

Autumn 1 Newsletter - October 2026



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

What an excellent first half term to start our year. It has been packed with exciting and enjoyable activities, from a successful Lihou trip with our Year 4s to sporting events such as the Zedra Challenge and the Swimathon taken on by our Year 6s. Our new reception classes have settled in well and have been enjoying a variety of activities in their new environment. They have also ventured out to Le Hechet Pumpkin farm on their first ever school trip.

As we discussed in our Welcome Meetings back in September, we have launched our new school tagline, "Working together for a better tomorrow" as well as our new 3 school rules - Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be the Best You Can Be. These have been followed up by weekly school assemblies, exploring what these look like in action in different places and situations around the school. I am happy to report that we are seeing very positive feedback from this, where children are developing a clear understanding and shared language of what we do at Vauvert. We often say to our children, "At Vauvert we have Excellent Learning Behaviours" and this is shining through more and more across the school.

Our Behaviour Curriculum has also continued to develop alongside this, where we have reinforced and revisited our Sensible Systems and routines such as Sensible Sitting and Vauvert Voices, as well as embedding new explicit behaviours such as our Whole School Stopping Signal and Sensible Lining Up. These explicitly taught routines minimise misunderstandings for children and therefore any anxieties or miscommunications about what is expected. This is apparent across the school, where children are clear about what to expect in any classroom or location across the school. The clarity reduces children's and adults' cognitive load, allowing them to focus and engage more with the learning.

I am very pleased to also report that we have seen a greater engagement with reading across the school. Thank you for your continued support with this. We know that there is a clear link between reading and academic attainment - put simply, the more the children read, the better they do.

By the time you are reading this, we would've completed a week of successful Parents' Evenings. Thank you to all who attended. This communication between the school and parents is vital to ensure that we provide the best experience and education for our children. Also, as a teacher, it is a wonderful opportunity to share the progress and hard work your children have done in such a short amount of time.

Finally, we were extremely proud to welcome our Year 3 and 4 parents and carers to our Harvest Festival performance. We want to congratulate the children who were involved, as well as the time and effort all the staff put in to make it a reality. Rest assured that we are already planning the many performances that the second part of this term brings, and we will be excited to welcome you back very soon.

I wish you all a good half term and look forward to seeing everyone back

With best wishes as always,

Adrian Paul

Headteacher

Reception

Reception have had a wonderful first half term at school, settling well and finding their way around. The children have been learning about how we behave and work together at Vauvert, making friends with other children whilst developing their own skills and abilities. The children have worked hard in Phonics lessons to begin learning the sounds that they will need to know when reading worded reading books. In English, they explored stories such as Hairy Maclary and Oi Frog; Both rhyming books, which created much hilarity! We enjoyed the trip to the pumpkin farm and had fun scooping and finding seeds back at school. In Maths we have built up a good knowledge of numbers to 5 and explored pattern in the environment, whilst also looking at comparing size. The children have taken part in lots of movement games to develop their gross and fine motor control and are getting on so well changing for PE in the hall. We finished the half term with a fabulous performance of our Autumnal song, Big Red Combine harvester to the whole KS1.



Year 1

We have had a super first half term in Year 1. The children have been working really hard in their Phonics lessons to learn alternative digraphs. They have also been focussing on their letter formation. In maths they have been working on place value, adding and subtracting within 10. In Science they have been recording the weather and we have been on a Geography trip to explore where we live. The children have been exploring different lines and ways of drawing in Art. In the Music Room they have used percussion instruments to explore pulse and rhythm.



Year 2

The first half term of Year 2 has been an incredible success! We have seen such settled children, quickly learning our school routines, and new school rules. From learning to work as a team in PE to writing information leaflets in English, and stepping back in time to life in a castle. Not forgetting all the practice and final performance of the traditional Guernsey French dance 'Le Bébé'. We really have achieved such breadth and depth in our learning!



Year 3

The first half-term has been packed with engaging learning! We loved bringing our Stone Age topic to life by visiting local Dolmens and the museum. In Science, we became junior geologists, learning all about the formation and properties of igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rocks through fun, hands-on investigations. We have just finished our first adventure story in Guided Reading, while PE focused on teamwork and coordination during Tag Rugby sessions.



Year 4

Year 4 had a very enjoyable residential in Lihou during the second week of term. Since then, we have been working on successfully implementing the routines in Year 4 and developing our knowledge in all subject areas. Highlights shown in the photos include learning how to use an encyclopedia (which children will take home at the end of Year 4), using data loggers to test sound insulation, and creating Mayan hieroglyphics out of clay.



Year 5

Everyone has settled incredibly well into the routines for Year 5. Over the past few weeks we have developed our knowledge and skills in a range of areas. From tackling in hockey, writing persuasive campaigns in English, and designing street art, to remixing in music and gymnastics in PE. We have also thoroughly enjoyed learning about the life of Henry VIII (particularly all his wives!).



Year 6

We have all thoroughly enjoyed the beginning of Year 6 and are looking forward to all the exciting things we have planned for this year. We have appointed our House Captains for the 3 terms and Autumn captains have begun their duties. We have a very enthusiastic and active Vauvert Press team who are bringing us regular bulletins. Our knowledge in all areas of the curriculum is developing fast! Still life with different media in art, hockey and fitness skills in PE, coding in computing and WW2 in History are just a few areas. Well done Year 6!



Herm Class What an exciting start to year! This half-term we have blended the curriculum being followed at Vauvert in the relevant year groups along with some bespoke topics allowing the children to take advantage of living on Herm. In English we have used books inc. 'The Lights that Dance in the Night,' 'The Fox and the Star', 'Oi Frog' and 'Here We Are'. Maths for Year 6 focused on 'Place Value', and Math Operations whilst Reception Maths looked at 'Patterns', 'Sizes' and '1-3'. Science and Geography for Year 6 linked to our English with topics 'Solar System', 'Make up of Planet Earth', and the Environment. Reception and Understanding the World has looked at 'Our Family and Friends', 'People in our Community' and 'Our Local Area', this last topic was also covered in Year 6 looking at different communities and the importance of everyone in the community. In History for Year 6 we have been covering many aspects of the Romans and look forward to covering the Tudors next term.



PTFA

We held our PTFA AGM on Wednesday 24th September. Thank you to everyone who came along. During the meeting, we accepted the resignations of Lucy Hadlington and Beccy Smart. We thank them for everything that they have done for the PTFA over the past few years. We then elected new members to the committee. Our PTFA Committee is now made up of Kirsteen Saddington (Chairperson), Jon Bell (Vice Chairperson), Carrie Jones (Treasurer), Adele Gale (Secretary). Thank you for putting yourselves forward and for taking up these positions. We look forward to working together into the future.

On Friday 17th October, we held a film show evening where nearly 160 children came along. This was a great turnout and we are pleased that the children had a great time. Thank you to all the adults - staff and parent volunteers- who made this happen.



LEADERSHIP DAY



In Year 5, children have the opportunity to apply for two Leadership posts - Digital Leader and Library Leader. Once selected, they join Digital and Library Leaders from across the island for a day of workshops at Beau Sejour. They learn a lot of knowledge and skills during this day, and are also grateful for their impressive goodies bags!



This term's dates for the diary:

Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October	SCHOOL CLOSED - half term
Monday 3rd November	SCHOOL CLOSED for staff training
Friday 14th November	Children in Need - more information to follow
Thursday 4th December	KS2 Carol Service - more information to follow
Friday 5th December	KS2 Carol Service - more information to follow
Wednesday 10th December	Reception Christmas Performance - more information to follow
Thursday 11th December	KS1 Christmas Performance - more information to follow
Friday 12th December	KS1 Christmas Performance - more information to follow
Tuesday 16th December	Reception and KS1 party day - more information to follow
Wednesday 17th December	KS2 party day - more information to follow
Thursday 18th December	KS2 Ice Skating - more information to follow
Friday 19th December	School finishes at 1pm for the Christmas holiday - no school bus

Future dates for the diary:

Tues 6th January	Children return to school after the Christmas Break
Mon 16th - Fri 20th February	Half Term Break
Fri 27th March	School finishes at 1pm for the Easter Break
Tuesday 14th April	Children return to school after the Easter 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.