

## Summer 2 Newsletter - July 2026



Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, and all members of our school community,

It has been another successful year for our school with a wide range of lessons, activities, opportunities, and experiences on offer. As always, this newsletter has been written to provide an overview of our school and to give you an insight into the work of each year group. I hope that you find it informative.

There have been many successes and highlights through the year and, as a staff, we each have our own preferences. I am sure that as parents, carers, and members of our school community, you will be the same. For me, there is nothing quite like the joy on the children's faces when they return from their various trips; whether it's Year 4 arriving back from sailing on the Model Yacht Pond, Reception returning from their farm visit, Year 2 from visiting Castle Cornet, or one of our older year groups coming home from an incredible residential—the excitement and sense of achievement is always palpable. The recent House Challenge Matches offered a much more inclusive approach for us with far more children involved. Historically, we had House Matches for netball and football but this year we still had netball and football, but we also had chess, dodgeball, cricket, darts, art, and Lego building. Following these, we had Sports Day with the children taking part in various athletic sports, and in this last week we also have our Swim Sports. It has been wonderful seeing so much effort, as well as having fun along the way.

Another highlight of the year was the opening of our new library and the children choosing their books for World Book Day. The children were so excited when their new books arrived. It has been good to see so many children reading more this year with some classes achieving their Gold Award. The importance of reading cannot be underestimated and so we encourage all children to read as much as they can. I particularly like this quote from Dr Seuss, *"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."*

Education Officers who have visited the school have praised us repeatedly on the children's behaviour, their attitude and focus in class, and the work that we have done to further develop our teaching. Our new approach to the teaching of writing starts with Drawing Club in Reception and then moves into the Sentence Knowledge Curriculum in Years 1 - 6. There is a long way to go to in further embedding this but we can already see the positive difference it is making. This is supported by greater focus on phonics in the Infants, and a new spelling approach in the Juniors.

Over the summer we have various building projects being carried out in school. I am pleased to say that work is beginning on our windows. This is a complex, multi year project costing a significant amount of money. Preparatory work is beginning in the summer break and then the windows will be installed (hopefully) in the October half term. This will then progress into a new kitchen area being built to allow us to better meet the demands of the Design and Technology curriculum. I am also expecting redecoration works to be carried out in both of our stairwells and our downstairs hall. This is alongside the usual minor repairs, electrical testing, fire alarm system testing, and more. I will update you on progress when we return in September.

At the end of the week we say goodbye to Miss Batiste who has been with us for two terms supporting mainly in Reception. Miss Mauger is also leaving to take a break from full time teaching as she prepares to welcome a new baby. Mrs Thomas, after many years of dedicated service, is leaving Vauvert to join the Island Wide Teaching team. Mrs Thomas is a hugely passionate teacher who wants the best for the children in her care. She is a strong advocate for Vauvert and promotes the school wherever she goes. Mrs Thomas has always had a strong interest in the wider curriculum and experiences for the children. She led the Herm residential for many years, often organised in school days such as Victorian Day for Y5, Liberation Day, events for Children in Need, and more. We will miss her lively, bubbly personality, and the depth of knowledge about Vauvert that is second to none. As she will be with the Island Wide Teachers, we may see her back in Vauvert from time to time. We wish all of these staff all the best as they each move on to new adventures and thank them for everything they have done for Vauvert.

At this time of year, we also say farewell to our Year 6 children, as well as some children in other classes. It is always sad to say goodbye. Year 6, most of you have been with us for a long time and we have watched you grow up ready for your next schools. We will truly miss you but we wish you all the best and hope that you will come back and visit.

And finally, I wish you all a pleasant summer and hope that whatever you have planned takes place as you would wish. For those of you leaving - Good luck - we wish you well! For those of you staying, I look forward to seeing you again in September.

With best wishes as always,  
Mr Paul

## A message from our Governance Board

As we approach the end of another busy and successful year at Vauvert, I would like, on behalf of the Governing Body, to extend our sincere thanks to all our teachers and support staff for their unwavering dedication, professionalism, and commitment to the children throughout the year. Your hard work and care continue to make a lasting difference, and we are truly grateful for everything you do.

As a Governing Body, we remain committed to our own learning and development to ensure we are best placed to both support and challenge the school in its pursuit of excellence. We are also working closely with colleagues on the continued evolution of the governance model, helping to shape an approach that reflects the needs, aspirations, and values of our school community.

Looking ahead, we are keen to further strengthen the Governing Body and are currently seeking to appoint two additional Associate Governors. This is a rewarding opportunity to contribute to the strategic direction and future success of the school. If you are interested in becoming involved, we would be delighted to hear from you. For further information, please contact [education.governance@gov.gg](mailto:education.governance@gov.gg).

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to all of our PTFA members for the incredible hard work and dedication and enthusiasm shown in organising this year's Summer Festival. Events such as these not only create wonderful memories for our children and families, but also help strengthen the sense of community that makes our school so special.

The success of the PTFA is built on the generosity of parents, carers and staff who give their time, ideas and energy to support the school. Their contribution has a lasting impact, enriching opportunities for our pupils and helping to foster strong connections between families and the school community.

As we celebrate another successful event, it is also important to recognise that the PTFA can only thrive with the support of volunteers. We would encourage parents and carers to consider getting involved, whether by joining the committee and volunteering at events.

Finally, I would like to wish our Year 6 children every success as they move on to the next stage of their educational journey. As they close this chapter at Vauvert and look ahead to new opportunities and experiences, we are immensely proud of all they have achieved and wish them the very best for the future.

To all our children, families, and staff, I wish you a restful, enjoyable, and well-deserved summer break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September, along with our new Reception classes, ready for another exciting year of learning, growth, and achievement.

Jon Buckland



## Guille-Alles Library Summer Reading Challenge

This year's Challenge launches on Saturday 11 July and finishes on Saturday 12 September.

It's a great way to encourage children of all ages to read for fun over the summer holidays. Read six books, collecting stickers and rewards along the way. Finishers get a medal and a voucher for a free swim at Beau Sejour. Navigate to <https://www.library.gg/challenge> to find out more.

## Attendance Matters

We have been very pleased to see that our average overall attendance across the school has continued to rise this year, with us now achieving, on average, over 95% attendance. Well done! However, there are some children whose attendance is significantly lower than that. This attendance ladder image gives an indication of what the percentages on your child's school report mean.

While 90% may sound like only 20 days, if that is repeated year on year, by the end of Year 2 the child will have missed approximately half a term. If that continues to the end of Year 6, that is over half a year of education missed.

There is much research that shows that children with lower school attendance are less likely to achieve expected outcomes than those with higher attendance. This UK DfE [report](#) in March 2025 found that 'missing just 10 days of Year 6 reduced the likelihood of reaching the expected standard by around 25%'. Imagine what this figure would be if that were in every year group.

Like all schools, our curriculum is carefully sequenced. When children miss parts, it is hard for them to fill the gaps/ to catch up. As your child moves to their new year group, please help us give them the best education we can by giving them the best attendance rate that you can.

### Attendance Ladder



### Diary Dates for 2026/2027

|                                            |                                        |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Thursday 3rd September                     | SCHOOL CLOSED - Staff training         |
| Friday 4th September                       | SCHOOL CLOSED - Staff training         |
| Monday 7th September                       | School opens for pupils in Years 1 - 6 |
| 14th/15th September                        | Y4 Lihou residential                   |
| 15th/16th September                        | Y4 Lihou Residential                   |
| Friday 23rd October                        | SCHOOL CLOSED - Staff training         |
| Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October | SCHOOL CLOSED - half term              |
| Friday 19th December - 1pm                 | SCHOOL CLOSING for Christmas holiday   |

#### REMINDER

Each year, school has an additional day for staff training that we can determine the date for. The day we have chosen for the calendar year 2026- 2027 is going to be on Friday 23rd October. Therefore school will be closed to pupils on this day.

#### Lost Property

We continue to collect vast amounts of lost property, much of which isn't named. Plastic pots and various items of clothing are piling up. Please claim anything that belongs to your child.

## A Year in the life of Herm Class



New beginnings, new friendship



learning and playing



exploring and discovering.



One of our open mornings Christmas



New year, new allotment



Tasty Treats in February



Fun continues in March



April our new friend arrives



May we pick wildflowers

So many highlights in this fabulous year in Herm. We said hello to Aurora and Cicely and we bid farewell to Eva at the end of this academic year.

Mr Harvey and Mrs Martel.

## A year in the life of Reception

What a fantastic year we've had. We have loved watching the children grow and develop so much since September. Let's take a look at some of the highlights - it seems like it has flown by!

### Autumn Term



The children did a fantastic job of settling into their first term of school! They were kept busy by trips to the Library and the Pumpkin Farm and visits from the school nurse, Father Christmas and Luna the dog. We were so proud of how well they did performing their Christmas show and they enjoyed a very well-deserved Christmas Party.

### Spring Term



This term we learnt all about 'People Who Help Us' and had a variety of visitors, including PC Nick and Bernie the fire engine. We took part in 'Eat Them To Defeat Them' and the children did amazingly by trying a large variety of vegetables (pepper proved to be a favourite!). We also had a trip to Saumarez Park, took part in World Book Day celebrations, had a visit from the Rhubarb Theatre and enjoyed a special Easter Egg Hunt!

### Summer Term



Our final term has been filled with lots of fun! We went to Les Adams Farm and saw a variety of animals, we started swimming (all children have made excellent progress), had a visit from the ambulance service, took part in Liberation Day celebrations and have had many trips to explore the Secret Garden.

We have been so proud of all the progress the children have made over the last year; the friendships they have created, the self-confidence they've built and all the memories they have made. Have a well-earned summer break! Miss Mauger and Mrs Rogers

## A year in the life of Year 1

What a brilliant year we have had in Year 1!

In the Autumn term, we settled into Year 1 quickly, enjoying learning about addition and subtraction in Maths, writing capital letters in handwriting and practicing French Skipping in PE! We went on a Geography trip to Candie Gardens where we explored the local area. The children loved looking at the big fish in the pond!



In the Spring term, the children wrote their own stories based on the book 'The Odd Egg'. They explored different eggs and predicted what they felt like! We made moving stories to show to the Reception children in DT, did some parkour in PE and even reenacted Queen Elizabeth II's Coronation in History! We went on lots of trips around Guernsey to look at the similarities and differences in the environment.



Finally, in the Summer term we have been very busy! We planned, decorated and planted a wheelbarrow for a competition, and won second place! The children worked so hard on their wheelbarrow! We read lots of books which meant we reached our Gold Reading Award! We celebrated by having a picnic and play at Saumarez Park! We planted beans in the Secret Garden, and can't wait to see how they have grown in September.



It has been a wonderful year, and we have had the best time. We are so proud of the immense progress the children have made this year, developing their knowledge, friendships and resilience. We hope you have a lovely summer! We're going to miss you all!  
Miss Totty and Mrs Young

## A year in the life of Year 2

What an incredible year we have had in Year 2! Let's take a moment to look back at some of the wonderful learning experiences, exciting visits and special memories we have shared together.



We started the year by exploring habitats, castles and map work. Our English learning took us on adventures with wolves, giant beanstalks and endangered animals, inspiring us to write information leaflets, stories and campaigns. In DT, we designed healthy food wraps, while in Art we experimented with repeating patterns. We also enjoyed working with the Guernsey Music Service, learning about pulse and rhythm.



The festive season brought lots of excitement to Year 2. We enjoyed Christmas crafts, performances, parties and opportunities to celebrate together as a year group. These special moments helped create lasting memories and strengthened our friendships.

During the Spring term we became historians, investigating The Great Fire of London, and geographers, exploring the question "Where in the world are my friends from?" In Science, we investigated sound and revisited our learning about habitats.



The Summer term was packed with memorable experiences. One of our highlights was our visit to the Guernsey Dairy, where we learned more about where our food comes from and discovered the journey from farm to table. We also enjoyed an exciting day trip to Herm, exploring the island's natural environment, learning about local wildlife and spending time outdoors with our friends. The trip was a wonderful opportunity to develop independence, curiosity and appreciation for our local surroundings.



We are incredibly proud of everything the children have achieved this year. They have embraced new challenges, shown determination in their learning and created many wonderful memories along the way. Thank you to all our families for your continued support throughout the year. From Mrs Borthwick and Mrs Thomas.

## A year in the life of Year 3

We had an amazing Year 3, full of enriching learning experiences both in and out of the classroom.

Some of the most memorable trips this year included exploring the Dolmens and the Candie Museum, which really brought our Stone Age topic to life. We thoroughly enjoyed the Rhubarb Theatre and even had the incredible opportunity to watch the Into the Renoir performance, learning all about Renoir's historic trip to Guernsey. To top it all off, a fantastic visit from Guernsey Arts helped us step into Renoir's shoes and become artists ourselves.



Music was a huge part of our year, with highlights including learning about Jazz and learning to play the trumpet and playing in our fantastic trumpet concert. Our fabulous singing shone at both the Harvest Festival and the Eisteddfod. We also made the most of the fantastic IT technology in school, enhancing our learning and enjoying fantastic lessons with Hive Hackers, where we learned to code and use micro:bits, and even got a lovely goodie-bag too!



We loved being creative making papyrus paper for Egyptian scrolls, sewing cushions. Science explorations were hands-on, including investigating friction with car ramps and different surfaces, and understanding how light is reflected.



In PE we were lucky enough to be visited by Guernsey Athletics coach Alun Williams who really put everyone through their paces! We have also developed our skills in tag rugby, gymnastics and dodgeball. From Mrs Holt and Mr Critchley.



## A year in the life of Year 4

What a fantastic year we have had in Year 4! The trip to Lihou was really fun and a great start to their residential journey at Vauvert. In the Autumn term the year group led the Harvest assembly and they also sang beautifully in the Christmas Nativity.



In the Spring term the children again performed with enthusiasm at Eisteddfod. They enjoyed the Cultural Enrichment trip to the Performing Arts Centre, and they also visited Guernsey Electric power station and Candie Museum. These all enhanced their learning in the various different subjects.



In the Summer term there was sailing, sea swimming and the beach day to enjoy. We were very lucky to have such lovely weather for these excursions. The children impressed us with their resilience and willingness to try new activities and experiences.



The children have had a great year in Year 4 and we have enjoyed watching the children progress throughout the year. They have all shown each other great kindness and enthusiasm and we are really impressed with how their resilience has increased. They are ready for Year 5 and we will miss them.

From Mrs Collenette, Mrs Clayton and Mrs Foss

## A year in the life of Year 5

This year has simply flown by and what a joy it is looking back at this year of photos and noticing how much the children have grown in that time! Every day is busy. Here are some snapshots of the learning which has taken place this year:

### Autumn Term

We started the year with a wide range of learning including badminton and hockey in PE; investigating the structural design of bridges in Design and Technology before creating and testing our own. We visited the Fab Lab at Guilles Alles Library; learned about the life cycle of mammals, and composed dance music in music. We finished the term with a fantastic nativity in Trinity Church.



### Spring Term

This term we immersed ourselves learning about Victorians in History. We finished this topic with a Victorian Day and creating William Morris inspired artwork. Other highlights included investigating forces in Science (including the parachute drop experiment!), designing pop-up story books for Reception, successfully completing the Escape Room challenge by Guilles Alles Library, and composed our own pieces inspired by Holst's 'Mars'.



### Summer Term

This term we became Titanic experts! This has been a focus in our English and Computing lessons. We've also honed our cricket skills; been coached by Guernsey Athletic's Alun Williams ready for Sports Day; mastered decimals and fractions in maths; designed our own mini art installation, and enjoyed supporting the Guernsey Nature Commission's Bioblitz campaign by hunting for birds, wildflowers and minibeasts at Perelle. However, the absolute highlight of the year was....HERM!



From Mrs Scullion and Mr Wolfe.

## A year in the life of Year 6

What a brilliant year we've had in Year 6! We can't believe another school year has come to an end and High School is now very much in sight! We've packed loads in and although we don't have room to mention everything, here are some Year 6 highlights:

**AUTUMN TERM:** We started off the year with some excellent texts: *The Arrival*, *Fly Me Home*, *Windrush Child* and *The Last Bear*. We learned Badminton and Hockey skills in PE, and Electricity in Science, took part in our final Nativity Play and of course, worked in teams to create and sell our Dragons' Den products which helped fund our Summer Residential.



**SPRING TERM:** This was the term of *Stonewall*, *The Little Match Girl Strikes Back* (some of us met the author!), *The Wolves of Willoughby Chase* and *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*. We created Art based around Munch's 'Scream', took part in a local Drumming Workshop and made working automata in DT. We also visited the impressive Wildlife Photography Exhibition at Candie Museum and took a trip to see our local coastal environments. An excellent team took part in the annual de Putron Challenge too!



**SUMMER TERM:** Summer Term is always memorable in the Year 6 calendar and this year was no exception. We've got to know Grimm Tales and Follow Bradley, in *There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom*. Our Courts trip was based around our Politics for Beginners text. Special events included: the arrival of our all-important Y6 Hoodies, the exciting Rockley Residential trip/ Activity week and of course, our recent Year 6 Show! Excellent participation by all. Finally, the Leavers' Evening is a pause for reflection. We hope you've enjoyed it as much as we have.



From Mrs Furniss and  
Mrs de Villiers

## A year of PE and sport at Vauvert

It has been another really exciting and successful year for Vauvert in terms of PE and sport. Our children have experienced a range of different sports and games opportunities, led by many different adults, across the year. Mr Martel and the different coaches from the Sports Commision have shared their expertise with more children than ever before during lessons, after school clubs, one-off events and tournaments. Over the course of the year, we have tried out new sports in lessons, such as parkour and orienteering, and have had more children represent the school in different teams than ever before. Here are a few highlights from our school, sporting year...



Just a few of the many different squads and teams who have represented the school over the course of the year. Well done to everyone who pulled on a Vauvert jersey!



## Reception/KS1 Sports Day



## KS2 Sports Day



A HUGE thank you and well done to everyone who participated in, helped to organise and supported us at the recent sports day events at Govt. House!



## A year of PTFA ...

The PTFA have been able to accomplish so much this year! They thank you for your continued support.

### CHRISTMAS GROTTO



### PTFA DISCO



### FROZEN FRIDAYS



### PTFA FILM SHOW



## SUMMER FESTIVAL

The PTFA has had another brilliant Summer Term. The Summer Festival was a huge success, seeing new events and ideas being introduced. The variety of different stalls and activities remained a highlight, where children could play games and win prizes, as well as have a bounce on the bouncy castle or attempt the climbing wall. The introduction of the Vauvert Arena saw children battling to put on as many pieces of uniform as possible, transport potatoes, and throw wellington boots with precision, to name a few activities.

Frozen Fridays were also a big hit, seeing approximately 600 ice creams and 125 drinks sold. It was amazing to see so many parents and children supporting their school!

