due to staff absence, we are continuing with our arrangements for only two year groups to go swimming each week and in a half term block.

Autumn A	Y5/6
Autumn B	Y5/6
Spring A	Y3/4
Spring B	Y3/4



Further information regarding appropriate swimwear can be found on the school website.

The NSC has also asked schools to politely request if parents / guardians attend the NSC as a spectator during the school's swimming time, that they refrain from interacting with the children or staff as this is very distracting and disrupts the lesson.

Stay & Learn Sessions

Parents and carers are welcome to come into school on planned Stay & Learn sessions. The sessions are run 3 times a year and last from 9-10.30am. Parents and carers are invited into the classroom to work alongside their child on a particular theme. The session dates are listed in the calendar at the foot of this newsletter.

School Clubs

We are always trying to increase the amount of clubs we run before, in and after school. Here are the clubs running for this half of Autumn Term:

Monday	KS2	Football Club	12.40-1.10
Monday	Y3/4	Football Club	3.30-4.30
Tuesday	Y5/6	Netball Club	8.10-8.50
Tuesday	Y3	Tag Rugby MSR Club	Breaktime
Wednesday	KS2	Girls Football Club -KC	12:30-1.00
Thursday	KS2	Spanish Club	12.30-1.00
Thursday	KS2	Girls' Football Club -KC	12.40-1.10
Thursday	KS2	Yoga	3.30-4.30
Thursday	Y 5/6	Badminton Club	3.30-4.30

When picking your child up from a club after school, please park in the lower car park and come to the main door.

Y3/4/5/6 Badminton Club-Thursdays 3.30-4.30pm

Badminton Club is run by Susanne Domingo and runs on Thursdays throughout the term. The final session for this term will be on **14th December**.



Sessions can be booked and paid for using this link [Scoill Vallajeelt Primary After School Club - Sue Domingo Badminton Coach](#) You can also contact Mrs. Domingo via her email susannedomingo@gmail.com

Friends of Scoill Vallajeelt

The Friends of Scoill Vallajeelt are always looking for volunteers and members to join our committee and also to help out at the different events they organise during the year. Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 16th October at The Horse and Plough starting at 7.30pm and all are welcome to attend.

Any parents/guardians wishing to be added to our mailing list or those who have any ideas can email the committee on info@fsv.im.

Christmas cards designed by the children

The Friends of Scoill Vallajeelt will be running the Design a Christmas Card fundraising idea again this year.

In September, the children will design their own unique Christmas card and this will be sent off to be printed. Upon its return, the original artwork will be sent home. On the back of the artwork will be a sticker with your child's name and also a flyer detailing how to order the Christmas cards and other items you can order showing your child's design, if you wish. The products will then be sent to school when they are ready.

Friday 4th October is the last day for the Christmas design to be submitted to Art Projects for Schools for printing.

We will email your further details about how to order your child's design as a Christmas card, wrapping paper, mug etc at a later date. We will endeavour to make sure that all the orders are completed before half term.

The Friends are hoping it will be a lovely way to send Christmas greetings this year as well as fundraising for school.

Sickness & Diarrhoea

If your child has any vomiting or diarrhoea, we ask that you keep them away from school until they have been **clear of all symptoms for a minimum of 48 hours**. Not only is this to make sure your child has chance to recover, but also so that we can minimise infection at school.

Attendance

A reminder that the morning bell is rung at 8.55am. Any child who arrives after 9am will be marked as late and will need to gain access to the school using the front entrance. If your child is in Reception, Y1, Y2, or Y5 and arrives after the classroom playground door is closed, then they will need to be brought to the main school entrance.

If your child is not able to attend school for any reason, please inform the School Office as soon as possible.

Toys

Toys brought in from home are **not permitted in school** as they serve as a distraction and cause upset when they are lost. This includes footballs.

Water bottles & Snacks

Your child can bring a bottle of water to school to drink through the day. **Squash or juice is not permitted.** Please ensure that it is a plastic bottle with a sports cap lid and it is clearly named.

Snacks and Packed Lunches

Children are allowed to bring healthy snacks into school to have at playtimes. We ask that **snacks or packed lunches DO NOT contain any nut products.** This includes peanut butter, items cooked in nut oils, Nutella and other nut-based products.

Events for 2024-25

Here are some events we have planned for this school year. We will let you know if we add anymore! Dates are also published on the calendar on the school website. (Dates may change due to unforeseen circumstances but we will endeavour to inform parents as quickly as possible)

Date	Event	Which class?
Autumn Term 1		
26 th Sept	School Photos	Whole School
2 nd Oct	Y5 Trip to Robinsons	Y5
3 rd Oct	Rock Kidz	Campus
8 th Oct	Y5 @Ardwhallan	Y5
14 th Oct	Daffodil Competition bulbs sent home this week	Campus
16 th Oct	Y1 Harvest Assembly 9.15am	Y1
16 th Oct	Governor's meeting	
16 th Oct	Y3/4 Hockey Competition	Hockey Team
16 th Oct	Friends of Scoill Vallajeelt Meeting 7.30pm H&P	
21 st /22 nd Oct	Parent's Evening	Whole School
22 nd Oct	Moot Hollowing fundraiser by The Friends 3.30pm	Whole School
23 rd /24 th Oct	STEMFest	Y5
25 th Oct	School closes for half term	Campus
Autumn Term 2		
4 th Nov	School opens	Campus
6 th Nov	Stay & Learn	Whole School
7 th Nov	Y6 Bird Life	Y6
13 th Nov	Girl's Football	Y2/3/4
13 th Nov	Y3 trip to Manx Museum for Geology Workshop	Y3
19 th Nov	Y5/6 Badminton Competition PM	Y5/6
20 th Nov	Y3 Class Assembly 9.15am	Y3
22 nd Nov	Dress Down Day for the Christmas Fayre	Whole School
27 th Nov	Christmas Fayre 5.30-7.30pm	Whole School
2 nd Dec	Police Treat Week	Y6
5 th Dec	Shop & Drop run by The Friends 3.30-7.30pm	Whole School
9 th /10 th Dec	KS2 Panto 6-7.15pm	All welcome
10 th Dec	Reception Nativity PM	Rec

11 th Dec	Reception Nativity AM	Rec
18 th Dec	Rec/KS1 & Y3/4 Christmas Parties	Rec/KS1/Y3/4
19 th Dec	Christmas Concert at Braddan Church 10am	All welcome
19 th Dec	Y5/6 Christmas Parties	Y5/6
20 th Dec	School closes for Christmas Holidays	
Spring Term 1		
6 th Jan	School opens	
15 th Jan	KS2 Movie & Games Night run by The Friends	KS2
24 th Jan	Young Carers Coffee Morning run by Y6	All welcome
30 th Jan	Lempen Theatre Company performance	Campus
10 th /11 th Feb	Parent's Evening	Whole School
11 th Feb	Y2/3 Tag Rugby Competition	Y2/3
13 th Feb	Valentine's Disco (KS1+Y3 6-7pm, Y4/5/6 7.15-8.15pm)	KS1 / KS2
14 th Feb	School closes for half term	Campus
Spring Term 2		
24 th Feb	School opens	Campus
3 rd Mar	Book Week	Campus
6 th Mar	World Book Day Dress-up	Campus
6 th Mar	Off by Heart Poetry Competition	Whole School
7 th Mar	Wonka Day run by the Friends	Whole School
10 th Mar	Y5 Class Assembly 9.15am	Y5
17 th Mar	Stay & Learn-Happiness Day celebration!	Whole School
26 th Mar	Rec/Y1/2 Games Night 3.30-5.30pm	Rec/Y1/2
4 th Apr	Easter Eggstravaganza!	Whole School
4 th Apr	School closes for Easter	
Summer Term 1		
22 nd Apr	School opens	
24 th /25 th Apr	Y5 @The Venture Centre	Y5
2 nd May	Dress Down for May Fayre	Whole School
6 th May	International Week	Whole School
9 th May	Vallajeelt Eurovision!!!	Whole School
10 th May	May Spring Fayre 1-3pm	All welcome
12 th May	Y6 in Wales for the week	Y6
19 th May	Walk 2 School Week	Whole School
21 st May	Y4 Class Assembly	Y4
26 th May	Bank Holiday-school closed	
28 th May	Sports Day (KS2 AM: Rec/KS1 PM)	Whole School
29 th May	School closes for half term	
30 th May	INSET- staff attend school for training	Staff only
Summer Term 2		
9 th June	School opens	
13 th June	KS2 School Sleepover	KS2
17 th June	Y5/6 Netball Competition	Y5/6
18 th June	Stay & Learn	Whole School
22 nd June	Family Cycle Ride run by The Friends	Whole School
2 nd July	Y2 Class Assembly 9.15am	Y2
7 th July	Bank Holiday for Tynwald Day	Campus
10 th July	School Discos in honour of Y6 Leavers	Whole School

11 th July	Reports out to parents	
15 th July	Y6 Performance to parents	Y6
17 th July	Summer Search game	Whole School
18 th July	School closes for Summer Holidays!!	Campus

Thank you for all the ways you support your child in their learning.

Yours sincerely,

Denise Lyon
Headteacher