



St. Anne's School
ALDERNEY

School News

Summer Newsletter 2024



Attendance this term

Little Owls- 95%
Reception

Hedgehogs - 95%
Yrs. 1 & 2

Puffins -93%
Yrs. 3 & 4

Gannets - 95%
Yr. 5&6

Arch- 92.5%

Braye- 93%

Corblets- 85%

Whole school - 93%

Wishing all of our pupils,
parents and staff a fantastic
Summer!!



Welcome to the Summer 2024 edition of our newsletter for St. Anne's School.

Dear parents and carers, as we approach the long summer break, we have many successes to celebrate from this 23/24 academic year. This newsletter will provide you with an insight into some of the achievements and experiences that have taken place.

This year, education priorities across the Bailiwick have developed at a great pace and by embracing the very best teaching and learning strategies, I am proud to report that our wonderful school is going from strength.

We started the year with a very positive Ofsted inspection and the recommendations and lessons learned from this now form an integral part of our training and delivery as we continue to ensure that your children benefit from the very best teaching and learning experiences. I am proud to report that outcomes for our learners at the end of this academic year compare very favourably with schools across the Bailiwick and, in many areas, exceed UK national averages. All staff & pupils here at St Anne's have worked extremely hard and can now look forward to a well deserved rest.

Regarding staffing: for the first time since I have worked at St Anne's, I am pleased to report that we will not be saying goodbye to any permanent staff members at the end of this term. Mr Amos who has been temporarily covering Art classes, has taken a permanent opportunity in Kuwait and will leave us on Friday for this distant land. We are very grateful for all of his work and commitment. We are also very grateful to Miss Mark who has been invaluable this term in ensuring continuity in this very popular subject. Our Art teacher, Mr Kemp is now slowly recovering from his recent ill health and although we will need to secure another temporary replacement for him from September, we are hopeful that he will return to school in the near future. We wish him well. We are also pleased to confirm that Julian Holland remains on the staffing team as Humanities teacher.

Attendance at our school has also improved and this term I am pleased to report that we currently have a stronger 93% attendance figure. This I know is in part due a welcomed reduction in term time holidays and we are very grateful for your support in ensuring that these are kept to an absolute minimum.

I am delighted that we have welcomed many new families to our school community this year and numbers on roll are steadily rising. We hope that when the promotional video of our amazing school and beautiful island is edited and published, many more families will relocate here.

In line with tradition, Year 11 left us with some light-hearted pranks on their last day of school last month and we are optimistic that they will have very good outcomes when GCSE & Level 2 results are released on August 22nd. We were very proud of their focus and dedication towards their studies and exams and all have secured exciting post 16 destinations.

Your children are currently enjoying a range of enrichment activities as term ends and I have had the pleasure of seeing them work together in recent days on challenges in the sea, on the beach, on the train, on Longis common and many other venues around the island. Once again, the wider community and local businesses have come together to support both these experiences and numerous school trips this term and we are profoundly grateful for their continued support.

It now remains for me to wish you all a wonderful sunny summer break and we will look forward to welcoming all of our learners and staff back, healthy and rested in September.

Thank you and kind wishes

Wendy Wilson

Uniform update

Dear parents, here are just a couple of reminders regarding our school uniform rules, our school uniform policy states:

All pupils with long hair should have it tied back (away from the face) during the school day.

Skirts: across primary and secondary phases, school skirts should reach the knee. From September, if pupils arrive at school with a skirt that does not reach to their knee, then we will contact parents and we will offer pupils an alternative piece of clothing (we have plenty of spare trousers of various sizes in our second hand uniform supplies). - Ms Dix

Continued Opportunities to Explore Diverse Subjects

Beyond the Curriculum- at St. Anne's School

It has been another bumper-packed year of 'Enrichment', at St. Anne's School. Our unwavering commitment to Cultural Enrichment, prioritises 'cultural capital', which motivates our little acorns to deepen their understanding of the world around them, as they blossom into great oaks.

All year groups embraced diverse experiences; 'National Poetry Day' and 'National Careers Week', being but a few! To enthuse a love of reading, and to support the Curriculum, the year began with each Year 4 pupil receiving a beautiful 'Britannica All New- Encyclopaedia'. Primary pupils dived into the exhilarating worlds of 'Interactive Storytelling', as well as drama workshops, delivered by the Rhubarb Theatre Company. When the 'Maths Roadshow' arrived, in November, a box of mathematical treats was opened, containing a vast array of hands-on and tactile problems. Exciting challenges required pieces to be placed, objects moved, mazes attempted, models built – everything could be done- and undone- and tried, again and again, so that there was never a fear of failure! As well as numeracy, multiple mathematical skills were developed, such as: logic, spatial awareness, pattern-spotting, problem-solving, trial and improvement. Additionally, pupils enhanced their skills of comprehension (relating instructions to puzzles) and metacognition (planning, monitoring, and evaluating) while practising their teamwork (discussing and debating, challenging and correcting). Professional poet and author, Ian Bland, delivered another high-octane 'Poetry Workshop'!

At the start of the Summer Term, while the infants thrived, during the 'Arts For Impact Afternoon', the Tin Whistle Productions Performing Arts Centre presented a bespoke play, written specifically for Y6 pupils, transitioning to Secondary Education. In May, when the 'Twinning and Cultural Exchange' was hosted by Alderney, Mrs Wilson and Mr Kirkland facilitated a thoroughly enriching trip, to France, with 4 of our Senior pupils: Morgan, Alan, Filip and Evelyn. Furthermore, Ian Bland returned, in June, to deliver his 'EURO '24 Online Football Poetry Workshop' that had Years 3 and 4 flexing their mighty literary muscles!

In addition, following phenomenal fundraising successes, our Year 6 Class enjoyed an incredible week, in Guernsey, with Ms Morgan, Mrs Jenkins, Mr Gardner and Mr Smith. Similarly, a group of Year 9 pupils travelled to Southampton to experience an adventurous itinerary, at the Calshot Activities Centre, with Miss Parrilla and Mr Kirkland.

Finally, the school year ended in triumphant fashion! To congratulate all of our pupils, on an awesome year of superb behaviour for learning, staff planned an expansive programme of activities. These included:

A bespoke 'Year 7 Sailing Course', at the Alderney Sailing Club

Senior ventures, such as: the 'Moorings Pizza Extravaganza' (generously facilitated by the Georgian), 'Set Adrift on Painting Bliss', held at Adrift's Craft Studio, on Victoria Street, and an awe-inspiring Alderney Wildlife Trust Boating Excursion

Juniors immersed themselves in, 'Capture the Flag and Stealth', on Longis Common, as well as taking, 'Tea at the Old Barn'

Infants competed in the 'Sandcastle Challenge', ate luscious ice-cream, experienced the ultimate 'Alderney Train and Mini-Train Ride, and took part in the 'Teddy Bear Olympics and Picnic'.

During his recordings, for our thrilling St. Anne's School film, Cam Cairnduff captured many of these life-long memories. We are, now, - well on our way- to creating an innovative film that promotes St. Anne's School and Alderney.

Our mutual aspiration is to leave a legacy, for future generations, so that,

St. Anne's School retains and recruits: the highest calibre of staff

St. Anne's School, being at the 'heart' of our island, will enthuse our families to continue to support our endeavours of: 'great oaks from little acorns grow' and that

new families, and educators, will view this film, and consider, relocation to an island - where the opportunities- to thrive- are limitless!

Miss Patricia Smith

(St. Anne's School Enrichment Coordinator and PR Representative)



Reception Class update– Mrs Costello

Police visit

Reception and Year 1 had a visit from PC Nick and WPC Jeannie who told us all about being a Police Officer. We asked lots of questions and learned lots of information about their job. The officers were very impressed by how many of us knew our addresses!



Alderney Early Years Family Fun Day

On Saturday 8th June, we hosted the first "Alderney Early Years Family Fun Day". Many local groups set up stalls and activities for children under five and we showed "The Snail and the Whale" film. Lots of families turned up to join in the fun and the children had a fantastic morning. A great big thank you to everyone who helped to make this event such a success.



Pollinator Patch-Ms Brooke

The site team cleared grass from an arid patch of ground outside of the science lab and Ms Brooke and students scattered it with a mix of suitable wildflower seeds. The area is very dry, but we are pleased to see that our new 'Pollinator Patch' has flowers growing. Thanks to Mr Kemp for making the sign.—Ms Brooke



Sports Day 2024

The summer term included the 2024 Sports Days, which were again held on 3 days across the first week of July.

Tuesday saw the Junior pupils put through their paces, with all competitors recording personal bests and some setting new school records.

Wednesday was the turn for the senior pupils. Under the watchful eye of the younger pupils, the seniors competed in a heptathlon of athletic events, showcasing outstanding effort and application.

The week finished with the infants working around a carousel of traditional and athletic sporting activities which they performed admirably.

It was our pleasure to have so many families watch the athletes of St Anne's School in what again was a hugely supported set of sports days.

-Mr Kirkland



'Year 6 Trip' by Saoirse Neill

On a warm, sunny Monday morning, of the 24th of June, 2024, my classmates, Mrs Jenkins and Mrs Morgan hopped on the first Aurigny flight to frenetic Guernsey.

Once we arrived, I was feeling a variety of emotions; I was ecstatic about experiencing all of the activities of the week, however, I was also somewhat anxious. We waited expectantly, for Mr Gardner to arrive (as he came across on the boat). Soon after, Mr Gardner arrived... whereupon, the bus picked us up and dropped us off at the lively 'La Bailloterie' Campsite.

For me, some of the 'best bits' of our 2024 Year 6 Trip, were the Power Boating and Sailing activities. We learned a great deal, such as being shown what to do- if someone fell off the boat. While 'Up-Climbing' was fun for some, it was a little frightening for others (we had the opportunity to climb two different types of walls and for a warm-up, we traversed the 'starting' wall). At 'Oaty and Joey's', we had some 'spare time', so, we tackled the racing cars: everyone raced on the cars and my peers really impressed me with their dexterity and confidence on the trampolines.

Sometimes, however, things didn't (as we imagined!), go to plan! For example, when we arrived in Herm, the weather was, sadly, quite horrible (most of the day- it was either drizzling or there were ominous clouds overhead). Also, we waited 10 minutes for the bus to take us to 'Pirate Golf'. Once the minibus arrived, there weren't enough seats for all of us, so, some of my teachers and classmates had to wait for a taxi! I mustn't forget the time when we received, from the Chippy- 18 fish- rather than 2 (not- what we ordered!).

To conclude, I would like to especially thank Ms Morgan, Mrs Jenkins, Mr Gardner and Mr Smith for organising fundraising events that resulted in a wonderful trip of lifelong memories... for everyone!

Harvey's D of E experience—by Harvey O

We followed this route on the map on the first day of my expedition. We had to keep turning the map to make sure we knew which direction we needed to go in next. We had to keep our eyes peeled for landmarks to stop us from getting lost and make sure we knew where we were on the map. This was difficult because there were lots of different information on the map.

This is a picture of Team Extreme, We worked together. Charlie was good at map reading, Mathew was good at spotting landmarks, Katie was good at keeping everybody happy and Jodie was good at walking at a steady pace. We had to stay together as a group.

When we got back to the Village we put up our tent, collected the sleeping bag and we had to blow up our airbed and carry it to the field because the airbed will pop. we had to put all our belongings in the tent then we made dinner then we played at half past nine. When it started to get dark I went to bed.

In the morning we made breakfast. I made porridge. I boiled some milk and I put in porridge oats. I had to keep stirring so it wouldn't stick to the pan. Once we finished our breakfast we washed up our pans and emptied our tent before we set out on our walk on day two. We were all feeling tired but really excited to finish the expedition.

We finished day two at Fort Doyle. We were all really exhausted but happy. I was really proud of myself.



Year 9 Calshot trip by Tom S

On Monday, the 8th of July, at 8.30am, my classmates assembled, at Aurigny Airport, to board our flight to Southampton to make our way to Calshot Activity Centre. Fraser stated, "It was exhilarating, waking up, for the week ahead... knowing that nothing would stop me from trying my hardest in all of the activities... knowing that we would make the most of every moment of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!"

On Tuesday, I set the 'fastest' record for climbing one of the most challenging climbing walls. Similarly, along with this 'test of resilience', I achieved the most bullseyes, during archery, however, Miss Parrilla won the competition. My favourite activities of the week included (practically windless) windsurfing and snowboarding. Although somewhat perplexing- in that we were catapulting ourselves through artificial snow- snowboarding was phenomenal! Descending so quickly, I soon fell off my board, achieving a frontside: 360! Shooting was also an epic experience; we had .22 air rifles and, while some had iron sights and others had proper sniper scopes, I had a brilliant bullet collection and hit multiple bullseyes.

Lewis added, "over the week, we took on many activities such as 'kayaking' and 'velodrome cycling'. My least favourite activity had to be orienteering... (getting lost in the forest- for over thirty minutes)- Beyond doubt, my favourite activities were climbing and windsurfing!"

To sum up, our Calshot Instructors were the best we could have asked for.

We would especially like to thank: our parents and grandparents, all the Alderney businesses and individuals that donated fabulous prizes to our raffle and the generous members of the community that helped us fundraise nearly £2000 for our Calshot Trip! Of course, last but not least, a huge "thank you!" to Miss Parrilla and Mr Kirkland for organising our incredibly memorable Calshot Trip of 2024. In Lewis' words, "Overall Calshot was an extraordinary experience and we would love to return there, in the future!"



Library update-Mrs Odoli

May was jam-packed with events and reading promotion throughout the school.

Primary enjoyed 'Share a Story Month', and this year's theme of 'A Feast of Stories' gave plenty of scope for peculiar potions, delightful desserts and fabulous food-based fun. We recreated George's Marvellous Medicine in our potion making session, constructed Giant Jam Sandwiches, created magical sweets with weird and wonderful side effects from The Giraffe, the Pelly and Me, cleaned Mr Twit's beard (not to be advised) and had a terrific time with The Tiger Who Came to Tea.

In the middle of Share a Story Month we welcomed one of our favourite authors, Christopher Edge. He delighted Yr5/6 and Yr7/8/9 with his virtual escape room and teasers for his new book, The Black Hole Cinema Club. He kindly signed books and bookmarks for the children.

Last term the library launched Bokavana (Icelandic for 'book habit'), a reading initiative for secondary pupils. The aim was to give pupils a voice in peer-led book chat, reviews and recommendations. In a new move for St Anne's School, we established Google chat rooms across the year groups. The (closely monitored) chat rooms have proved to be a huge success and have led to some fantastic conversations, comparisons and opinion sharing. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the secondary pupils for their mature approach to this challenge.



The Paddock-Ms Brooke

We have been growing our own food in the 'Paddock' this year. Some crops have been attacked by pests but others are flourishing. We have peas, beans, lettuce, herbs, tomatoes, cucumbers, courgettes, sweetcorn, carrots, parsnips, cabbage, chard, broccoli, radish, beetroot and turnips. We might be the only people grateful for all the recent rain! Thanks to the site staff for keeping the grass tidy and a huge thankyou to Blanchards for providing the seeds.



Attendance Matters –Ms Smith

Whole school attendance, this academic year, is higher than in the previous two years. The table below shows the data since September 2021:

Year	Morning attendance	Afternoon attendance	Total
2021 – 2022	89%	88.3%	88.65%
2022 – 2023	90.5%	89.5%	90%
2023 – 2024	93.3%	92.6%	93%

This is still not quite as high as attendance figures pre Covid (93.6% in 2019/20) but is definitely on an upward trajectory. Our whole school target is 95%. 90% attendance in a year is the equivalent of half a day missed every week. If annual attendance stays at 90% during secondary education, this is equal to missing half a year of education over the five years (Y7 to Y11) which can seriously impact on learning and outcomes at GCSE.

The School Attendance Service are increasingly looking at punctuality as well as overall attendance. Arriving at school on time and ready to learn is the best start to the day for our children. Even being 5 minutes late per day can add up to 3 school days missed a year.

Uniform Allowance

The Uniform Grant is a means tested benefit, issued annually, intended to assist you in providing a basic school uniform for your children. The amount of grant you receive is calculated with reference to your annual household income and allowed expenses.

Uniform Applications for 2024 - 2025 school year are now available. You can complete the online application or print off a claim form. Term starts on Thursday 5 September 2024.

To ensure that you have received your grant and collected your uniform before then we recommend submitting your uniform grant at least a couple of weeks before term starts. For parents and carers who are not in receipt of Income Support, rent & interest on mortgages will need to be submitted alongside the application form. If you have any questions, you can contact the Income Support team on [221000](tel:221000) or email incomesupport@gov.gg

<https://www.gov.gg/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=103074&p=0>

Autumn Term Dates

- Thursday 5th September — Term Starts (Pupils)
- Monday 28th October—Friday 1st November—Half Term
- Monday 9th December—Homecoming Day Bank Holiday
- Friday 20th December—Christmas Holiday
- Tuesday 7th January—Term Starts (Pupils)

Infants Construction Club-Miss Varley

The Infants Construction Club have had marvellous fun this half term, getting creative with Lego, K'nex, Mobilo and bricks.

Just look at our wonderful, imaginative creations! 😊



Year 1 & 2 update-Miss Varley

In DT this half term, Y1&2 have been learning about structures, and were tasked with designing and building a suitable chair for Baby Bear.

We found out that a cylinder as a strong shape and used this to create our chairs.

We used paper and masking tape and used a lot of determination to build them. Baby Bear even paid a visit to test out the chairs!

Year 3 & 4 update –Miss Jerram

What a busy and amazing term Puffin Class have had. We have not only spent this term being Tudors, but also electricians, bakers, and interviewers. Throughout this term, we have taken a hands-on approach to our learning and involved our community. We conducted our own research project on whether there were any correlations between demographic and participation in Alderney traditions. We found out that residents place an importance on participating in all Alderney traditions, especially Home Coming Day and Alderney Week. Thank you to everyone who responded to our survey - we had over 200 responses!



Have you been on The Wellbeing Hub?

Did you know that all parents of children at St Anne's School have free access to The Wellbeing Hub? This fabulous resource has been gifted us to over the last two years by The Ladies College, Guernsey. Pupils and staff at school also have access to the site. Coming in September:

As well as an ongoing programme of webinars, videos and blogs around a monthly theme (see September schedule above) the following courses are available:

September - Proactive approach to self-care

W/c 02.09 Video: The PERMA+ Model and how to use it in schools by Govin English, Deputy Head (Pastoral), Alieyn's School
Resource: Using The PERMA+ Model to boost wellbeing for parents and pupils by The Wellbeing Hub (age guide: 5+)

W/c 09.09 Blog: Why positive self-talk matters and how to change a negative internal dialogue by Dr Tomara Scully, Clinical Psychologist (age guide: 10+)

Wed 18.09 Webinar: The relationship between food and mood with Tina Land-Caulk, Nutritionist, Author, and Speaker, 18th September, 6:30pm BST (age guide: 13+)

W/c 23.09 Video: Movement for mental health with Lynette Hill, Therapist MBACP (Accred) Counsellor and Clinical Supervisor, Psych Health (age guide: 10+)

- Parenting 2 – 12s: If you're parenting children aged 2-12, this course will give you information and step-by-step tools to create a happy home life, to manage those everyday hotspots, like morning routines and sibling squabbles, and to help your child thrive.
- Complete Parenting Teens: This course will give you information and step-by-step tools to create a happy home life, minimise drama, help your adolescent build independence and resilience, and help them thrive.
- Act for Autism: Created by Tessa Morton, Co-Founder of Act For Autism, this course will introduce you to the 3C pathway and explore topics including sensory challenges, communication strategies, autism in girls, teenagers and lots more. A certificate of completion will be given to participants who complete the course.

For details on how to log on to The Wellbeing Hub, please contact: Kim (kim.smith@education.gg).