

Spring 1 Newsletter - February 2026



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

It has been a great start to 2026 for us here at Vauvert, despite the lovely weather?! As always, we continue to work hard across many different areas of school life. It has been particularly pleasing to see that all classes have now received their Bronze Reading Award. Well done them! Please keep pushing as we know the more the children read, the better they do. I have always liked this quote from Dr Seuss that emphasises the importance of reading, "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."

We have continued to develop our school's Behaviour Curriculum with a focus on "Marvellous Manners". So far, we have looked at the power of *please* and *thank you* and how this can build and strengthen relationships as well as how to use *excuse me* correctly to ensure everyone stays happy and safe. We are already seeing the impact of these around the school, with children considering how to approach situations with a conscious effort to be polite and to support each other.

In the classrooms, Reception have been busy launching their new "Drawing Club." This initiative encourages children to showcase their creativity and imagination while simultaneously reinforcing vital phonics and maths skills. The discussions taking place during these sessions are truly fantastic; it is a joy to see the children coming to life, eager to share their ideas and artwork with their peers. We look forward to the Reception parents seeing this work at our upcoming Parents' Evenings. In the rest of the school we have been developing our new - Sentence Knowledge Curriculum - which is really focusing our teaching of writing. This is already showing a positive impact and we look forward to seeing this develop over the coming weeks and months.

Our outdoor environment continues to evolve through the lens of OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning). We have recently introduced "Ez-Rollers" to the KS2 playground, giving our older children the chance to explore a different, active style of play. To support this, we are also developing our storage systems across both playgrounds. This ensures that equipment is easy to access and that tidying up is quick and efficient, allowing the children to make the most of these important break times.

The new Spring House Captains have been working hard, with their chosen focus on the tidiness of our corridors. This has culminated in the creation of the "Gold Dustpan" award where House Captains spot check cloakrooms and score them on a set criteria. This has had a real impact already and children are eager to achieve the coveted award.

Finally, looking towards the future, students from Year 2 to Year 6 were invited to apply for our Pupil Leadership Team. This team takes a wider vision, discussing long-term ideas and changes to help shape the path our school takes. Mrs Borthwick and Mr Buckland, our Chair of Governors, have now appointed our new PLT and this has been shared on Dojo. Well done and thanks to everyone who put themselves forward.

As you can see, Vauvert continues to grow and enhance its inclusive culture, ensuring our children have a real voice in our journey. It is an exciting time for the school, and we are taking steps forward every single day as we approach the halfway point of our academic year. As always, should you have any questions about the school and what we are doing, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

With best wishes as always,
Adrian Paul
Headteacher

Reception

We have had a fantastic half-term and we have loved seeing the children continue to flourish. This term we have started on our 'Drawing Club' journey in English and the children have been so engaged and shown such creativity. We have read 'Supertato', 'I will not ever never eat a tomato', 'Little Red Riding Hood' and the 'Three Billy Goats Gruff'. In Maths, we have been subitising numbers to 10 to give us a deeper understanding of what numbers make up other numbers (part-part whole) e.g. understanding that 6 is made up of 3+3, 4+2 etc. Additionally, we have learnt about capacity, length, height and how these concepts are used in our everyday environment. We have also been learning about the arctic and arctic animals, creating paintings with ice, alongside moving our bodies in a multitude of different ways with dance and gymnastics in PE.



Year 1

We have had a great half term in Year 1! In English we have been reading 'The Odd Egg'. In Maths we have been working with numbers to 20, learning about odd and even numbers, and place value. We explored different eggs and wrote our own version of the story using different animals. In PE, we have been developing our gymnastics skills and playing invasion games. In DT, we made a moving story of Humpty Dumpty which we shared with Reception. We have looked at different forces in Science, including magnets and the wind. In History, we have been learning about the Queen's coronation and acted out our own! Have a lovely holiday and we will see you soon!



Year 2

From the Great Fire of London, to Music with Miss G. From multiplying and dividing numbers, to creative writing about a bear, a piano and a big city. From gymnastics, rope climbing and ball skills to clay models and exploring sound. We have covered so much!

Our biggest highlight was definitely the opportunity to have a go with a fire hose at the Guernsey and Fire Rescue Centre, even the adults and parent helpers had a go!



Year 3

It has been a brilliant first half-term. In Design & Technology, the children have built on their sewing skills from Year 2, mastering running and cross-stitches while adding creative flair with decorative patches (appliques).

Our gymnastics sessions with Mr. Martel were a hit; the children developed impressive body shapes and balances, successfully linking them into smooth movement sequences. In ICT, we've turned into sound engineers, recording and editing sound effects to create realistic background audio for different scenes.

Finally, our Science investigations into forces saw us testing friction by launching cars down ramps on various surfaces to see how it affects speed. We are so proud of their hard work!



Year 4

It has been a busy half term for Year 4. A clear highlight was a fantastic trip to the Candie Museum, where the children became history detectives, examining Roman artefacts actually discovered right here in Guernsey. The children have worked incredibly hard writing their own versions of *Odd and the Frost Giants* and we are really proud of their efforts.

In the classroom, they have been exploring tints and shades to create their own unique compositions. They have really enjoyed their weekly swimming lessons at Forest School. Finally, they have impressed us with their coding skills in the Hive Hackers sessions.



Herm Class

Despite missing a few days with no boats this half term we have still managed a packed few weeks of learning! In both year groups we started a new English curriculum which focuses on developing the relevant skills for the appropriate age. Maths in Year 6 focused mainly on fractions whilst reception developed subitising skills for number and shape and measure. Our outdoor learning experiences now include our allotment as well as environmental science continuation. In History, we studied the Tudors and now move on to the Victorians for Year 6, Geography ironically looked at world wide water shortages. Reception curriculum considered the world around us, important people, animals as well as changes in the weather and materials.



Year 5

We returned from our Christmas break full of enthusiasm and have continued to fill our days with exciting learning. In English, we have thoroughly enjoyed exploring Gillian' Cross's version of the Odyssey and have used this as a stimulus for our writing by imagining we are Odysseus persuading his sailors to leave the lotus fruits alone! Times tables have been used in every maths lesson as we develop our understanding and application of fractions, multiplication and division. In History and Art, we have explored the Victorian era. Our artist study was William Morris. Our work included how the Industrial Revolution made great changes to the landscape and peoples' lives, a change which continues to influence our lives today. The Earth, Sun and Moon has been the focus for our Science, and in PE we've honed our football skills thanks to our visiting coach, Seb. Thank you to St John's for visiting us in our PSHE lesson to deliver vital first aid information to us.



Year 6

Such a busy term of learning in Year 6! Our English lessons have been based around 'The Invention of Hugo Cabret', which we have really enjoyed. In Guided Reading, we've read another excellent text, 'The Little Match Girl Strikes Back' - a modern twist on the classic tale! In Maths, we have been learning about fractions and decimals and utilising the 'Infinity' tool on our Chromebooks. Other learning has included: looking at the different types of Biome in Geography, Munch's 'The Scream' in Art - we have learnt the basics of Procreate to generate digital pieces. Science has been based around 'Evolution and Adaptation', ask your child about the doubt cast over Mary Anning's work! PE has helped us keep flexible and moving in Gym and Football. Whilst in PSHE, we have been discussing different types of healthy relationships. Our typing hand-positions have improved because of Keyboarding skills too!



Sports Teams

The netball club continues to be well attended, with nearly 30 Y5 and Y6 children coming each week. We had a friendly against ECJS scheduled for earlier in the term but unfortunately, the weather had other ideas. Thankfully, the annual Primary Schools Tournament is held indoors and the team of 9 girls did themselves proud playing some lovely netball against some exceptionally strong teams. We drew 2 of our 6 matches and lost another 2 by only one goal, so it really was a good effort. We will be taking 2 teams to the mixed tournament in March.



PTFA

At our recent PTFA meeting we agreed dates for our upcoming Disco Parties and also for our Summer Festival. Thanks to everyone who attended the meeting.

This term's dates for the diary:

Monday 16th February Friday 20th February	Half term - school closed
Tuesday 3rd March	Y6 De Putron Challenge heat 9.15-10.15 - more information to follow
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day - more information to follow
Friday 6th March	Y5 and Y6 Mixed Netball Festival - more information to follow
Friday 6th March	PTFA Disco - more information to follow
Tuesday 17th March	Early Parents Evening - more information to follow
Wednesday 18th March	Late Parents Evening - more information to follow
Friday 20th March	Comic Relief - more information to follow
Saturday 21st March	KS2 Tag Rugby Tournament - more information to follow
Friday 27th March	School finishes at 1pm for Easter holiday

Future dates for the diary:

Mon 4th May - May Day holiday	Sat 13th June - PTFA Summer Festival
Mon 11th - 15th May Y6 Rockley Residential	Thurs 9th July - Sports Day
Mon 25th May - 29th May - half term	Fri 10th July - Reserve Sports Day
Wed 3rd June - 5th June Y5 Herm Residential	Fri 17th July - School finishes at 1pm for the Summer break.

Lost Property

Please ensure items are named. The amount of clothing that we collect each day is phenomenal. We return it where we can but it is so much easier if it is named. If your child is missing anything, please check the lost property box.