



December 2020



Attendance this term

Caterpillars - 98%  
Reception

Hedgehogs - 95%  
Yrs. 1 & 2

Puffins - 99%  
Yrs. 3 & 4

Gannets - 97%  
Yrs. 5 & 6

Arch - 96%

Braye - 98%

Corblets - 97%

Year 11 - 91%

Whole school 97%

Wishing all our pupils,  
parents and staff a  
very special time this  
Christmas



Christmas 2020

A fond farewell! *I will always remember my time at St. Anne's School as very special place.*

It's goodbye from him...

Kieran left us in October - the effects of Covid meant seeing his girlfriend and family back home in Cornwall became untenable. He wanted to pass on his best wishes to the pupils and staff at St Anne's School and says this:

"I joined St Anne's School in January 2019, not even knowing where Alderney was, but it immediately felt like home from home. Meeting staff on the first day was daunting, but they immediately brought a sense of family with their kind and caring nature. We were like one big family.

There were so many highlights at St. Anne's: teaching nursery and reception age was a new step but one of the most rewarding; lessons where students 'got it' - that proud 'eureka' moment after struggling with something - I love that; taking the lead for the year 6 sailing trip; getting a signed photo from an England rugby player for a student which made their day and the overseas trips and acting as loco-parentis broadened my skills and experiences as a teacher.

Sadly though, these unprecedented pandemic times took the shine off what was an amazing time and experience for me. Family is something I value greatly and not being able to see them for months on end started to have an impact. Outside of school was where I felt isolated and cut off. Support from colleagues was amazing but not knowing how long these restrictions would go on for, I took the decision to seek a job back in Cornwall where my partner and family live. One thing I would like to say to students at St Anne's school is a quote from A. A. Milne which is, "promise me you'll always remember you're braver than you believe and stronger than you seem and smarter than you think. Best wishes, *Mr Harvey*"



It's goodbye from her...



Of course we also sadly said goodbye to Jeannie Taylor this term. Her time with us is full of lots of lovely memories in her role as Duke of Edinburgh lead and as LSA in The Den. We wish her all the best in her new career as a police officer and look forward to seeing her round Alderney whenever she is home.



Inside...

- News from Cleo Thomas about the Youth Club and how she works with last 2019's Yr. 11 on Guernsey
- The Yr. 3/4 pupils Alderney Museum trip
- Freddie's winning card!



And it's hello from me! Jack Thurlow joined us on 7 December as our new PE teacher and is settling in well. His fiancée has also come to Alderney and has recently launched a new children's book about being eco-friendly, particularly raising awareness of plastic pollution - something our *Plastic Free* school is very passionate about! Jack loves playing, teaching, watching and learning about any sport, but his biggest passion is football and rugby, playing both at a high level. Before becoming a teacher, Jack had lots of experiences in football coaching and mentoring; working for The FA for six years, including coaching at Wembley Stadium; working for Arsenal FC in Kuwait and as a Director of Soccer in USA! His most recent job was teaching at a school that Mr Winward used to teach at in England. With many friends, family and ex-colleagues saying how beautiful the island is, the fantastic PE curriculum offered, and Mr Winward saying that St Anne's School pupils are the best he has ever taught, it was a no brainer! We are both really looking forward to meeting everyone.

# ★ Headteacher's Report– Autumn term ★

## Mr Winward praises staff and parents...

Leading in difficult, challenging and unprecedented times where there has been no predictability, no certainty and potentially no end in sight requires a different type of leadership, a different form of leadership practice. I commend staff in their steadfastness in ensuring we remain true to our vocation in putting children first and to the support of parents and the wider community for joining with us, arm in arm, in delivering outcomes to the very best of our abilities. Our partnership work during this time is both recognised and praised by Education Services, the States of Alderney & President. I want to thank you all.



The end of a busy half term led us through our Inclusion & Equality two day audit. We await the formal report but I was really pleased with the collegiate way this review was carried out both in recognition of our strengths but more importantly supporting us in our challenges and areas for continued development. The findings of the report will be shared with stakeholders as a summary document in the Spring Term.

It is with a heavy heart that I report Anna Hunt's leaving St. Anne's at the end of term. For personal & family reasons we say farewell to Anna as she returns to the UK to support her son, but we are delighted that her home will remain with us in Alderney. As a school and particularly the leadership team, School Management Committee and Alderney Support Team, we commend Anna to her future employer (also a school) in the UK and know she will be a huge hit and success. Come and visit us all again soon.

Finally, all that remains is for me to wish you the very best this Christmas. I look forward to returning to the UK to see my wife and children in our family home in Shropshire before returning in 2021 to another 14 days waving at you all from a distance in my home office opposite the school. Maybe another garden marathon may be in the offering. Best wishes and good health,

*Martin Winward and family.*



### Computational Brilliance!

Our Computing Science department offered Year 4 to Year 11 the opportunity to participate in the **UK Bebras 2020 Competition**. Almost all pupils joined in! This is the computational thinking initiative supported by the British Computer Society (BCS) and the results are due in any day. High hopes for certificates and maybe another invitation for any pupils finishing in the top 10% of the UK to be invited on to the final in March 2021. This prestigious invitation is offered by Herford College, Oxford. We had 2 pupils in the final last year, hopefully we can better this!

Dashing thru the class  
A test tube in my hand  
To do another lab  
I'll never understand.  
I'll mix up a solution  
And filter 'till it's clear  
And dry out my precipitate  
So I can get out of here.



Chemistry! Chemistry!  
It's my favorite class!  
I love to do experiments  
With all the Pyrex glass!

Chemistry! Chemistry!  
It's my favorite class!  
And I'd like it a whole lot more  
If it wasn't such a pain in the...ugh...Neck

A day or two ago  
I got a big balloon  
Filled it up with Hydrogen  
And let it go Ka-Boom.  
My teacher got upset  
Combustion happened fast  
And now my "A" in chemistry  
Is something of the past.

### Prize Giving

In a year where pupils and staff had to adapt their approaches to teaching and learning, the same can be said of our approaches towards Prize Giving events for 2020. Staff used creativity & culinary skills to firstly hold a Sumptuous High Tea Prize Giving event for former Year 11 pupils in October. The event was a huge success with Holly Neill taking the Prize for highest achiever and Gabrielle Tate delivering her speech on ambition and not being afraid to take risks.

Both the Primary and Secondary Prize Giving events took place in early December and parents were invited to attend special, extended assemblies to celebrate their child's achievements.

Once again we are grateful to all contributors of prizes and cups and this year we welcomed the addition of the Joy Madin Kindness Cup- provided by the family of the late Joy Madin, former Deputy Head teacher here at St Anne's School.

## HAPPINESS IS



*...being proud of yourself.*

We just LOVE to read!!



#### £500 book grant from Julius Baer & Co. Ltd.

In June we were invited to seek funding from Julius Baer & Co Ltd, through Managing Director Mr Craig Allen.

Mr Winward proposed the money be spent on 'engaging boys in literacy' through our *I Can* project, as many boys prefer non-fiction and are drawn towards books on real experience.

Funding was forthcoming, and I am happy to report that our new books were delivered by the Alderney Book Shop this week. There is a huge selection of outdoor activity books, as well as true stories of heroism and discovery. Dinosaurs, survival skills and natural history all feature heavily too!

We are very grateful for the grant, as it has enhanced our non-fiction section, and we know all our students will enjoy the books.

#### Non-Fiction November

We have shared fabulous new books, explored the modified non-fiction infant section and enjoyed non-fiction based activities and quizzes.

This year's theme was 'The Planet We Share', with different aspects of our planet (and our library) highlighted each week, such as: Adventurers, Exploration and Discovery, How Things Work (See Inside, Cross Sections), Citizenship & Inclusion and with our new Julius Baer books – The Great Outdoors.

It is hoped that by celebrating Non-Fiction November, pupils will engage with a variety of texts, learn how to search out and use information books, feel confident when using the library and have fun in the process.



#### Coming Up....

Christmas celebrations in the library, and this year it's a little bit different! Children, watch this Space!

### Who's that knocking on our door?



St. Anne's School  
ALDERNEY

In the past Bailiwick schools have been inspected by Education Scotland, but from Spring 2021 we will begin the transition to the Ofsted model. Three Guernsey schools will take part in the Ofsted pilot, then as Summer Term begins we will wait with bated breath for an inspection. The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) are not phased by this prospect however, as we have an evolving school development plan in which we set targets that are monitored regularly. These targets have been, and continue to be, focused around the four Ofsted inspection pillars of:

- Quality of Education
- Personal Development & Welfare
- Behaviour and Attitudes
- Leadership & Management

It goes without saying that all of our aims and targets are set in the context of your children's happiness and the best learning environment we can provide to suit their learning style.

#### Pupil & Parent Surveys

At the beginning of Autumn Term, we sent you all links to the Parent Survey which was based on the UK Ofsted Survey. We also sent a version of that survey to every pupil. It is imperative that, as part of our school development plans, we understand what you and your children think about the school. We have analysed the results of these surveys and will be sharing these with you in the New Year, highlighting any areas where we will be taking action to improve areas that need some attention.



The Youth Commission for Guernsey and Alderney launched their

new Post 16 Transition Project in September to support Alderney students who continue their education in Guernsey. Our support aims to provide young people with information, support and signposting to other services if needed to help ensure positive outcomes for all young people. The youth worker, Cleo, visits young people once a month in Guernsey on a one to one basis to ensure young people are engaging, supported with their emotional health and well-being, listened to, and ultimately able to thrive while continuing their education. We also run an 'Alderney' youth club one evening while in Guernsey for young people to meet up and spend time together. This week we also took the young people ice skating as an end of term activity which all the young people thoroughly enjoyed!

**Alderney Youth Club** also gained two new sessional staff members in September. We welcomed Tom and Donna to our team who bring a fresh enthusiasm and energy to the youth club and have already created great relationships with the children and young people as well as new ideas and activities for them to enjoy.



ALDERNEY  
CHANNEL ISLANDS

Students and staff involved in the Duke of Edinburgh Award at St Anne's would like to thank everyone for their generous donations for our raffle, bonus ball and flag day, we made over £600 towards our equipment and future expeditions, thank you!

Thank You!



**The Guernsey Child Measurement Programme**

During February and March, all Children in Year 1 and Year 5 will have their height and weight checked and recorded by the school nurses across all primary schools. This valuable information will enable us to create a statistical base for future targeted child health interventions.

**The programme is completely confidential.** Parents/Carers will be receiving information about the measurement programme in January 2021. Please contact Katie Hill, Specialist Nurse if you have any questions or concerns. Tel: 725241 ex 5243

**Freddie's winning Christmas card**

All Primary children from Year 1-6 took part in this year's President's Christmas card design competition and we had some really fabulous entries!

The winner was Freddie Thomas-Cox.

We should see his card around and about Alderney as Christmas draws ever closer. Well done Freddie!



**All sorts of fun and hard work from Primary & Infants...**



Our Autumn Museum trip – "This was just a brilliant visit " says Miss Allison. "We are very lucky to have such a wonderful museum on our doorstep"!



Year 1 & 2 on Odd Socks Day. We did lots of work on Friendship – what makes a good friend and how it's good to be different ☺

**And from little acorns...**

Some generous people approached the Wildlife Trust to donate some 'acorn vases' to the children at St Anne's. These beautiful vases suspend the acorn just above water level and the baby oak tree can live for up to one year in the vase before it can then be transplanted into soil. 12 vases in all were donated, one for each school year group including reception. The children have labelled their vases with little acorn tags and already some roots have started to grow into the water.



Hopefully, we will be able to re-use the vases each year and help to add to the island's tree population. Thank you to the donors and the Wildlife Trust for making this possible.

**SCHOOL UNIFORM:** As we move towards the end of the autumn term, it is noticeable that a minority of pupils are beginning to let standards slip with school dress and equipment requirements. Please see below extracts from our school prospectus as a reminder of our expectations.

**Seniors:**

- black school blazer (only available from Sew Much Fun) & black school tie (from Sew Much Fun)
- plain white cotton shirt
- black or grey skirt or trousers
- black shoes. Flat 'sensible' shoes are appropriate for safety reasons. **Trainers are not acceptable.**
- black socks or tights. White socks can be worn with skirts.
- NB skirts should be knee length and trousers not skinny or stretch fit;** hairstyles should be 'conventional' and colour a natural hue

**Infants & Juniors:**

- white polo shirt.
- school sweatshirt / cardigan in 'Alderney' blue with gold logo (from Sew Much Fun)
- black or grey skirt/dress (Infants) or trousers.
- black shoes. Flat 'sensible' shoes are appropriate for safety reasons. **Trainers are not acceptable.**
- black socks or tights (infants black or grey); white socks may be worn with skirt/dress.
- In the summer girls may wear Alderney blue gingham dresses

Finally, pupils may not wear jewellery other than a watch; nor wear make-up or nail varnish. Pupils may wear **ONE** pair of plain studs only. There are to be no facial piercings. All necessary equipment is provided by the school, but all children should bring the basic essentials: blue or black pens, pencil, rubber, ruler, coloured pencils, sharpener and a calculator. THANK YOU.

**A reminder to Stay home if you are unwell**—If anyone becomes unwell with any flu like symptoms (headache, muscle aches, blocked nose) fever, sore throat, cough, sneezing, shortness of breath or loss of taste or smell, they should continue to stay at home until they have been tested or for 48 hours after their symptoms have disappeared.

Please mind my personal space



The Clinical Helpline (01481 756938 or 756969) is there to give you advice seven days a week between 8am and 8pm. If you have returned to Alderney from outside the Bailiwick you will be served a mandatory 14 day self-isolation order that you **MUST** comply with.