



Arbory News



Founded 1834

24 May 2019

Dear Parents

Laa Columb Killey – Thursday 27th June 2019

Please note that school closes at 12:00. All children must be collected from school on time.

On Thursday morning 27th June 2019, the children should come into school as usual.

This year the Fancy Dress Competition will take place in school and will be judged from 9am onwards.

Pre-school children may come into school for the judging at 9.00am and this class will be judged first.

This year, the theme is **Nations of the Rugby World Cup 2019.**

At the end of the morning the school will close at 12:00 and may I ask that you make arrangements to collect your children promptly at this time. There will be one bus service running to Ronague and Ballakilpheric for the children and this bus will depart at 11.50am. Children who need to travel in the Castletown direction should catch the 11.45am service bus. A member of staff will wait with them at the bus stop.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR CHILD TO CATCH THE CASTLETOWN BUS PLEASE ADVISE MRS BELL THE SCHOOL SECRETARY IN WRITING (or e-mail) BEFORE WEDNESDAY 26th JUNE.

Please note that the school building will be closed on this afternoon but as it is still a school day, the children must be present for the following events:

- 2.15pm Assemble at the Parish Hall. All the children will then march in costume behind the banner from the hall to the field opposite school.
- 2.30pm Procession to the fair field
- 2.45pm Opening Ceremony (including the school Manx dancing groups)

Events after the school day include;

3.30pm Sports

This year the children's open sport events will be run for all age groups and will start at 3.30pm. There are medals and prizes for the top three in each flat race. **This year these replace the school's traditional sports afternoon.**

Tea - This will be available all afternoon

The children all have a tea ticket for the tea tent. Adult tickets can be purchased on the day at the entrance gate or before the procession.

Ballabeg Isle of Man IM9 4LH

Scoil Chairbre Balley Beg Mannin IM9 4LH

T(01624) 823369 E: arboryenquires@sch.im W <https://arbory.sch.im/>

A joint
LCK /school
ceili will be
held in the
big tent on
Friday 28th
June.
6.30pm -
9.00pm
Please get
your tickets
from the
school
office.
adults £3
children £2

The Festival of Laa Columb Killey is a unique part of traditional life in the Parish of Arbory and our school plays an important role in helping to maintain and promote this tradition. Please encourage friends and family to come along.

The origin of the festival

“Laa Columb Killey” means the Day of the Church of Columba, the Patron Saint of Arbory Parish Church. The festival is held as near as possible to the anniversary of the day in which Saint Columba died. It was the custom that on this anniversary day, the service in church should be followed by public games and an opportunity for people to meet with one another and show off home grown produce and crafts and hold exhibitions.

Involvement of Arbory School

Our children are involved in Laa Columb Killey in several ways including the preparation and presentation of handwriting at school in the weeks leading up to the big day and also for all the children in the production of art or craft work. This work is judged before the day and then presented in one of the display tents for the children and adults to see immediately following the opening ceremony. This is usually a very exciting moment for the children and they look forward in eager anticipation to see if there is a winning ticket attached to their work. The children from school also take part in the sports events from 3.30pm.

Our Manx Dancers will perform after the opening ceremony and the Year 6 children will march with the banner and lead the procession from Ballabeg Parish Hall, leaving at 2.30pm. Please could Year 6 pupils wear their school uniform. Other children usually wear fancy dress to join the procession. Y6 children involved in Manx dancing can wear their costumes instead of school uniform. If children are taking part in the sports, they will need to be able to run in their clothes or have something more suitable to change into to.

One of the traditions surrounding Laa Columb Killey involves year 6 pupils helping to clear the field on the following day. This will involve picking up litter and other debris using plastic gloves. If you do not want your child to be involved in this, then please contact Mrs Smith or myself before Wednesday 26th June. If it is wet on Friday it would be a good idea to bring wellies to change into.

Involvement of the community in Arbory

There are many competitions for members of the public from all ages to take part in, including growing of produce, art, photography, handicraft, confectionary and floral arrangements. There are also further sports activities in open classes for children at 6pm and adults from 7pm onwards.

Helpers Appeal

Helpers are needed on the children’s sideshow stalls. If anyone could give up an hour to man one of the sideshows, designed to keep the children entertained, could they please give Gill Leece a ring on 490600.

The opening Ceremony

The procession starts at Ballabeg Hall at 2.30pm and is led by Castletown Metropolitan Band and the Laa Columb Killey banner carried by Year 6 pupils. The children, dressed in period costume will make up the procession to the field. On arriving at the field, there are prayers, speeches and it is tradition for the following hymn to be sung:

*We thank Thee, Lord, for this fair earth,
The glittering sky, the silver sea;
For all their beauty, all their worth
Their light and glory, come from Thee.*

*So, while we gaze with thoughtful eye
On all the gifts Thy love has given,
Help us in Thee to live and die,
By Thee to rise from earth to heaven.*

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JH Ayres
Headteacher

