d'Auvergne Weekly Update 2.10.26

Dear Parents and Carers,

Head Teacher's Comments

Reading for Pleasure

Encouraging your child to read for pleasure builds their confidence, vocabulary, and wellbeing, and you can foster this habit by making books a low-pressure, fun part of everyday family life. We are doing a lot in this space in school, but we need support from home.

Practical Tips

- **Read aloud together:** Read to your child regardless of their age or reading level to model fluency and share sophisticated stories.
- **Value all reading material:** Accept comics, graphic novels, magazines, non-fiction, and recipe cards—all reading counts toward building a reader identity.
- **Give them book choice:** Let your child pick their own books to foster a sense of ownership.
- **Keep it cozy and remove pressure:** Set up a comfortable reading nook and avoid turning reading time into a test **by skipping heavy quizzing after every page. Just read!**
- **Use audiobooks:** Listen to audiobooks on car journeys or follow along with a physical book to reduce decoding pressure while building comprehension.
- **Visit the library:** Join the Town Library to explore free resources, browse book types, and join reading events.
- **Be caught reading:** Model reading behaviours yourself, so your children see that adults also value and enjoy reading for relaxation.

Jersey Primary Schools' Cross Country Champion

A huge 'Well Done' tour Year 5 and 6 athletes, who represented the school on Thursday – brilliant performances all round.

A very special mention to **ISLA ROSS** (Year 5) who came FIRST in the girls' event – competing against 200 runners from around the Island. BRILLIANT NEWS!

Reception Need You!

We are looking to enhance our outdoor area and encourage the children's development of gross motor skills. If anyone has any of the following items, or has access to them, we would be very grateful:

- guttering
- pipes
- cardboard boxes and junk modelling (please no toilet rolls)
- tree stumps
- planks of wood
- crates
- gardening tools (gloves, trowels, forks)

Jersey Sport and Autism Jersey

Jersey Sport and AJ are hosting an inclusive sport event. Please find attached a poster about this.

Parents are to contact c.hanlin@autismjersey.org if you are interested.

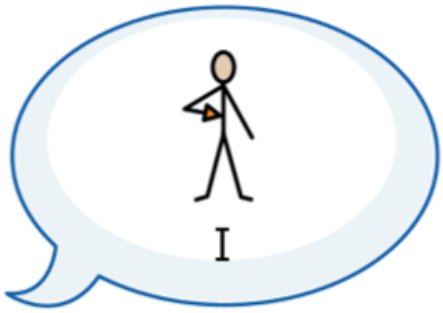
Have a lovely weekend everyone,
Mr Cooper and Bonnie.

Year Group Updates

Futures

This week our Core word has been 'I' (see Makaton sign and visual symbols below).





We have enjoyed listening to the story 'Dear Zoo' By Rod Campbell, as well as practising our Makaton signing to the song 'This is me!' from The Greatest Showman.

We've used different coloured shapes to create people pictures and Shelly Shape, our hungry puppet, has been eating all of our circles triangles and squares!

During the afternoons we have been adding fabric scraps to our 'My Special Things' boxes, explored using mirrors to help us wash our faces and have stuck our sibling photographs into our 'My Family' books.

On Thursday we had a great time in the hall with Cory from Sports Bug. He brought lots of fun equipment along for us to explore.

As part of our continued professional development, Futures staff have been focussing on '**Show don't say**'.
The key message of this is that children may understand an instruction more easily when they can see what to do.
We show the action, use simple words, then give them time to copy.
For example,
Instead of only saying "Can you put your coat on please?", demonstrate putting on a coat and say simply, "Coat on".

Every two weeks we will be focussing on a different skill which we aim to share with you.

Have a great weekend.

Mrs Mason and the Ash/Oak class Team

We have had a very busy week in Willow class! It has been a very active week, with pupils enjoying their first swimming lesson of the term, taking part with enthusiasm. Along with this, pupils have also been fortunate enough to take part in Sports Bug, have a PE lesson with Coach Rob, and several pupils also joined their link class for PE.

In literacy, we have continued focusing on Kasim and the Greedy Dragon, using this text as inspiration for our own story - Mrs Bailey and the Scary Bear - which we wrote as a whole class. Some pupils have gone further and written their own version of it. In addition, we have continued focusing on our speed sounds in phonics, practicing the sound 's' this week - with lots of slithering snakes and sizzling sausages!

In maths, we continue to learn about time through deepening understanding of how long regular events take, what is a unit of time, and the order of events on a visual timetable. Alongside this, pupils have accessed personalised maths teaching at their own level - learning about everything from counting, to addition and subtraction, and even to money. In Willow class, we are following the Maths for Life scheme, so all taught concepts will have a specific focus on applying them in real life contexts.

In other lessons, we have enjoyed a wide variety of activities - from making clay dragons at Forest School, to joining link classes for assembly, to making cheese and tomato sandwiches in cooking lessons. We are also practicing our Makaton signing, with a current focus on family members.

As a reminder, termly review meetings are due shortly. Please respond to Miss Lauren's email to confirm when you are able to attend.

The Willow Team

Lauren England
Futures ARP Teacher - Willow Class

Nursery
Another week of progress from Nursery. We are working hard on turn taking and sharing with an emphasis on using **words** rather hands or screams. It has been AWESOME to hear "stop please, I don't like it" or "when you are finished, please may I have a go?". In addition to these phrases and questions the children are becoming super familiar with sand timers. If there is a toy they wish to have but someone else is using it - then they can grab a timer to aid sharing. Super skills and easy to replicate at home.

The children are also making huge strides with learning **names**, both peer and teacher. A super place to support this has been lunchtimes where the children are beginning to sit in semi-consistent seats and therefore learning their neighbours' names becomes easier. I appreciate it is tough for you guys too! We have core group of adults in Nursery all week with additional staff in for certain days or tasks: Story Starters (reading stories), Sports Bugs (coaching), Miss Keown (art), PJ (Forest School) and Robin (Jèrriais) and a plethora of visitors like Mr Cooper and Mrs Lutkin-Clarke! Lucky children!

Our core **team** remains: Mr du Feu, Miss Ora, Miss Emblem and Mrs Renouf.

Thank you for your support this week and have a super weekend!

Reception

We have continued our conversations and learning about families, talking about the people who are special to us and what makes each of our families unique. Thank you so much for sending in your family photographs, the children have really enjoyed sharing them with their friends and talking about their families.

This week in maths, we have introduced subitising to 5. Subitising means being able to recognise how many objects there are without needing to count each one individually. We have been using conkers to practise this skill, looking carefully and saying how many we can see. You could have a go at home too. Take advantage of the autumn weather and collect a few leaves, conkers or small natural objects. Show your child a small group and ask, *"How many can you see?"* Can they recognise the number without counting?

We have also started writing our numbers 0 to 5. We are learning to form our numbers correctly and carefully, making sure we start them in the right place. Please continue to use the number formation rhymes that we sent home at our Meet the Teacher session. These rhymes are a great way to help children remember the correct movements when writing their numbers.

A huge thank you for all the wonderful items you have collected and sent in for our nature table. The children have loved looking at and talking about all the different natural treasures. It has created lots of opportunities for discussion, observation and vocabulary development.

Reminders:

- PE day is Thursday
- Please can grapes be cut in half for snack / lunch

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It has been wonderful to see how enthusiastic the children are becoming about their learning!

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

r.lutkinclarke@dauvergne.sch.je s.wilkinson@daauvergne.sch.je

Year 1

We have had another busy and exciting week in Year 1! The children have continued to settle beautifully into their routines and have shown lots of enthusiasm, curiosity and perseverance in their learning. It has been wonderful to see their confidence growing each day.

In English, we have continued our work based on *Kassim and the Greedy Dragon*. The children have been developing their sentence writing skills, focusing on writing clear and interesting sentences about Kassim and the dragon. We have been thinking carefully about our choice of words, using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops, and remembering to read our sentences back to check that they make sense.

In Maths, we have continued exploring place value to 10. The children have been developing their understanding of how numbers are made and represented. We have been using practical resources and different representations to help us recognise numbers, compare quantities and explain our mathematical thinking.

Our Science learning this week has focused on sound and hearing. The children have been exploring how sounds are made and thinking about how we hear sounds with our ears. We have enjoyed investigating different sounds and discussing whether they are loud, quiet, high or low.

In Topic, we have been learning all about Neil Armstrong. The children have been finding out about his incredible journey into space and his place in history as the first person to walk on the Moon. They have enjoyed discovering interesting facts and learning more about space exploration.

Reminder: Zoo Trip
We are very excited about our upcoming **Zoo Trip on Wednesday 18th November**!
Please remember that children will need to bring:

- A **packed lunch and snack** that they can eat independently.
- **No hot lunches**, as these will not be available during the trip.
- **Suitable waterproof clothing**.
- **Wellies**, if possible, as the weather and ground conditions may be wet or muddy.

We are also grateful to any parents who are able to volunteer and support us on the day. If you are available between **9:00am and 2:00pm**, please speak to a member of the Year 1 team.
A reminder that our PE days are **Monday and Thursday**. Children should come to school wearing their PE kit on these days and have suitable footwear for taking part in physical activities.
As always, thank you for your continued support and encouragement. We really appreciate everything you do at home to help your children with their learning.
We are incredibly proud of all the children and look forward to another exciting week of learning!
Kind regards,
Mr. Worthington and Miss McEnery
a.worthington@dauvergne.sch.je e.mcenery@dauvergne.sch.je

Year 2

Another fantastic week in Year 2! We have had a very busy and exciting week, with lots of wonderful learning taking place.

The highlight of our week was our trip to Mont Orgueil Castle. The children had so much fun learning about the different features of a castle. They enjoyed spotting features around the castle and discussing the purposes of the different rooms and areas.

The children displayed excellent behaviour throughout the trip and asked lots of thoughtful questions as they developed their understanding of medieval times. We were very proud of them!

A huge thank you to all of our parent helpers who supported us on the trip. Your help and support are very much appreciated.

In Maths, we have continued our learning about place value. We have been identifying which digit represents the tens and which digit represents the ones in a number.

We have also been practising finding 1, 2, 5 and 10 more and less than a given number.

The children would benefit from some consolidation of these skills at home, so please practise these concepts whenever you can.

In Literacy this week, we have continued learning our Kassim and the Dragon story. The children are now fantastic at retelling the story and are becoming very confident at using the actions to help them remember the different parts.

We then explored spine poems for a dragon. These poems use nouns, adjectives and verbs in each line to describe something. The children then had a go at creating their own spine poems about a jester, linking their writing to our castles topic. We were very impressed with their creativity!

In Science, we have continued our learning about materials. We looked at recyclable and non-recyclable materials and grouped different objects according to whether they could be recycled.

We also explored which materials are suitable for different objects and discussed their properties. For example, wood is a good material for a table because it is solid and strong, whereas metal would not be a suitable material for a window because it is not transparent (see-through).

We have also started our exciting Art project, where the children will be creating watercolour paintings of Mont Orgueil Castle.

This week, we looked at paintings of the castle created by different local Jersey artists. We discussed how artists look carefully at a photograph or image while painting to help make their work accurate.

The children then had a go at drawing their own versions of Mont Orgueil Castle. We are looking forward to seeing how these develop over the coming weeks!

Important Information for 2H

Parents of 2H, please note: On Thursdays, Mrs Crespel will be dismissing the class. She will be situated at the gate of the nursery area, rather than near the trim trail.

Reminders

Please ensure that children come into school every day with:

- A snack
- A water bottle

Please also remember that lunch boxes should be placed on the trolley in the quiet playground in the morning.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We hope you have a lovely weekend!

Miss Aubert and Mr Henderson.

Year 3

Another busy and exciting week has flown by in Year 3, and the children have worked incredibly hard across all areas of their learning.

In reading, we have been thoroughly enjoying *Beasts of Olympus*. We are so pleased to hear that Demon is doing a great job caring for the creatures of Mount Olympus. This week, he helped the Nemean Lion, who had lost his famous skin, and also came to the rescue of the Stymphalian Birds after they had been shot by arrows. The beasts are really starting to warm to him now, and we are excited to see what adventures await him next.

In writing, we have been learning the story of *Kassim and the Dragon* through text mapping and actions, helping us to remember the story and build our storytelling skills. We have also created some outstanding similes to describe a dragon, a hydra and a minotaur. The children came up with some wonderfully imaginative ideas, using exciting vocabulary to bring these mythical beasts to life.

In maths, we have started our new topic of addition. We began by reminding ourselves of our number bonds to 10, which are extremely helpful to know by heart when adding larger numbers. We have then moved on to column addition, focusing on ensuring our numbers are always placed in the correct columns and remembering to start by adding the ones column first. The children have worked hard and shown great care with their presentation.

In geography, we learnt about compass directions and how we can use them to describe where countries and islands are located. We also used compass points to explain where different countries are in relation to Greece, helping us to develop our map-reading skills and geographical understanding.

We have also continued with both *Book Champion* and *My Story, Our World*. These sessions are proving to be extremely insightful and are a wonderful way for us to learn more about one another, celebrate our differences, discover the experiences of our classmates and learning about each other's favourite books.

Thank you for your continued support. We hope you all have a wonderful weekend and look forward to another exciting week of learning next week!

Miss Morris - t.morris@dauvergne.sch.je
Mrs Davies - r.davies@dauvergne.sch.je

Year 4

This week in Year 4, we have had a fantastic time in our DT lessons as we explored how electricity works. The children enjoyed conducting a range of experiments to build their own electrical circuits and investigate which materials are conductors and insulators. They then applied their learning by creating their own switches using aluminium foil and split pins. It was wonderful to see their enthusiasm, curiosity and teamwork throughout these practical activities.

In Maths, we have continued our work on place value and we have been learning how to round four-digit numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1,000. The children have worked extremely hard and are becoming increasingly confident in applying these new skills.

In Art, we have begun designing and drafting our Christmas cards. The children have shown great creativity and care in their work, and we are looking forward to sharing the final designs with you soon. Watch this space for further information about how you can purchase your child's Christmas card.

Following our Meet the Teacher event last week, we would like to share a list of recommended books for Year 4 children. Encouraging regular reading at home is one of the best ways to support your child's learning and develop a lifelong love of reading. You can access the suggested book list here:

Year 4 Recommended Reads

Please also see the attached document containing the Year 4 Common Exception Words, which are the spellings that we focus on throughout the year. Regular practice of these words at home can greatly support your child's spelling development.

Reminders

PE Days

- 4AB: Tuesday and Friday
- 4H: Monday, Tuesday and Friday

Musical Instruments

- Please ensure that children in 4AB bring their clarinets to school on Mondays.
- Please ensure that children in 4H bring their violins to school on Wednesdays.

Laptops

- Please ensure that laptops are brought to school every day and are fully charged before arrival.

Water Bottles

- Please ensure that your child brings a refillable water bottle to school each day so that they can stay hydrated throughout their learning.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We have been very impressed with the children's positive attitude and effort this week, and we are looking forward to another successful week ahead.

Many thanks,

Mrs AB and Mrs Hyde

Year 5

We have had a very productive week in Year 5!

In Writing, we have started acting out text, *Kassim and the Dragon (Smaug) taken from* our own story map of Smaug. We have been writing some lovely sentences using fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases to improve the boring sentences e.g. There was a forest, there was a cave.

In Reading, we have continued reading *Oliver Twist*. The children have been using their reading skills to retrieve and record information and why the author has written the text in that way to draw attention to the reader.

In Maths, we have started our Addition and Subtraction unit, where we have been using the 'counting on' strategy with concrete materials and number lines. We have been practicing our maths skills rounding the numbers to the nearest 100,000.

In Topic, we have finished making our Victorian books and added our drawings of Queen Victoria to the front cover of the book. In our lesson this week we learnt about the Industrial Revolution and what inventions were developed during this time. We discussed if the technology of these inventions is still similar or different today?

In Science, we carried out an investigation. We used substances that we would find in the kitchen to see if they are soluble or insoluble. We wrote predictions before we carried out the investigation and then summarised what we found out!

We have cancelled our Swimming for both classes on Thursday 8th October, 5F please come into school in normal uniform for that day unless you are doing an afterschool activity where you need to be wearing your PE kit.

Final Crabbe Reminders:

- **All children need to bring pack lunch the day they are going to Crabbe (5F Monday, 5H Wednesday)**
- **All items brought must be named clearly.**
- **All children need to bring a named water bottle.**
- **Please bring waterproof coats as it looks like it might rain some of the time.**
- **Suncream might be needed as it also looks like it might be sunny some of the time.**
- **Please remember to bring any names medication needed with clear instructions.**

Weekly school Reminders:

- PE: Wednesday
- Swimming: Thursday
- Spelling test: Friday
- Arithmetic test: Monday or Friday
- Please, please, please read every day!

The Year 5 Team
Mrs Harris and Mrs French

Year 6

Wow, what a week 6C have had on their 'John Muir' Experience Week! The children have represented the school amazingly well throughout the week and should be incredibly proud of themselves. They have shown enthusiasm, curiosity, teamwork and a real passion for helping and protecting the environment.

We started our week at St Brelade's making our way to Ouaisne, where the children took part in some microplastic picking. They did a fantastic job and worked hard to help clean up the path and protect our environment. We then headed to Portelet Common, where the children created their own nature parks, inspired by John Muir's love of nature and conservation. Their ideas were fantastic, with parks designed for bugs, foxes, birds and many other animals!

On Tuesday, we started our day at L'Etacq, where the children learnt about why Stinky Bay is known for helping to fertilise the potatoes. They then had lots of fun skimming rocks and creating different things using sand and shells. We continued our walk to Kempt Tower, where the children took part in some amazing sour fig picking alongside experts. Their enthusiasm and interest really impressed the experts, and once again, the children did a fantastic job of helping to protect Jersey's environment. We finished the day at the sand dunes, where the children enjoyed running, playing and making the most of the beautiful surroundings.

On Wednesday, we spent the day exploring Corbiere, walking along the cliff paths and taking in the scenery. The children discovered a cave where pirates were believed to have hidden their treasures many years ago! We also visited the desalination plant, where we discussed what it is used for and why it is important. The children also explored the old granite crusher, learning about how granite was transported in the past.

One of the highlights of the day was our meditation and silent walk. The children were encouraged to slow down, listen carefully and look closely at the natural world around them, noticing things they might normally miss while chatting to their friends. They did such a brilliant job, and it was lovely to see so many of them enjoying this calm and peaceful experience. We ended the day with some rock pooling, where the children discovered crabs, shells and lots of other fascinating creatures.
For our final day, we explored Vallee de Vaux, spending time in the woods and looking closely at the different types of trees and plants around us. It was a lovely way to finish what has been an incredibly memorable week!

Back in class, however, we've been turning our attention to our Writing. Children are consolidating their knowledge about the writing 'toolkit' we have created, which helps us to remember what makes a *good* piece of writing. Some fabulous discussions this week have led to realisations that the reader *wants* to think about what happens next. Therefore, the author's job is not to reveal all but, rather, hint at the many possible happenings of the story. We're working hard on tweaking the finer details of handwriting, supporting this with dictation exercises where children must write out the sentence that they have heard. Next, we look towards *mastering* the tools in our writer's toolkit, ready for our own storytelling in the coming weeks.

In Skellig, we are reading more about Michael's poor baby sister. It is overwhelming and yet captivating to read a child's account of their worries and anxieties, with not many people to speak to. When it comes to *writing* about reading, we're encouraging children to tighten their summaries: writing a summary of a chapter is to write a neat and succinct paragraph which only tells the reader *the most relevant aspects of that chapter*. We encourage you to ask your child to verbally summarise things that they have read, practising to 'leave out' all of those other details which, although they may add story and development during the actual reading, can otherwise be irrelevant when summarising the main points.

In Maths, children are multiplying, multiplying, multiplying. 4-digits by 2-digits? Remember to partition! 1432 x 20 looks intimidating, but the question becomes easier if we split it to multiply 1432 by 10, then multiply your answer by 2 (because 20 is the same as 10x2!). 1432 x 10 = 14,320. Now *that's* an easy number to double. What about 310 x 23? Well, 23 is really 20 and 3. Multiply 310 by 20 (6200), then multiply 310 by 3 (930), then add those answers together (7,130). Children are also reminded that there are many ways in which multiplication is asked for. For example, *what is the product of 310 by 3?* This means the same as **what number is produced if you multiply 310 by 3?**

History has us fact-finding about Charle's Darwin. Such as, he would have gone to medical school if not for his fear of blood. His ideas were also despised at the time, by most people, as his foundational theory of evolution went against many orthodox church teachings. In Science, children will soon be learning about one of Darwin's pervasive discoveries when exploring the Galapagos Islands; that each island had a different range of plants and seeds, therefore the finches on each island had evolved to have different beaks to consume these seeds.

Year 6 team

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Miss Crocker - e.crocker@dauvergne.sch.je
Mr Blake - r.blake@dauvergne.sch.je