



Grands Vaux Primary School

Headteacher: Miss Maria McCool



Friday, 08 March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to newsletter 6. Well done to everyone who took part in World Book Day yesterday. It was a fantastic event in which true imagination shone through all the Eco Themed 'Recycled' WBD costumes.

Planet Prose Short Story Competition:

As part of our World Book Day Celebrations we encouraged our children to write a short story to be entered in the Planet Prose Short Story Competition. We had some terrific entrants and I am pleased to share that of our budding authors, Gabby in yr 4, won the 6-10 age category. There was a celebration event at the Library on Wednesday 6.3.24 where the winners were announced and her success was shared in the JEP. We are immensely proud of all the children that entered and shared their creative flare, but a particular well done must be shared with Gabby – a great success.



French Eisteddfod:

Congratulations to the Year 5 students who participated in the French Eisteddfod on Thursday 29.2.24.

Grands Vaux was represented by 8 students in the 'Year 5 and under set verse' section. They worked exceptionally hard to perfect their performances and were a credit to the school. They achieved silver, gold and even one platinum award! Congratulations to Jose – the overall winner of the J&E Carnegie Cup! Well done to all involved, we are very proud of all your efforts!

Early years Foundation Stage Mother's Event:

Thank you to all the Nursery and Reception mums who were able to attend this event yesterday. Such a lovely opportunity for the children to share and show how much they care. We had some very heartfelt feedback, treasured memories created and tears!

Thank you to the EYFS team and the children for making this such a special celebration.

Parent-Teacher Meetings: Wednesday 20th March 3.10-5.30:

Please save this date in your diary. We shall be using a new management system for the next parent-teacher meetings. School cloud is used by many primary schools and is an efficient way to book sessions. This is in process currently so there will be more information to follow.

Bentley Photographic:

Bentley are returning to school on the afternoon of Thursday 21/3/2024 to offer sibling photos. If you would like your children to undertake a sibling photograph on the afternoon of 21/3/24 and your children are all in school then you must inform us of this wish by Wednesday 13th March. This request must come to the main office either by face to face confirmation or in writing – once we have this we will co-ordinate the sibling photograph on your behalf, so you do not need to attend school for this. As the photographer has a clear deadline to organise QR codes for printing to ensure the smooth running of the online ordering service - any requests after this date will **not** be processed.

If you have siblings outside of Grands Vaux School that you want to be included in the photograph then you, and your child's siblings, must be present at the music and drama room exterior door for 1.30pm on Thursday 21/3/24.

A parent has also queried if class photos with class teacher would be an option going forward. As class photos have not been taken at Grands Vaux during my time as Headteacher I wanted to check what parental feedback would be on this. Is it something that you would like us to investigate further? If so please do let me know, there would need to be enough interest to make it viable for the photographer.

Grands Vaux School PTA:

Unfortunately I had to postpone the PTA meeting. The rescheduled meeting was held on Tuesday 5th March @ 3.30pm.

Mrs Albuquerque had kindly taken over as PTA chair on a temporary basis following Miss O'Connor's resignation. Miss De Gouveia has now been elected as the PTA chair. There was no nominations for secretary so this role will be shared amongst the current PTA team.

An update on fund raising to date was shared –

Cake Sales – 1) £103.60, 2) £55.20, 3) 69.35

Non Uniform - £65

Second Hand Uniform Sales £97.34

Spending –

Contribution towards the yr 6 leavers hoodies (22-23 cohort) £250

The next event the PTA would like to hold is a Movie Night before ½ term – details to follow.

Lyndale Uniform Sales:

As part of the PTA meeting held this week I shared the new Service Level Agreement that Lyndale Sports want me to sign to agree that they will continue to be our suppliers. It was a unanimous decision that the terms as outlined are agreeable so I will be committing to them as our supplier going forward.

Free Second-Hand Uniform (reminder):

As you are aware, our take rails in the front entrance to school, are unnamed lost property that have not been claimed. These items can be taken free of charge.

I have also been made aware of the following Facebook page – School Clothes Bank Jersey CI – free second-hand uniform - (<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61551584833195>)

Family Food and Fitness Programme:

The next Family Food and Fitness Programme is starting on Wednesday 17th April. Public Health Jersey have asked for me to share the attached with parents/carers to make this offer available to our families. The Family Food and Fitness Programme is a free programme available to families with primary school children, who are above a healthy weight. Over twelve weeks, they will learn how to make nutritionally balanced meals and take part in cooking and fun, physical activities. The sessions are delivered by Registered Dietitians, a Psychologist and Jersey Sport physical activity and behaviour change coaches after school at Haute Vallee School. The programme aims to help families develop and sustain healthy lifestyles and assist children to grow into a healthier weight.

Attendance and Punctuality (reminder):

A reminder that school doors open at 8:30am with a lesson start time of 8.45am.

Children who arrive 30mins after the register has closed are marked with a 'U' code. This 'U' code does affect overall attendance percentage, with these session not being accounted for even as a part session, it is recorded as an unauthorised absence.

CYPES Attendance Policy can be found here –

<https://www.gov.je/SiteCollectionDocuments/Education/P%20School%20Attendance%20Policy%2020190227%20JP.pdf>

This document explains the graduated response for Education Welfare Team involvement. Attendance 95-91% is classified as concerning, 90-86% class teachers will be in touch to discuss an attendance plan. If there is no improvement then a referral will be made to the Education Welfare Team seeking their support.

Education Welfare Officer for Grands Vaux School:

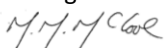
Jade Lucchesi is our new EWO. You will be able to meet her as she will be visiting school site at drop off on Monday 11th March to introduce herself. Should any parent/carer need support with punctuality or attendance issues then please do get in touch and I can co-ordinate an introduction.

DATES:

INSET Dates – Wednesday 27 March 2024, Friday 24 May 2024 - school is closed to the children

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any queries, concerns or there is anything I can do to help and support you with your child's learning and school life. All at Grands Vaux Primary School are committed to the well-being of your child/ren so if we can help, please let us know.

Kind regards



Miss Maria McCool – Headteacher