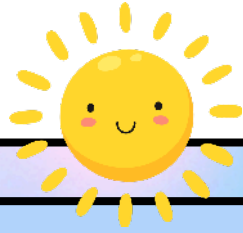


# MONT A L'ABBE SCHOOL

Summer Term 1 Newsletter

Friday 22nd May 2026



## ENJOY A SUNNY HALF TERM BREAK !

As we reach the end of what has been a short but productive half term at Mont à l'Abbe School, it is great to reflect on the many enriching experiences and achievements that have taken place across our school community.

At Primary, learners have been thoroughly engaged in their literacy work through the much-loved story *Superworm* by Julia Donaldson. This exciting text has inspired creativity, imagination, and a real enthusiasm for all things 'worm'. It has been wonderful to see learners developing their understanding of the text through sensory exploration, fun role play and immersive teaching.

Meanwhile, at Secondary and L'Etacq, learners have been immersed in their topic of Castles, using this fascinating theme to inspire and promote quality questioning, non fiction writing and brilliant role play - the classrooms are filled with large creatively built castle walls and battlements to bring the topic to life. Learners have focused on Jersey castles and facts about why and how they were built.

Across the whole school, we have been delighted with the excellent mathematics taking place. Learners have been tackling a wide range of topics with enthusiasm and determination, developing key skills and building resilience in their learning. It has been particularly pleasing to see such positive engagement and pride in their achievements.

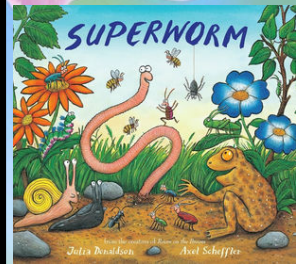
This half term has also been rich in celebrations and community events. We marked Jersey's Liberation Day with special assemblies and a delightful tea party at Secondary, giving pupils the opportunity to reflect on this important moment in our island's history while enjoying time together. In addition, Africa Day was celebrated with energy and joy, including live music that brought the school community together in a vibrant and memorable way.

Our commitment to sustainability and wellbeing was once again highlighted during another successful Eco Day at the start of term, this time with a focus on Healthy Living. Learners explored ways to look after both themselves and the environment, reinforcing important values for life. Our next Eco day on 1<sup>st</sup> June will focus on our School Grounds.

Our staff training days this half term have provided valuable opportunities for upskilling in key areas including Speech and Language, Sherbourne Movement Therapy, Good Autism Practice, and Maybo training, alongside much more. This ongoing investment in staff development ensures we continue to provide the highest quality support for our learners.

Have a lovely break everyone; return refreshed and ready for our busy last half term of this brilliant academic year. We will be thinking about transitions to new classes, some fond farewells, Sports Days, our community picnic and, of course, PROM! It promises to be a learning packed and exciting end to this brilliant academic year.

*Tricia Moloney*





# Turtle Class

This half term, we have had a wonderful time exploring our "Minibeasts" theme! The children have particularly enjoyed the story Superworm, fully immersing themselves in the sensory experiences linked to the story and beginning to sequence key events. We are very proud of the fantastic progress being made in Phonics. The children are increasingly confident in recognising early sounds, with some beginning to identify initial letter sounds and others starting to segment and blend as part of their early reading journey. In Maths, we have been exploring time and shape, alongside continuing to develop our understanding of number through a range of practical and engaging activities. Our Turtles class are making amazing progress with their communication skills. We are seeing children confidently using a variety of approaches, including Makaton signing, low-tech and high-tech AAC systems, and their own preferred methods to express their wants and needs. A real highlight of the term has been horse riding—with several children experiencing riding for the very first time! It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow through this experience. Well done, Turtles!



# Dolphin Class

In Dolphins we have done lots of food sensory play this term. We have sprinkled, poured and crunched different foods while exploring the different textures they have. It has been lots of fun! We have also enjoyed outings to the park alongside our brilliant learning in school - well done Dolphins!



# Octopus Class

We have had a fabulous term and have loved exploring our CLL book, Super worm. We've enjoyed learning about lots of different insects and garden creatures, as well as keeping up to date with our butterflies as we get ready to release them! We've also had lots of fun playing, sharing and learning together. The children have especially enjoyed our community trips to the park!





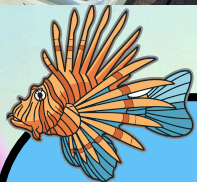
## Regal Tang Fish Class

It has been a busy and rewarding term! Everyone has worked incredibly hard in phonics, learning new sounds and developing the confidence to blend them when reading short words. In maths, we have been practising counting, exploring the concepts of heavy and light and beginning to understand money. The children have loved our story Superworm, especially learning about the characters and how they save the day! We have also enjoyed watching our sunflowers grow and taking part in sensory sessions based around the theme of gardens. Well done to everyone for their hard work this term—have a lovely and well-deserved half-term break!



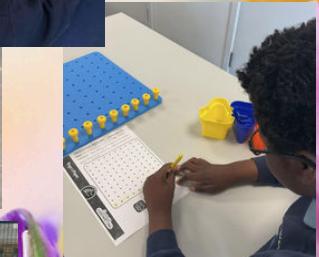
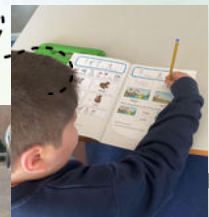
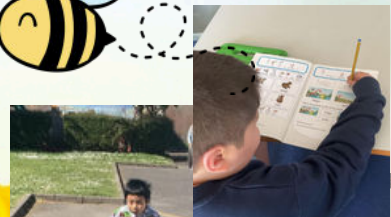
## Parrotfish Class

This half term the boys in Parrotfish class have loved exploring the sensory aspects of the Superworm text especially during our dough disco sessions. Our continued focus on learning together and building friendships is blooming and the team are very proud of the progress being made. Have a lovely half term break everyone!



## Lionfish Class

This half term, we have been thoroughly enjoying the learning time and making great progress across all areas of the curriculum. The children have particularly enjoyed the story Superworm, which has inspired lots of creative and engaging learning opportunities. In CLL, the class have focused on developing their handwriting skills and sentence formation. In Maths, pupils have worked hard towards their individual targets! Across the wider curriculum, the class have enjoyed building strong relationships with their peers, spending time playing in the class garden and creating imaginative trails and games outdoors. It has also been wonderful to watch the class potatoes grow throughout the half term, which has supported their understanding of life cycles and responsibility. The children have continued to enjoy a range of extracurricular activities, including swimming, horse riding and Jump Jersey, which have supported their physical development, confidence, and enjoyment of learning beyond the classroom.





## Clownfish Class

This half term we have had fun learning about insects as part of our topic. We have enjoyed listening to and joining in with our book *Superworm*. We have also enjoyed exploring and tasting healthy food as part of our PSHE topic. We continue to love our Two Rhythms sessions. Have a lovely half term break everyone.



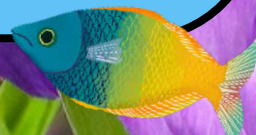
## Mandarinfish Class

Mandarin class have had a wonderful time with our topic. The children have engaged really well with our CLL story *Superworm*, enjoying the skipping ropes, fishing lines, and all the other fun ways we have brought the story to life. Cycling Without Limits continues to be a great community visit, with the children becoming increasingly confident using the adapted bikes. We hope everyone has a nice half term week and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for the final half term of the year where our Topic will be 'Seaside'. Many thanks, The Mandarin Fish team.



## Rainbowfish Class

It has been another busy and fun half term in Rainbowfish Class. We had our super long and super strong friend *Superworm* in class with us who taught us about friendship, kindness and teamwork. We also planted cress seeds and learnt all about the life cycles of butterflies and frogs. Have a wonderful half term break everyone!





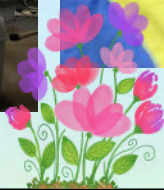
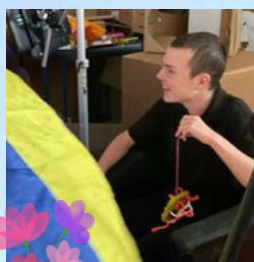
## Victory Class

Victory class have been learning all about Castles and why we have them in Jersey. Our pupils have a better understanding of parts of a Castle and roleplayed being the important people inside. We have also enjoyed our visits to Jump Jersey and many enriching outings across our island. Well done everyone on your fantastic learning and play!



## Mary Rose Class

A fun and varied half-term in Mary Rose Class. We have had outdoor learning opportunities, Liberation Celebrations, visits from emergency services, building and defending our castle and some interactive games as well. Looking forward to the next half-term already



## Santa Maria Class

Santa Maria have enjoyed immersing themselves into the world of Castles and why Jersey has them and whether castles are still built today in our modern world. Trips to the recycling centre and visits from the ambulance service have helped bring our learning to life. Have a great half term break.



## Mayflower Class

Mayflower have been learning all about recycling and we have been collecting our rubbish during snack time to take to the recycling centre to learn where all our rubbish goes. Have a great half term everyone!

## Cutty Sark Class

We've really enjoyed getting outside and exploring the island. The children have met lots of people in our community and learned more about staying safe while having fun. We've been surfing with Healing Waves, been out on the Wet Wheels boat and looking for castles. We have planned our sensory garden with the help of National Trust Jersey who helped us measure the space and discuss what pollinator plants we need. In class, we've been busy completing our Ocean Narrative Challenge entries and getting ready for our performance at the Jersey Arts Centre. The children are excited to share their stories and show what they've been learning, and it's been wonderful to see their confidence grow through these experiences.

## SS Vega Class

Jaiden seems to be enjoying his time at The Studio playing board games. Last Thursday, he chose to play Cluedo and remained engaged until the game was finished. Kaci continues with her cooking sessions. This time, she made an amazing traybake! David continues to attend phonics sessions, as he loves learning with his friends. Lucas participated in a sponsored walk from La Fregate to La Haule. He was able to complete the challenge in 45 minutes!

## Ellen MacArthur Class

We've had a productive and busy term! We've loved learning about castles in CLL and several learners have enjoyed their first experience working on the Project Trident work experience scheme. We've also started working on our planter at La Pouquelaye Community Gardens. We have been practising our road safety skills while walking to the site. We've also been growing lots of plants from seed at school, which we are now transferring to our planter.



L'ETACQ



## Vasco Da Gama Class

We have had a busy half term in Vasco De Gama. On Monday afternoons we have started playing Padel Tennis at Les Ormes which has been provided for us by the Bosdet Foundation. The students have progressed with amazing speed and most of them can now maintain a rally and serve.



## DATES for the DIARY

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May - Half term week

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June - Community Picnic

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July - Leavers Prom

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July - Transition fortnight begins

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July - End of Summer term

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September - Inset day (no school)

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> Sept - Autumn term begins

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> Sept - Inset day (no school)



## PE update

During our last few months our Secondary Learners have had a range of experiences within Sport and Leisure. We have been lucky enough to secure the Hockey Coach from our local club and also the Kick Boxing Coach, for a few weekly sessions which were very popular. We have also used Strive where our students have learnt how to use their Gym and also experienced fitness sessions with a coach. As part of their leisure programme, some students have also experienced freshwater fishing at a private pond. This was both relaxing and exciting and, added to all these activities, we have resumed our sessions for classes with Wetwheels. This is a local charity that provides fantastic experiences for our children and is well worth supporting. Also Cycling Without Limits at Les Quennevais (Jersey Sport) is very popular. Happening at the same time as the above are weekly swimming sessions for all abilities and also Two Rhythm sessions, run by our in house staff team.

Finally one of the highlights in March was our teams in the Swimathon. We had twenty swimmers in three teams during the day and helped raise around £800 for the Lions Club. When the learners weren't swimming lengths, they were dancing! It was great fun. It's been a busy but wonderful few months.

Finally special congratulations to Keir and Rowan going to Cheshire for the Special Olympics Qualifiers for swimming, Gold for Keir and three silvers for Rowan - what an amazing effort!

Mr Jordi

## Eco - School Awards

We are looking forward to our next Eco Day focussing on our School Grounds! We have visits organised from Jersey water and also a farmer coming in to talk about how the potatoes go from farm to plate. We will be sharing our efforts on Dojo on the 1st June! Mrs Luke



## Mont à l'Abbé School Bikes, Trikes and More!

We can attribute neurological development to play, and that learning requires relationships and interactions. Elements that can be found within play, interactions build the brain pathways responsible for the development of socio-emotional and self-regulation skills. We can also connect creativity with the imagination element of play.

The Friends of Mont à l'Abbé School, Registered Charity 423, are fundraising to create state of the art inclusive play facilities. Following the success of our playground fundraiser, we are now hoping to raise money to buy adapted bikes, trikes and tandems for our learners to enjoy in our outside play area. This forms an essential part of keeping fit and healthy, promoting positive outdoor experiences and playing together without limits.

If you are able to help in any way please contact:  
Karen O'Brien, Friends of Mont à l'Abbé  
karenob@gms.com

**Fundraising Target**  
**£25,000**



## Playground Update

As you will be aware our fundraising has reached our goal of £460,000 and ground works have now started to build our new playground in the field area behind primary site.

This is the first stage of our new school build project and it is very exciting to start thinking about the new school building. We will keep you updated with photos on Class Dojo showing how the playground progresses in due course. Our fundraising continues through the PTA with a focus now on adaptive bikes and trikes for our learners.