



12th November 2019

Les Gravées, St Peter Port
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Tel: (01481) 721338

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the second half of the Michaelmas Term. I hope that you have all enjoyed a restful half term break and are ready for the excitement of the second half of term.

NEWS & EVENTS

Under The Sea Week

Thank you for your support with this event during the last week of the first half of term. The girls learnt a great deal about the environment in lessons and took part in two fantastic beach cleans involving the whole school, which resulted in over 30kg of rubbish being collected, sorted and where possible, recycled. The girls also looked fantastic in some imaginative and sometimes thought provoking costumes on dress up day. We raised £213.50 which will be donated to La Société Guernesiaise (Marine Biology Department) which is super!

We will continue to work as a school on reducing single use plastics and raising awareness of environmental issues. Small steps that we have taken towards this aim this term include, not having paper plates for the Prep Christmas party and starting to have food waste bins at lunch time and extending this to break times.



Staffing Changes

I am now able to update you on our recent staffing appointments.

Middle Preparatory

As you are aware Miss Martin leaves us at the end of term to embark on her travels with her husband. Mrs Lloyd- Dodd will become the new Middle Prep teacher from the start of the Lent Term. Mrs Lloyd-Dodd is currently on island and will be meeting with Miss Martin and the class regularly this term in order to ensure a smooth transition. We also invite Middle Prep parents to a 'pop in' session in Middle Prep classroom at 3pm on Thursday 21st November, in order to say hello to Mrs Lloyd-Dodd before she takes up her new post.

Junior Remove

Mrs de la Fosse starts her maternity leave at the beginning of February and will return to Melrose at the start of the Lent Term 2021. Ms Ellen Jones will cover for Mrs de la Fosse in her absence. Ms Jones will be on island from the start of the New Year and will be meeting with Mrs de la Fosse to ensure a smooth transition, we will also arrange a drop in session for parents to meet Ms Jones near the start of her appointment.

Pre-Preparatory Department

Mrs Nora Le Tissier will shortly be joining the Pre-Prep team as a part time practitioner. Mrs Le Tissier is also one of the supervisors on our lunch time team and will therefore work with girls throughout the school.

I am pleased to say that, due to family circumstances, Mrs Trustum changed her mind and decided not to leave the Pre-Preparatory Department. I am sure that the Pre-Preparatory parents are pleased that her smiley face remains part of the team.

Lunch Time Supervisors

Mrs Ali Reynolds, Mrs Jo Le Ray and Mrs Melany Way have decided to step down from their lunch time roles in order to focus on their roles as Learning Support Assistants. Mrs Reynolds has led the lunch time team with great efficiency and commitment for 12 years, supporting many staff over that time. Mrs Le Ray and Mrs Way have both been valued members of the lunch time team. I would like to thank them all for their hard work over the years.

Mrs Belinda Smith will take over leading the lunch time team. Mrs Smith is a part time art teacher at the Senior School and her daughter was at Melrose last year. She is familiar with both parts of the school and I am sure will take over the reins admirably.

Mrs Jane Lavin will become a lunch time supervisor and a final member of the lunch time team will be announced shortly.

School Development

We will be opening an additional Junior Remove class from September 2020. This decision has been recently made by our Governors who were keen to have one additional class to match demand for places and to provide education to more girls on the island, whilst creating potentially smaller class sizes at the same time, which is positive for all.

Plans are currently progressing well internally, yet clearly these can only be shared once agreed and then we can present how we aim to achieve the additional class with minimal to no impact on current provision. Please be reassured that we do not intend to reduce provision as a result for any part of the College. Currently the plans for expansion are for September 2020 only. We will be advertising for a full time class teacher at the start of the Lent Term.

Diary Dates and Information

Winter Uniform

The girls should now all be wearing their Winter Uniform. Details can be found in the Parent Handbook. Girls up to and including Form I should be wearing pinafores and long sleeved white blouses, with the exception of Lower Prep who wear short sleeved blouses and Middle Prep during transition. Girls in Forms II & III should wear skirts and long sleeved white blouses. Tights or socks may be worn but socks for all girls should be long, green socks.

All girls must have warm navy winter coats. These may either be purchased from Fletcher Sports or other warm navy waterproof coats may be worn as an alternative. They do not need to bring in their blazers on a daily basis. When the weather gets colder any hats, gloves or scarves should be bottle green. We also ask for all girls in the Preparatory Department to have wellington boots in school and Junior girls to have either wellington boots or old trainers in school to wear at break times when the ground is muddy.

Upcoming Diary Dates

Please see some important dates for your diaries below.

More information will be sent nearer the time.

15th November – Children In Need Day – Wear something spotty. £1 donation

15th November – PTA Bingo Night 6-8pm CANCELLED

28th & 29th November – Drama Club Reviews

29th November – Form I Cake Sale

3rd & 5th December - Preparatory Department Nativity – 1.45pm

13th December – Carol Service - St Stephens Church – 1.30pm

14th December – PTA Christmas Fayre 10am-12.00pm

16th December – ‘Dress for Christmas’ Day

16th December - Pre-Preparatory Department Nativity Play - 1.45pm

17th December – Melrose Christmas Party Day

End of term – Wednesday 18th December

Term ends at **12 noon** for **Junior girls**. The **Preparatory Department** may start to leave at **11.45am** and the **Pre-Preparatory Department** may leave from **11.15am** to ease congestion in the car park.

Yours sincerely,



Elaine Ozanne