



St. Anne's School
ALDERNEY

School News

Easter Newsletter 2024



Attendance this term

Little Owls- 97%
Reception

Hedgehogs - 96%
Yrs. 1 & 2

Puffins - 95%
Yrs. 3 & 4

Gannets - 95%
Yr. 5&6

Arch- 95%

Braye- 92%

Corblets- 85%

Year 11 - 92%

Whole school - 94%

Whole school
(academic year to
date)- 93%

Wishing all of our pupils,
parents and staff a very
Happy Easter!!

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

Dear Parents- as I write, the sun ☀ is shining for what seems like the first time this year. This gives rise to excitement and anticipation of the summer term and the many outdoor events that our pupils and school will take part in and host. Some examples of upcoming events **include 'The Alderney Family Event' which will take place on 8th June (more information to follow)**, the PTA School Fair (in July - date TBC), Sea Swimming lessons, Sports days, a pre-Olympic collaboration in Rennes in July and an exciting but top-secret film making project which is currently in the planning stages.

Despite the dreary weather we've had so far, this term St Anne's School has once again made good use of our links with our local and Guernsey partners to fully enrich the learning experiences of our pupils. This newsletter provides but a brief insight into some of the key events that have taken place, alongside of the many hours of study by both pupils and staff. Highlights among these include: our Careers Fair, World Book Day, Healthy Eating and Enrichment opportunities and much, much more.

Our new staff have now all settled into post in school and I know many of you have sampled the delights made in Food classes with Miss Mark this term. Many of you have also had the opportunity to meet our new teachers Mr Gardner, Mr Smith and Mr Holland at **Parents' Evening and all have said they feel very welcomed into the school and island community.** Mr Jerling has now left Alderney and his post will be advertised in the coming days. In the meantime, Mr Holland will stay in post as Humanities teacher to provide continuity for pupils.

You will, I'm sure, be pleased to hear that in response to our autumn term Ofsted inspection, school improvement priorities have been at the forefront of our work this term. These include a close focus on the quality and health of the maths curriculum and the PHSE curriculum, identifying and addressing gaps in our inclusive practice and a focus on adaptive teaching to ensure that evidence -informed systems are in place in our classrooms.

Our Year 11 pupils are now moving at a pace towards the exam season which begins as soon as we return from the Easter Holidays. I am very grateful to all Secondary staff who are offering and leading revision masterclasses over the holiday period and I know that our Year 11 parent community will also do everything they can to ensure that revision schedules for these important exams are suitably challenging and supported. This collaborative approach will ensure we secure the very best outcomes for our Year 11 pupils.

Finally, a thank you to all of our parents! You may recall that I highlighted a disturbing **statistic in last term's newsletter of 35% of pupils taking holidays in the autumn term. This was equivalent to an alarming 200 days of lost learning throughout the school. This term, I'm** very pleased to report that the statistics are more favourable with 12% of pupils taking holidays in the spring term, with an equivalence of 48 days of lost learning. Although this is a significant drop, we hope for further and continued improvement. I will take this opportunity to reiterate that regular attendance is directly linked to raising achievement and develops skills for life and work; it continues to be vital in helping children and young people to achieve their full potential and get the best possible start in life.

And finally, I hope that the sun continues to shine for all of us throughout the Easter break and that you all have a lovely holiday.

With best regards

Mrs Wilson

[RNLI 200 year Anniversary Fundraiser](#)

Advance notice- We will be holding a non-uniform and Bake sale to raise funds for Alderney RNLI on Friday 19th April. Pupils can dress up using a theme of the Sea (Pirates/ Lifeboat men/women/ Sea Creatures)- A £2 donation will be requested.

Enhancing Experiences at St. Anne's

These past months have been a literary whirlwind! All year groups have embraced: 'National Poetry Day', 'National Careers Week', and 'National Storytelling Week', to name but a few. Primary pupils have dived into the exhilarating worlds of 'Interactive Storytelling', as well as drama workshops, delivered by the Rhubarb Theatre Company. Cultural Enrichment, at St. Anne's School, prioritises 'cultural capital'. This motivates our little acorns to deepen their understanding of the world around them and, as they blossom into great oaks, provide fresh insight into their learning, exposing them to diverse experiences, not always found in smaller island communities, such as Alderney.

"There are many little ways to enlarge our world. Love of books is the best of all!" — Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis

'World Book Day, 2024' took place on Thursday, 7th March. This annual celebration of authors, illustrators, books, and the 'joy of reading' is one of the highlights of our year at St. Anne's School.

This year's 'World Book Day' mantra was, 'Read Your Way!' This dynamic day provides an unparalleled opportunity to focus on 'reading for pleasure', further supporting children's autonomy in book choice, and embedding a joyful habit of reading that brings innumerable advantages (including social, educational, and well-being benefits) as our young people navigate their exciting life journeys. Once again, our inimitable librarian forged a day of lifelong memories- for pupils, parents, grandparents and staff alike!

Against the luminescent backdrop of an 'Oscars' theme, Mrs. Odoli continued to inspire and lead by example with competitions traversing: 'My Favourite Book' (Esme, Sienna), 'Best Book Review' (Willow, Benjamin, Cheyenne), 'Best Screen Play' (Grace, Sorrel), 'Best Set Design' (Selena, Isla, Molly), 'W.B.D. Costume' (Sienna, Willow, Tia, Emily, Marley, Maia, Saoirse, Sorrel, Keira) and most innovative 'Classroom Door'- (Mrs. Gillingham).

Over the previous month, Mrs Odoli had also championed the unique 'St. Anne's Book Awards'; the pupils' voting results were enthusiastically received during our whole school 'World Book Day Assembly': Reception ('Tad'), Years 1 & 2 ('Milton the Mighty'), Years 3 & 4 ('Pokémon'), Years 5 & 6 ('Goodnight Mr Tom') and Year 7 ('Holes'). Mrs. Odoli wishes to say a special "thank you!" to Miss. Allison for her ingenuity and advice, Miss. Varley for perfecting the 'Masked Reader' Extravaganza, Miss. Mark for her incredible 'Oscars' artwork, and Mr. Kirkland for providing rounder posts. Similarly, our enthusiastic paparazzi (Ms. K. Smith, Mrs. Sciarrino, Mr. Kirkland, and Mr. Holland) ensured that all proceedings were professionally captured! We must not, of course, fail to omit our impressive Head Pupil Judges, Matthew and Frankie.

'World Book Day' could not, of course, have been such a resounding success without the immense generosity of the PTA who sponsored the prizes for our awesome young people. Similarly, as we sadly do not currently have a Book Shop on island, the Guille-Alles Library came to the rescue, in arranging for us, a consignment of free 'W.B.D.' books to be delivered to St. Anne's School.

Miss P. Smith

Year 5 work

YOUTUBE by Murray

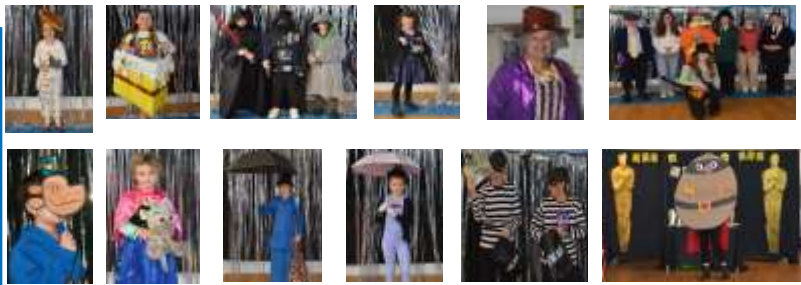
Today, Tuesday 19th March, we had a special assembly by a Youtuber called Cam the cameraman. He showed us a Youtube video that he made about Alderney and how wonderful it is. He brought a lot of cameras big and small as well as a green screen and lights. Cam's dad said that the old cameras would make your neck need surgery because they were so big and heavy. Cam told us how he got into being a Youtuber. He said that his dad liked cameras and one time his mum and dad went out for dinner and left Cam who was 4 at the time and when his mum and dad left he found his dad's camera in a closet and started filming. When his dad and mum got back from dinner they noticed that the camera was in a different spot, so they watched the tape and started laughing and since then Cam has loved cameras.

Wombles of Alderney—Saoirse

It was a cloudy Saturday morning on the 16th March when some important people came to the great Island of Alderney. At the children's play park, beside the Bute's, was the official opening for the 'Whisper seat'. The Lion's Association representatives had come across from Guernsey to officially open the Whisper seat. The Whisper seat is sculpted by using a chainsaw. Just before the president William Tate was about to start his speech, Uncle Bulgaria and Alderney the wombles arrived at the park. The wombles were very surprised to see a wooden figure of Orinoco at one side of the Whisper seat and a fierce lion head at the other. After William Tate's speech, Miss Morgan was presented with books from the Lion's Association about climate change and how it can affect animals. Once Miss Morgan was presented with the books Uncle Bulgaria and Alderney the wombles were interviewed. Alderney wobble and her friend Aoife went to have tea and biscuits at the Blonde Hedgehog with Miss Morgan, Mr Smith and Miss Jerram.

Year 1 and 2 news... -Miss Varley

In Year 1 and 2, we have been learning about Palm Sunday in the run up to Easter. We have learnt that Jesus arrived at Jerusalem on a donkey and that people were so excited when they heard about His arrival as He performed many miracles, they cheered and laid palm leaves on the floor. As a class, we re-enacted His arrival and learnt songs. We have also made palm crosses as a symbol of Christianity and Easter



Year 3 & 4 Art for Impact Enrichment

Lucy Brimage from Art for Guernsey visited Year 3 & 4 at St Anne's School

for an unforgettable Cultural Enrichment art journey with a Renoir inspired twist. Everyone enjoyed crafting segments of a collage that will depict Braye Beach



Eat them to defeat them

This half term, the Reception class have taken part in the national Eat Them To Defeat Them initiative. This campaign aims to encourage young children to eat more vegetables. We received a big box of a range of fantastic veggies which the children have prepared in many different ways in our weekly cookery sessions and learned about where they came from. Each child received a sticker reward pack and chart and we have carried out the art activities from the scheme. Thank you to all the families who have supported us in our healthy eating mission.—Mrs Costello



The Paddock

The Paddock' is an area at school where we are trying to grow more food this year. Thanks to a donation from Blanchards, we have all sorts of seeds ready to plant when the weather gets a bit warmer. Ms Brooke and a small group of student volunteers have prepared the raised beds with seaweed, whilst Mr Kemp made some extra raised beds out of old drawers. Ms Allison and Mr Wilson have also helped in the preparation, filling up the compost bins and keeping the grass mown. In this damp weather, there are a lot of slugs around, but we are looking forward to growing some fresh produce to use in food tech lessons. If anyone has any tools or the odd spare seedling going spare during the summer, please feel free to put it inside the paddock gates in the school car park.

- Ms Brooke



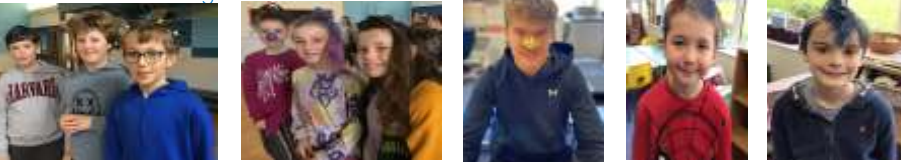
Year 9 trip to the Museum...

On Thursday 7th March, the Year 9 History class visited the Alderney Museum, accompanied by Mr Holland and Mrs Wilson. The Bailiwick History Curriculum requires World War Two to be taught with reference to local experiences and the class spent their time at the museum studying the various exhibits detailing Alderney life under the Nazis. Academic and reference understanding of specific events in history is good to an extent, but viewing specific displays which relate to places that the pupils know intimately is extremely valuable. After completing their fact-finding work, the pupils had the time to be shown round the other displays, including the shipwrecks and a rare map showing how land was parcelled out on the island 400 years ago. Our very grateful thanks go to the Museum and especially to Kevin Moore for opening up and showing us around.—Mr Holland



Red Nose Day...

Pupils from the School Council sold Red Noses to raise money for Comic Relief. Matthew in Year 11 was lucky enough to find a golden nose. We raised £ 263.45. It was great to see so many pupils (and teachers) getting into the spirit with crazy hair and odd shoes. **The primary children learned the song: ' Is this the way to Amarillo' , a past Comic Relief favourite.—Ms Morgan**



Secret Garden

With the help and support from Alderney Wildlife Trust and as part of their work towards John Muir Award, Sam and Harvey are working hard to clear, develop and revamp the Secret Garden to create an educational space which can be used by all pupils at the school.



St Anne's School- Inaugural Careers Fair

In February, St Anne's School, in collaboration with The Alderney Chamber of Commerce, held its inaugural Careers Fair. The idea for the fair was borne from the fact that despite being invited, it's very difficult for pupils in Alderney to participate in the annual States of Guernsey Careers & Skills Fair held at Beau Sejour each November and as a consequence, their entitlement to Careers development is limited to what can be offered on island though the curriculum and for year 11's, through Work Experience.

We decided to address this and with the enthusiasm and drive of Nicky Burland at the Chamber of Commerce, Wendy Wilson hatched a plan to offer a Careers Fair on island. Nicky rallied employers from a wide range of sectors in Alderney including: Construction, Hospitality, Finance, Health, Education, Retail, Infrastructure & IT and they arrived to set up their stalls in the school hall with an abundance of information, activities, merchandise, competitions and prizes. 24 businesses were represented and a palpable air of excitement built around the school.

Pupils were separated into age groups and each group was given 40 minutes to spend at the fair, talking to employers, sampling careers and skills related tasks, entering competitions and gathering merchandise. Amongst many other activities on offer, AEL brought an intriguing simulator task that children could access once they had created an electrical circuit, Wings construction brought power tools for pupils to safely try, The Blonde Hedgehog brought a food sampling challenge and Alderney Wildlife Trust brought an infra-red video recording device. Pupils won prizes ranging from Amazon vouchers & a football shirt to free meals and Cinema experiences on island. The atmosphere throughout the event was lively and animated.

'We are absolutely delighted with the success of this event,' said Wendy Wilson- Headteacher. 'We were overwhelmed by the enthusiasm and generosity of our island employers as well as those who operate nationally and globally (Handpicked Hotels, PWC & Logicalis) in giving their time to our young people and are very proud that many commented enthusiastically on the excellent conduct and engagement of our pupils.' After the event, both St Anne's School and The Chamber of Commerce received feedback from participants and pupils and it is hoped that the success of this Careers Fair will lead to it becoming an annual event that can be offered not only to school pupils but to island residents more widely.

- Mrs Wilson



Year 3 & 4 update...

This term, Puffin Class have been very busy being: artists, social anthropologists, scientists and journalists. A particular highlight for Puffin Class was making ice cream in science and learning about states of matter. We also had lots of fun using pancakes in our maths lesson on fractions.

We were extremely lucky to be involved in the **'Cultural Enrichment Art Journey' with the Art for Guernsey.** We learnt about the artist Pierre-Auguste Renoir and had a really lovely day.



Easter Egg Competition Winners

Egg Jarb winner:
Benjamin D (Year 4)

Egg Roll winner:
Year 3: Eden
Year 4: Maisie
Year 5: Imogen
Year 6: Josh

Maths Update...

To commemorate 2024 being a leap year, pupils in years 6-10, took part in an escape room, during maths, where they had to solve puzzles, largely connected to time and calendar, to earn clues to combination locks. There were 4 locks to crack and luckily all pupils made it out in time for their next lesson.



A Pi day challenge was held in maths on the 14th March. Pupils had to use the numbers 3, 1 and 4 exactly once, to make the numbers 1-30. Pupils could use any operations including squared, cubed, square roots and factorial (which was a new operation for most pupils.) Pupils from year 6, 7, 9 and 10 took part. The results are below.

1st Molly and Logan (Year 7), 2nd Pixi and Theo (Year 7), 3rd Tom and Billy (Year 9), 4th Axel and Josh (Year 6), Highly commended: Pearl and India (Year 6)

Well done to everyone who took part.—Mrs Walsh

Food and Nutrition News...

This term cooking made a comeback at St Anne's! Pupils have been learning about health and safety in the working kitchen and what it means to have a healthy, balanced diet. They have created some delicious dishes, including: tomato pasta bake, vegetarian curry and in celebration of St David's Day, welsh cakes!

We are about to enter the Aldi Get Set To Eat Fresh Competition to design a healthy meal for an Olympic Athlete with the chance to win £1000 for our school and a trip to watch the Olympic Games in Paris this summer. Good Luck everyone!! - Miss Marks

Music News...

In Music this term KS3 pupils have started their practical lessons in keyboard and ukulele. Year 9 have begun to learn chords ready for their first group performance in the summer term. Year 7 and 8 are learning to read musical notation and perform simple pieces together. Next term is all about Grime and Samba! - Miss Marks



PE update...

It has been a great term for PE at St Anne's. Reception, Year 1 and 2 have had lessons on dance, ball skills, playground games and fundamental movement skills. A highlight with both classes has **been seeing the children enjoy playing "Steal the Dragon's Treasure" a game I have adapted and introduced to St Anne's. Years 3/4/5/6** have worked through sporting activities of touch rugby, netball and dance. It has been a real pleasure to see the Year 3/4 engage in traditional Scottish Dancing, following set moves, then creating and performing their own dance. A highlight from Year **5/6 has been seeing the class engage with the "Ka Mate Haka"** learning of its origin, its meaning, the language and the strong physical actions that accompany the performance. Incredibly through a family connection, the class received a personal message of support from 30 cap All Black legend Carl Hoefft. The Secondary classes have worked through sporting activities such as Touch Rugby, Table Tennis, Hockey and Health & Fitness. It has been great to see the pupils engage in activities, sometimes for the first time, with such effort and enthusiasm. Highlights include seeing all year groups eventually play without guidance and instructions; full games of touch rugby based on their learnt knowledge and understanding. Alongside the PE Curriculum, this term has seen a wide range of Extra-Curricular Sporting Activities such as Year 2-10 Football, Gymnastics, Year 5 / 6 Contact Rugby and Secondary Badminton.— Mr Kirkland

Easter Craft Competition ...

The winners of this year's family Easter Craft Competition are:

Reception: Nova Allen

Year 1: Rosie Wright

Year 2: Amelie Parmentier

Congratulations to the winners and a very big thank you to everyone who took part. All the creations were amazing—so original and beautifully made. Well done, Mrs Costello



French Update...

Year 7 have created French menus where they have developed a role-play of a restaurant in France. They have been learning about French food and how to order food. We have been singing songs in order to learn the alphabet and the numbers. Pupils play games such as French Bingo and find the treasure. Pupils have been able to talk about their family, pets and wild animals. How to tell the time in French, how to use a bilingual dictionary. The topics are taught through games, songs, toolkits and ICT.

Year 8 have been learning about their home town and have created their own PowerPoints about Alderney, in French. We have been learning about different French speaking countries and festivities. Pupils are able to talk about their daily routine and what chores they do. We have been performing Cinderella in French, with songs and sketches.

Year 9 have been learning how to talk about their relationships with their families in French. We have been learning about clothes and uniform. Pupils have watched and analysed different French films such as Les Choristes and La Famille Belier. We have been learning about modern technology, the advantages and disadvantages through music and songs.

The Wellbeing Hub Content Lineup - Spring Term 2024 -

Parents and staff at St Anne's School have free access to all resources on The Wellbeing Hub. If you have not previously logged on, please contact (kim.smith@alderney.sch.gg) for a link. New content for April 2024 is all about revision and exam stress:

Week 1: Podcast: Revision Skills: How to Revise Effectively with Steve Badger, Deputy Head in charge of Teaching and Learning at Lord Wandsworth College

Week 2: Video: Setting Yourself Up For Exam Success - for parents and pupils by Alicia Drummond, Therapist and Founder of The Wellbeing Hub

Week 3: Creating A Revision Timetable That Works For You from The King's School, Chester

Week 4: Webinar: Nutrition For Concentration and Performance with Tina Lond-Caulk, The Nutrition Guru - Author, Speaker, and Nutritionist

Bonus: Podcast: The Art of Learning, Knowledge Retention and Memory with Murray Morrison, Founder and CEO at Tassomai

Summer Term Dates

- Wednesday 10th April — Term Starts (Pupils)
- Monday 6th May — May Day Bank Holiday
- Monday 27th May — Friday 31st May — Half Term
- Friday 19th July — Term Ends



A huge thank you to all those who popped money into the PTA buckets for our annual Flag Day. We raised over £270 which is quite amazing. Thank you to the teachers that gave up some of their Saturday morning and to the members of the Alderney community who also offered their time to support the PTA

- Beth Chapman