

d'Auvergne Weekly Update 19.9.25



Dear Parents and Carers,

Head Teacher's Comments

Meet the Teacher Evenings

A huge THANK YOU to the very many parents / carers who attended the meetings on Wednesday or Thursday, we do hope you found it beneficial.

I am attaching the slides that I shared from the sessions, which reference the d'Auvergne outcomes of the Children & Young People's Survey from last summer. They make interesting reading.

Patience, please

Traffic can be congested at the end of the day. However, there is no excuse for adults swearing at others in frustration, particularly as there are children around.

Absence from School

Parents / carers must report their child's absence via ParentMail, or selecting option 1 on the phone, and leave a message before 8.15am. Thank you.

Attendance

As indicated last week, I shall be providing you with further insights into our attendance data in these newsletters.

In every year group, except for the current Year 3, girls attend school more than boys. Last year, our current Year 5 boys' attendance was the lowest in the school and we shall be paying particular attention this year to this cohort.

By some distance, our best attendees are girls in our current Year 2 classes – can you maintain this record for 2025 – 2026?

Mrs Kruk's Corner

During the recent 'Meet the Teacher' evening, classroom teachers distributed a leaflet titled **"Your Home Language is Important"**, prepared by the MLL Advisory Service in CYPES.

We kindly ask that you take some time to discuss the content of this leaflet with your children. It is important for parents to support their children in recognizing that their home language and culture are valuable sources of pride and an integral part of their identity.

These aspects connect them deeply with their family's heritage.

Furthermore, a strong foundation in their home language significantly benefits children's ability to acquire knowledge (in any subject) and learn English, as well as other additional languages.

Thank you for your support in encouraging your children to embrace and celebrate their home language and culture.

Thank you,
Mrs Kruk.

The Very Hungry Caterpillar

L'Office du Jèrriais and the Jèrriais Teaching Service are preparing for the official launch of their new publication 'La Carpéleuse Hardi Affanmée' – a Jèrriais translation of Eric Carl's iconic The Very Hungry Caterpillar. The event takes place at Jersey Zoo on Sunday – please see attached flyers.

Have a great weekend everyone – the last of the summer sun?
Best wishes,
Mr Cooper

Year Group Updates

Futures

Hello!

The big news this week is that the flooring was laid for our new playground. The equipment has been double-checked, and the area has been signed off, so we are the proud owners of a lovely new play area! Once the protective fencing has been removed of course. Thank you to Mr Cooper for championing our cause, for key members from The States of Jersey for agreeing to fund this worthy project and to the builders who worked tirelessly during the summer to keep to the deadlines!

In other news, our timetable is filling up. Due to limited places, some school excursions are on a rota. For example, two of our children had a great time horse riding this week and next half term we will give other children the opportunity to attend. This will be the case for forthcoming Healing Waves sessions, and every week a different group of children have an amazing time at Soft Play! Don't worry, you will be made aware if/ when your child needs to bring any extra clothing.

By the time you read this, one group of children will have had their first swimming session. We have been using these facilities for a couple of years and the care and patience shown by the instructors is exceptional. Friday sessions are generally for developing swimmers, whilst Tuesday sessions tend to be more structured.

Finally, thank you for returning the intimate care plans. Just a reminder, should the medical needs, toileting needs or any personal circumstances change for your child – please don't hesitate to let us know. We take confidentiality very seriously, but open communication is often key to understanding the children and ensuring that we are all working together to keep them happy and healthy.

Have a great week.

Mrs Mason, Mr Williams and the Futures Team

Nursery

First FULL week = tick! Superb **efforts** Nursery heroes.

We have begun our *new normal* this week with the majority of our learners now in the **habit** of having register in Quiet Room, Castle Play before lunch and other classics like Meadow Monday, Woods Wednesday and Field Friday!

Part of our routine that is also evolving is the drop off and pick up at the **gate**. Thank you for the patience shown by all adults as we learn your faces – and as you guys are learning who we are too. The aim is for the children to be dropped off and picked up from the gate eventually – but we totally respect and appreciate your help in these early stages.

Tapestry is always an on-going chore at this stage of the year and I am liaising with the School Office daily to make sure you guys are all getting logged on as quickly as possible. Thank you for your patience. The flow of family **pictures** is continuing too ... many thanks!

We hope you have a superb weekend,
Mr du Feu and Team

Reception

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our 'Meet the Teacher' evening this week. Thank you for taking the time to join us, we're really excited to be working alongside you throughout the year. Each child received a school planner during the evening. Please ensure that planners stay inside your child's bookbag, along with their library books, and are brought to school every day. We will check the planners once a week, so please remember to jot down any books shared at home each night.

This week, *Stickman* stole the show as our introduction to talking about families. They had lots of fun choosing sticks and leaves to make their very own stickmen. The children also worked in small groups to discuss, draw, and write about their own families. Next week,

we'll be using the photos you kindly sent in for a special activity where the children will create family portraits.

In maths, the children enjoyed a shape hunt with a partner, finding circles, triangles, squares, and rectangles both inside the classroom and outside. You might like to ask your child what shapes they spot at home, or even play a game of 'guess the shape' together. We had another fantastic session with Josh from Sports Bug, focusing on developing multi-skills like dribbling a football, shooting goals, and balancing bean bags on their heads.

Finally, we began our Helicopter Stories — a wonderful opportunity for children to create, retell, and act out their own stories with friends. This activity really helps to boost their language skills and imagination, and we've loved hearing all the creative tales in class. Please continue to help your child recognise their own name and be on the lookout at home or when out and about over the weekend for any environmental print, this means print that children see around them in their day to day lives, such as signs, logos, labels and symbols.

Have a lovely weekend and thank you for your continued support 😊

Mrs Rachel Lutkin-Clarke and Mrs Susie Wilkinson (The Reception Dream Team)

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Year 1

This week the children have been settling into their new routines with their first full week back at school and they have been amazing!

In writing the children have been working together to think of questions that they would like to ask, 'The Tiger' from our book 'The Tiger who Came to Tea'. Lots of the children wanted to know if the 'Tiger' would like to come to their houses for tea!

In Maths, we have been continuing to focus on numbers to 10, counting to and from 10 from any given number, missing numbers, how many ways we can represent a number and working on number formation. The children played games in pairs to help consolidate their learning and they loved getting competitive with each other!

The children have enjoyed doing football with Michael from The Jersey Bulls and have been trying very hard at building their dribbling, kicking and ball control skills. Finally, the children are incredibly lucky to be able to watch a live performance of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' next week on Tuesday afternoon.

We hope that you have had a lovely week.

If you have any questions, please get in contact with us.

With very best wishes,

Mr. Worthington

and Miss McEnery

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Year 2

We have had a great week of learning in Year 2. It was so lovely to see and meet so many of you at our 'Meet the Teacher' evening this week. As always, if you need any help or information, don't hesitate to get in touch!

This week we have been continuing with our topic of the Great Fire of London. In Literacy, we were looking at expanded noun phrases to describe a picture of a flickering fire from our text, 'Vlad and the Great Fire of London'. Children started off by suggesting adjectives to describe the fire such as warm, hot, crackling, orange, flickery, sparkly etc. They then put these adjectives into an expanded noun phrase, for example, the bright, warm fire flickered.

In Topic this week, the children compared houses from the 1600's to the houses in today's society and as a class we discussed the similarities and differences between the two stating that houses back then had thatched roofs whereas today our roofs are made of tiles. In groups, the children created their own building to put on our map of London! Some children made bakeries, dressmakers, tailors, inns and houses. The map looked amazing once we had stuck each building onto it!

In Maths, we have been continuing with our number bonds and place value of numbers up to 100, placing numbers in the tens and the ones columns. We have started learning about the different ways to partition a number, for example 81 could be split into 80 and 1 but it could also be split into 40 and 41. The children have been using a part-part-whole model to show this.

In Science, the children have been learning about natural or manmade materials. The children learnt the difference between what natural materials were such as metal, wood, leather and rubber compared to those materials that are manmade for example, glass, plastic and paper. In groups, the children then sorted the different materials into separate piles, depending on whether they were natural or manmade.

Reminders:

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- Snacks should be fresh fruits and vegetables, these need to be brought up to the classroom daily, along with water bottles. Lunchboxes should be left on the trolleys in the quiet playground.
 - Please encourage children to read at home daily and practice spellings. This should be recorded in their homework diaries, which should be coming to school daily.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Aubert and Miss Crocker.

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Year 3

It has been another productive week in Year 3.

In maths we are getting into our stride with our arithmetic, with our weekly tests happening each Friday. Once our tests have been completed and marked they will be coming home so that you can work on any of the questions that the children may have found challenging and need more support with. We also continue to work on our place value knowledge and have been comparing numbers to 1000. It would be great if you could also start exploring the 3 times tables too... TTRS will help with that.

Our English lessons continue to take us back to life in Ancient Greece. We are enjoying getting to know the characters in Beast of Olympus and have decided that Hercules is not the hero we thought he was. Also, we have enjoyed reading the story of Leo and the gorgon's curse so that we can use it as a starting point for our mythical creatures 'Wanted' posters and a recount letter about Leo's epic adventure to rescue the gorgon!

In topic we have been looking at the geography of Greece and comparing it to Jersey. We have also been planning our maze ideas with Mr Livesey and have started to work on measuring and cutting the wood needed to make the complicated walls. In dance, we have started to choreograph our own dance based on the story of Theseus and the Minotaur. This week we were working on becoming the Greek hero Theseus and how he grew braver and believed that he could defeat the minotaur. We are looking forward to sharing our performance with you next month. More news to follow on this...

We are beginning to use our laptops more to support our learning, please make sure that they are charged overnight read for school. If there are any issues with the laptops please let us know and we will get Mr Crespel, the technical wizard, to take a look at them.

And finally, just to keep you in the loop, we will be hosting a PCGE student in 3D from 13th October until 30th January. There will be further details to follow on this but we are sure that he will be a great addition to our team for the time that he us with us.

Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have.

Warmest regards,

Miss Bolton and Mrs Davies

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Year 4

It was great to see you on Thursday evening for our 'Meet the Teacher' sessions. As discussed, the children will have the opportunity to participate in a cell project, run by the Jersey Music service. Please ensure that letters are returned to school asap.

Please find attached the 'Home Language is important' leaflet, from our MML team.

We continue to work on place value in maths. Children ability to be able to explain their learning, in a variety of ways is a key skill. Please find attached a journalling activity.

In PSHE, we are building our class team. We discussed the importance of inclusion and everyone having the right to feel safe and inculked. Please chat with your children about how we can achieve this.

On Thursday, we attended a talk on: *Phones, Social Media & Surviving the Online World*. This talk explored how young people and families can better understand and navigate digital life. Its key themes included;

- The psychological design of social media platforms and their impact.
- How online content affects identity, self-esteem, and wellbeing.
- Understanding online harms, including harmful content, cyberbullying, and screen addiction.
- Tools for critical thinking, empathy and safer online behaviour.

This is a worthwhile topic to discuss with your children, so please do ask them about it.

Some housekeeping...

1. Please ensure laptops come into school each day and are fully charged at home.
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2. Your child will need to be signed up to Year 4 Google Classroom, as we be using this platform to support learning. Logins are in planners.

3. Please ensure your child reads as often as possible, and planners are signed. As mentioned in our Meet the Teacher, Bug Club, TTRockstars and Spelling Shed are also available as additional extras.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Mrs AB & Mrs Hyde

Year 5

Another busy week in Year 5 with swimming *and* a talk at Beaulieu School on *Social Media*. The children are representing d'Auvergne well when out in the community.

In Writing, we are going deeper into grammar to write *relative clauses*. Please reference these when reading with children at home. A relative clause is a clause which relates to the rest of the sentence, separated with commas. These are almost always recognisable as starting with **who, which, when, where**. For example: *Oliver Twist, who was poorer than most*, was imprisoned in a dark, horrific workhouse.

In Maths, we are moving on to addition and subtraction. The skills for adding and subtracting do not change much, and although we are now working with 6-digit numbers and up to millions, column addition and subtraction is superb method for solving these equations. Please continue to practise these at home. Very soon, we shall be moving on to multiplication and division where, we have stressed previously, it is essential that children are **secure** with their times tables. Times tables should be practised often throughout the week, whether on TT Rockstars at home or simply tested verbally.

In History, we have continued crafting our Queen Victoria topic scrapbooks which are looking superb. We have also built a colossal timeline to show the period of 1800–1900, with facts about The Great Exhibition, Florence Nightingale, Charles Dickens, Queen Victoria's reign, key Victorian inventors and inventions, and much more. This is a really interesting period of history where we are asking the key question, **Dark Age or Golden Age?** There are countless achievements of the Victorian era, but are these compromised by the darkness surrounding hygiene, quality of life, disease, and cruelty?

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Year 6

6H

Wow! What an amazing week it has been for 6H exploring the coastlines of Jersey and looking at Jersey's natural ecosystems and habitats. From conservation work (sour fig picking, microplastic picking), to discovering new places, 6H have had a blast of a time.

On Monday we headed to Waterworks Valley and explored the woodland area. On Tuesday we explored the bays around Portlet and discovered some new places.

Wednesday was spent down at St Brelade's Bay picking microplastics and having a slightly cold swim (followed by a delightful hot chocolate). Our week was ended with a trip down to the sand dunes, which all the children enjoyed.

6G

On Monday, the children in 6G enjoyed another kickboxing lesson in PE and practiced their topography map making skills in Geography. Despite it being so early, on Tuesday the children in 6G planned and created their Christmas card designs, more information will come out regarding ordering these designs in time for Christmas. On Thursday, the children walked to Beaulieu for an Online Safety talk with Years 4 and 5. The children represented themselves and the school brilliantly, well done. In Writing, we have been writing a persuasive letter as a class ahead of the children writing their first independent write of Year 6 after the John Muir weeks. In Maths, the children have been continuing their Place Value topic and have been rounding numbers up to 10 million. They have continued reading our book 'Secrets of Platform 13', using a range of different skills to answer questions about what they have read. We hope you enjoyed the 'Meet the Teacher' evening. If you have any questions about the information, please contact your child's class teacher.

John Muir trip:

A reminder of the dates for 6G's John Muir week:

6G: Monday 22nd September – Friday 26th September

Please check the informational letter to check that your child comes to school with the correct clothing and lunch. If you can't locate the physical copy of this letter, there is one on the Year 6 Google Classroom, which your child should be able to help you find. If you have any questions, please email your child's class teacher directly.

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A few gentle reminders:

- **Our PE days are Monday and Wednesday this half term.** The children will have a Kickboxing session with a Kickboxing coach on Monday and their regular PE slot with Rob on Wednesday
 - Laptops need to be brought in to school every day fully charged.
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Home Learning:

- Reading: Daily for 20 minutes.
- Arithmetic Practice daily for 10 minutes.
- Daily Spelling practice

Achievers

6G: The achiever in 6G this week is Anthony. This young man has shown a fantastic level of effort and enthusiasm to his learning this week. We have dived right into the deep end with our work already in Year 6 and his attitude to everything has been amazing. Always giving everything a go, not being afraid to ask for some support and showing fantastic respect throughout the school. This is what makes you the achiever this week Anthony, well done!

6H: The achiever in 6H this week is Delilah! This young lady is an absolute delight and gave such a kind gesture to one of her peers. We were down at St Brelade's Bay, enjoying a lovely hot chocolate, after a cold sea swim. One of Delilah's classmates spilled their hot chocolate all over the floor, and Delilah decided to pour half of hers into her classmates without even being asked! An exceptionally kind act, which really highlights Delilah's attitude and personality. Great job!