



# Newsletter 10/01/2020

## Whole School Updates

Welcome back everyone! I really hope that you and your families had a great break and are looking forward to the year ahead as much as we are. We have so much planned to further improve our great school, but will always rely on your help to allow us to realise our ambitions!

Our 2020 foci remain developing our whole-school mathematics and early years' literacy curriculum. We are developing the middle-leadership team to make sure we have absolutely the full breadth and balance of subjects being taught to the highest standards possible. Finally, we are raising the profile and support of children for whom English is an additional language. These are our core priorities which form our School Development Plan.

Good luck to our footballers who travel to Guernsey next Wednesday to represent Jersey in the regional stage of the FA Danone Cup! Go d'Auvergne!

After School Club (ASC) continues to go from strength to strength and is now managed by Miss Harriet Reid. Miss Reid will be available every afternoon from 12.45pm until 5.15pm to deal with ASC issues / bookings. She is available on [ASCadmin@dauvergne.sch.je](mailto:ASCadmin@dauvergne.sch.je). Please use this email for ASC, rather than the school email address. Thank you.

## PTA Update

Our new summer dress will shortly be available at Lyndale Sports and JSSK. These dresses will replace the various blue gingham dresses that children had been wearing as they are striped. They may be worn from Easter to the end of September and are optional.

Our January 200 Club winners are: £30 Caren Yates, £15 Lola Sepp and £10 April Bailey. Well done!

A Heads-Up...Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January is our Crazy Hair / Wig Day, £1 per family. School uniform is still to be worn.

Our next PTA Committee Meeting will be on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January.

## Mobile Phones

If children bring their mobile phones to school, they are to be handed to the class teacher at the start of the day and collected at the end.

Currently, there are some significant problems out of school with the use of social media amongst some older children (particularly WhatsApp, which has a rating of 13 years of age). Some children are being singled-out or discussed openly in an unkind manner by other children from their class. As this is an out-of-school issue, I suggest parents either resolve the problems between themselves if their child is involved or consider contacting the Police. We shall continue in our support of the children through educating them on how to use social media appropriately, but it is up to parents to monitor this out of school hours. If any parent wants advice on these issues, please do contact me.

### **Attendance and Punctuality**

Our average attendance rate for the autumn term was 96%. This still remains lower than the all-Island average. However, 31% of our pupils had excellent (99%+) attendance.

Our most punctual Year Group was Year 1, with only 0.8 lates per day (4 lates per week across the Year Group). Year 3 had the most lates – 3 per day, 15 per week across the Year Group.

**330 days** were lost last term to children being taken on holiday in term time.

This term, we shall be referring a number of families to the Education Welfare Service for support as children have either been persistently absent or persistently late.

### **Running Engines / After School Parking**

If you are waiting to collect your child or are dropping them off by car, would you kindly consider switching off your engine please? Certainly, do not leave your engine running if you are not in it. Thank you.

The most challenging time for our campus is at the end of the day. Please be patient. It would be very helpful if you are parked along the pavement by the side of the playground that you do so as close to the vehicle in front of you as is safe to do so; sometimes there are large spaces between vehicles resulting in a jam up the road. Thanks again.

### **2019 Parent Survey**

I continue to respond to the whole school survey responses question by question (2 each week):

**1. Does your child have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)?**

Yes                      No

21

If yes, how strongly do you agree with this statement:

'My child has SEND, and the school gives them the support they need to succeed.'

Strongly Agree              Agree              Disagree              Strongly Disagree

10                              11

(48%)                              (52%)

**SATISFACTION RATE: 100%**

***This was a very strong response in support of the excellent work undertaken by Mrs Fernandes and her team to support our children with Special Educational Needs and / or disabilities. We invest heavily in supporting SEND, financially and with extra staff. This investment is scrutinised both within school and by external agencies to make sure that we are responding to various needs in the correct manner.***

**1. The school has high expectations for my child.**

Strongly Agree              Agree              Disagree              Strongly Disagree

81                              129                              17    4 Not relevant

(35%)                              (56%)                              (7%)    (2%)

**SATISFACTION RATE: 93%**

***We are hugely ambitious for all of our children – the d’Auvergne Standard is high! We want your children to do very well.***

***As a team, we regularly review each other’s work and look at the standards in one another’s classes; this helps set an agreed standard of expectation. As indicated above, we have absolutely prioritised Mathematics; early reading and writing (Read Write Inc); English as an Additional Language; and curriculum coverage for our 2019–2021 School Development Plan (SDP). Furthermore, middle-leadership staff development is a specific focus for 2019–2021 to further help us raise expectations in all subject areas.***

Kind regards,

Mr Cooper

**Year Group Updates**

Nursery

The children have settled so well back into Nursery life; we have enjoyed hearing about the lovely experiences they have had over the Christmas break. We would like to wish you all a Happy New Year!

This week we have been looking into the children's interests, currently babies is a big theme. If you have any nappies, baby bottles, high chairs or baby blankets which you no longer need please bring them in for the children to use with our toy babies.

We are hoping that we might be able to have a couple of real baby visitors next week! If you have a baby and a feeling brave enough to visit the Nursery, we would love to have an opportunity in small groups to ask questions and to learn a bit more about how to look after babies. Please speak to Mrs Knight if you may be able to help.

### Reception

It's been a fantastic start to the new year here in Reception. The children have returned to school full of energy and enthusiasm and keen to share their holiday experiences.

We have started the New Year with a bit of a smoothie health kick! The children have been interested how to make a smoothie and so we have begun to look at different types of fruit and vegetables as well as the process required to make the fruit 'smooth'. The children have been discussing their favourite fruits and next week they will have the opportunity to make their own mixtures. We will also be discussing where different fruit comes from. Any donations of fruit would be gratefully received (more info on tapestry).

In Maths this week we have been learning about different times of the day and singing days of the week songs. Please help your child by continuing to talk about this at home.

### Year 1

Welcome back! We hope you had a lovely break over Christmas and are looking forward to the new year ahead.

We've kicked off this half terms topic learning with a trip to St Catherine's Woods, we really enjoyed getting wet and muddy whilst looking at birds, trees and anything enchanted.

We're looking forward to exploring 'The Enchanted Woodland' this half term, and will be visiting the woodlands surrounding our school as much as possible. With this in mind, please could you make sure that your child has wellies and a boiler suit kept in school so we will be prepared for all weathers as we will still be going out!

Just a reminder with regards to reading books, your child can change their book daily from the boxes in the corridor however this is their responsibility. The RWInc. books will be sent home in line with the 3 or 5-day program they are on. Please bear with us whilst we settle into our new groups, and remember we encourage you to read any books you have at home, or from the library.

### Year 2

London's Burning, London's Burning, Fire Fire! Fire Fire! Let us take you back to London, the Year is 1666 and the city is on fire!

Our new topic for the half term is The Great Fire of London. We have heard the story, met the characters and we know lots of details about how the fire started and why it was so devastating.

Please ask your children to share the story with you, and what activities we have covered so far.

On Thursday 30th January, the children will be designing and constructing Tudor houses, to create our own Pudding Lane. Please save any cardboard boxes, or other materials that we could use, and send them into school. Your child invites you to join them between 1.15pm-2.30pm to help them to design and build their house.

### Year 3

Happy New Year!

Firstly, wow! We have learnt so much about Florence, Paris, London, Glasgow, Funchal, Sydney, Newcastle just to name a few- Well done you guys!

After starting back, Year 3 have been busy looking at leaflets and identifying their features.

We have also started, and would appreciate your support, with multiplication and division.

In our science this term, we are asking the children questions to get them thinking about 'What is light? What is dark? How is light reflected? How are shadows formed?'. Please encourage any further questions at home.

Both adults and children have hit the ground running- Go Year 3!

### Year 4

What a fabulous start to the Spring Term we have had. The children have all settled in so quickly, back to the routines and many of them are enjoying new clubs after school, making the most of their days.

4S in particular have had a very exciting week with the start of their swimming lessons. There has been notable progress in just the first week. Remember 4S go Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays.

This week in Literacy, we explored New York City. It is so different to Jersey. Ask the children if they can explain how it is different. They have done some research about New York, written some notes and organised them so that they can write a postcard. They were so fabulous that we have decided to put them on display, so please come up and take a peek.

Next week, in Year 4 we will be looking at organising our own trips to America and learning to write more formal emails to find out about things to do and places to stay.

Over the weekend, please take an opportunity to look at a map of the USA. Talk about what you know about America, naming the States and perhaps research a little about the State of Arkansas.

### Year 5

Welcome back, we hope that all of Year 5 and their families had a wonderful festive period.

The children have returned to school ready and raring to go and have impressed us with the high level of work produced in the first week!

This week we have focused heavily on Science covering the unit 'Animals and their habitats'

The children have managed to identify a range of different habitats and describe them, as well as note which animals would be suited to these and explain their reasoning. We have looked in detail at plants, by having a hands on experience, the children have produced some beautifully detailed diagrams, which has enabled them to understand how different plants reproduce. The week has been topped off by an incredible trip to the zoo where we have continued to learn about the rain-forest and look at how Durrell are providing close replicas of their animal's natural habitats for their enclosures.

Huge applause to Kai from 5W for an overwhelming improvement in attitude and effort being applied to his learning and to Miguel from 5L, who has endeavoured to set that high

d'Auvergne standard with his mature attitude, constant hard working and thoughtful questioning (particularly in Maths).

Talking homework this week is to discuss letters – Who have you received one from? How did it make you feel? Have you ever sent a letter? Why?

#### Year 6

This week the children have enjoyed starting their work in the Makerspace. We are incredibly lucky to have the wonderful Mr Livesey working with the children during this term. The children were very excited before their first session and had a great time researching and beginning to make animals (a range of those studied by Charles Darwin) using two design programs called '3D slash' and 'Tinkercad'.

A big well done to our achievers this week; Ellie in 6B for having an exceptional work ethic and for being an all-round superstar and to Tara, in 6W, for settling in so well and for having a fantastic first week.

Discussion homework: Can you discuss how 3D design programs and printers can be used in the medical industry to help with advances in technology and treatments?