



LA MARE DE CARTERET HIGH SCHOOL

ATTEND. ASPIRE. ACHIEVE.

NEWSLETTER

Autumn Term 2023

Dear Parent/Carers,

Overlooking Cobo Bay ... a view from a new Head of School

I am surprised to be writing this reflection as the now Head of School at La Mare de Carteret High School but the pathway along the island-wide Transforming Education Programme (TEP) has proved to be unpredictable at times. The Topsy-Turvy decision making process has sometimes been worthy of Alice and the Queen of Hearts with, for example, approval for the plan but not for the funding. However, we carry on regardless, making sure that the students' experience in school is the best we can provide for all of our learners.

We started this academic session as usual in September with our return to school marked by an analysis of the GCSE results for the outgoing Year 11. This was our last-ever, selective cohort and marked the final step in transitioning from the Grammar School education model since the decision to move to a fully comprehensive system over five years ago. Unlike recent negative reports in the local press, we celebrated the vast majority of our students achieving their predicted grades across the core subjects and the positive destinations of further education, work or training gained by 100% of our students.

It seemed like no sooner had we returned than School Show rehearsals started in the Hall after school, planning for Year 11 Mocks started in earnest and we had our heads down to get on with the business of the long, fourteen-week Autumn term. The first half-term was punctuated with the usual positives - Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning, Swimathon

at Beau Sejour - alongside a myriad of sporting fixtures and subject field study trips. These, alongside our regular curricular activities, are a testament to breadth and depth of the educational experience on offer here at La Mare High and the quality and dedication of my colleagues as they so regularly go 'above and beyond' for the students they teach. Without apparently pausing to catch breath, the half-term holiday was upon us. We returned to Scotland for my son's wedding and then Fergus (the cockapoo) and I ventured further south on a 'boy's trip' to visit friends in France. A welcome, if active, break from the day-to-day routine of school was only marginally marred by the unpredictability of the Condor service as October gales made themselves felt.

Our return for the second half-term saw us planning the next steps in the TEP. With the official renaming of the Footes Lane site to Les Varendes High School in September, we proceeded with a movement of staff which saw us saying a fond 'a la perchoine' to Mrs. Tomlin and Mr. Dodd as they act as a vanguard for our subsequent, collective move to Les Varendes at Footes Lane. The resulting reorganisation here has seen a number of us move into different leadership roles across the school. That aside, the second half-term was business as usual: a fantastic Year 11 Presentation Evening with speech and presentation by H.E. Lieutenant-Governor Lieutenant General Richard Cripwell CB, CBE; a moving Remembrance Day assembly; multiple Parents' Evenings and our Community Lunch - these all served to speed November into December and the final few weeks of term.

Along the way we saw further sporting successes on the Football, Hockey and Netball pitches and the notable selection of a Year 10 student for Swim England's National

pathway. In addition, four of our former/current students were shortlisted for the Sovereign Art Guernsey Student's Prize. And as December dawned, hard-earned Rewards trips and events were enjoyed by those students nominated by colleagues as having distinguished themselves.

Our Christmas Lunch this week is a real marker of the end of term where we can celebrate the festive period together as a community - regardless of our race, creed or colour. That, along with our Christmas Jumper/non-uniform day on the final Friday, provides a chance for us all to show our true selves. Demonstrating the quality of the relationships we build with each other, how we treat each other and how much we care for one another.

With very best wishes for the festive period.

Yours sincerely,
Mr. M. Ramsay,
Head of School.

Young Writers

Every term Young Writers send us writing competitions covering a range of different topics. This term they sent us the challenge of writing poems about themselves, and some of our students produced some outstanding work and were selected to be published in the national Young Writers book.

A huge congratulations to the following Year 8 young writers whose poems will be published:
C Lowe E Ferbrache J Kennedy
L Brehaut M Pannenberg.
Very well done. [Miss. Ascott, English Dept.]

Art

Sovereign Arts Award 2023

I am delighted to say that I am so proud of our students who made it through to the final of this prestigious competition. Both KS3 and KS4 were represented well and the following students were successful.

KS4 Finalists

F Crowson



K Le Cheminant



A Mahy



S Robilliard



KS3 Merit Awards

A Roberts, C McCreight, E Vidamour, G Jones, J Ward, S Merrien, W Chirwa, S Dufour, R Wright, L-A Bichard, C Thoumine, L Morton.

These students received a Merit Certificate and a £25 voucher to spend in Lexicon.

Fundraising

Following a successful Cake Bake Sale in September we donated £388 to MacMillan Cancer Support - raised in memory of our dear colleague Jane Champion who passed away from breast cancer this September 2023.

Children in Need activities in November resulted in a fundraising total of £313.

We also helped support the Rotary Guernesiaise Shoe Box Appeal.

The generosity of all our families, students and staff is most heart-warming and as ever we say a big **Thank You.**

Skipton Swimarathon 2023

In October we had Rhys and Ethan in Year 11 who represented the school Swimarathon Team to collect the 'Fun Trophy' which is now on display in School.



This is the first event we have done with Les Varendes High School and the boys were very proud to represent the school.

A big 'Thank You' to all staff and students who helped/swam for the school in this event.

La Mare High raised £365; and collectively the two schools raised £888. [[Mr. Lee, HoD P.E.]

MFL Update

It has been an exciting Winter Term in the Modern Foreign Languages department. We started by welcoming Mr. Segnikin as our new French teacher for Years 8 and 9, who has also provided valuable support alongside Ms. Barrois with our French GCSE students in preparing for their upcoming examinations. Un grand merci !

Meanwhile, Spanish continues to grow in school having been introduced last year. Our after-school Year 11 class are racing through topics in preparation for their final exams in June, whilst Year 10 have for the first time been offered the chance to take Spanish in-timetable as a GCSE option. In fact, Spanish has been so popular that we decided to introduce the language to Year 9 earlier in the year to ensure an even firmer grounding for those who pursue it for GCSE.

In the first week back after Christmas, Mr. Huitson is pleased to invite parents and carers of Years 10 and 11 students to a workshop on Thursday 11 January at school (6-7pm), showcasing how to get the best out of our subscriptions to the ever-popular Sentence Builders and Language Gym online learning environments. These will prove invaluable resources to our language learners in the run up to exams. Students are also welcome to the event.

Looking ahead, both Mr. Huitson and Mr. Segnikin are excited for the forthcoming French trip in June. We will be taking forty students to Cherbourg, St. Malo and Le Mont-Saint Michel for a long weekend, offering our students the chance to practise their language skills, discover the culture (and tasty treats!) from our neighbours just over the water. Uptake has been phenomenal - in fact, there is just one place left in case anybody is still interested.

We also congratulate our Language Learners of the Winter Term: Chloe T and Emil F (Year 8); Tanika R and Ruben G (Year 9); Siân C and dual linguist Robert A (Year 10); and Aimee Hand Harry B (Year 1111). We are proud of the amazing progress you have made.

So it is just left to say "Joyeux Noël", "¡Feliz Navidad!", and best wishes to all for 2024! [Mr. Huitson, French Dept.]



Safeguarding Staff

For information our CP Officers within our school setting are:

Miss. A. Din
Mrs. S. Bourgaize
Ms. S. Robert

P. E. Department News

Emma Bourgaize Swimming Success



Fourteen year old Emma Bourgaize, a member of the Guernsey Swimming Club, has been participating in the Swim England's Age Group Development Programme since 2020 and is now part of the National pathway for 2023 & 2024. The programme is invitation only and aims to guide and deliver quality swimmers onto British Swimming's World Class Programmes. Emma was picked to attend the elite National programme after being put forward by the South East Region. This is after attending nationals in Sheffield over the Summer in which Emma got into two finals and three personal bests.

Emma has had a great finish to 2023 winning nine events in her age group at the Island Championships and winning 3 trophies in the process too. Emma continues to strive for greatness and although the medals and trophies are important to her she is most pleased with her four impressive personal bests. Emma has been nominated for the Sir John Loveridge Trophy. This is awarded for the sportsperson who is making the greatest progress in the year in their sport. (Any sponsorship for Emma would be welcomed.)

LOCAL SWIMMER SELECTED FOR ELITE DEVELOPMENT SQUAD BY SWIM ENGLAND IN NEWSPRESS REPORTS

AN ASPIRING local swimmer has capped an amazing year by being chosen in August for the Swim

England National Pathway for 2023/24 and then followed this by qualifying for 6 events at last weekend's Winter South East Regional Championships held in Winchester.

Fourteen year old **Emma Bourgaize**, a member of the Guernsey Swimming Club, has been participating in the Swim England's Age Group Development Programme since 2020 and is now part of the National pathway for 2023 & 2024. The programme is invitation only and aims to guide and deliver quality swimmers onto British Swimming's World Class Programmes. Emma was picked to attend the elite National programme after being put forward by the South East Region.



The Swim England Talent Swimming comprises four stages of development for athletes from 11 to 19. These are designed to help youngsters maximise their potential and eventually step up onto British Swimming's World Class Pathway, where they could become a funded athlete.

The National Age Group Development programme runs camps throughout the season and features a mix of swimming coaching and education. Haidée Stephens, Guernsey Swimming Club coach who accompanied Emma to Winchester last weekend, said: 'The National Development Programme provides an opportunity to train with top level swimmers and coaches and Emma's selection is a great achievement given the stiff competition she faced, not only in the South of the UK but across the whole country.'

Prior to selection, Emma competed at the Swim England National Summer Meet in Sheffield, qualifying to swim against competitors in her age group from across the country in 100m and 50m Butterfly and the 100m Freestyle achieving finals in both the 100m Butterfly and the 100m Freestyle. Last weekend Emma followed this by qualifying to swim at the Region Short Course Winter Championships. Held at the Winchester Sport and Leisure Park, Emma entered and qualified for six different events in Freestyle, Breaststroke, Butterfly and Individual Medley. Swimming in an open age group against top athletes of all ages across the region Emma came home with 3 short course personal best swims in 100m Freestyle where she almost broke the

coveted 1 minute with a 1.00.81, 50m Freestyle with a 28.18 and the 100m Individual Medley with a 1.09.58.

Zedra X Challenge

26 students in Years 8, 9 and 10 took part in the annual Zedra X Challenge. They took on various challenges across a Cross Country course jumping over hay bales, stepping in tyres and crawling under nets. The students were a credit to the school in showing their perseverance to keep going.

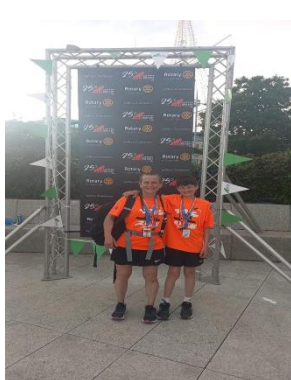
Fastest boys and girls were:

- Harry W and Jessica M in Year 8.
- Daniel J and Hollie G in Year 9.
- Leo S and Mollie W in Year 10.



Photo credit: A Le Poidevin

Saffery Rotary Walk success for student



On 10th June 2023 Casey (Year 8) completed the Saffery Rotary Walk of 38 miles, in 15 hours and 22 minutes. This amassed an incredible 95,000 steps by Casey. Not only is this a massive achievement for a 12 year old but he also raised a staggering £1,309 for the Charity. Casey collected the most sponsorship by an individual

walker and so was invited to meet the Lt. Governor and was presented with a trophy for his success. This is a phenomenal achievement and shows the determination and resilience Casey has shown to complete this challenge. A true inspiration for all to take on a challenge.

Jenny Mahe gets England South Coast Hockey

Jenny Mahe has excelled in a variety of sports since joining La Mare de Carteret High school, but most notably in Hockey. She has represented the Island already at Under 18, playing up 3 year groups. Jenny recently started playing in the women's senior hockey league as well this year and has not looked out of place on the hockey pitch. Recently, she had the opportunity to go to the England South Coast Academy trials. Not surprising to us, Jenny was told she had been successful in achieving a place on the team. The only States educated individual to be afforded this honour. Not only is this a proud moment for her and a significant achievement, we as a school are delighted to say we have an England Hockey representative. Jenny is already a fantastic role model for the sport and our school community. With her interest in potentially becoming a PE teacher in the future there is no doubt she will inspire many boys and girls to take up hockey on the Island.

Jenny currently is flying away once a month to train and play with the England South Coast Academy whilst her English teammates are getting weekly training sessions. (Any sponsorship for Jenny would be welcomed for the cost of flights, accommodation, trains, kit etc.)

Island Games Success brings Pride of Guernsey Nomination for Darcey

It has been a memorable year on the track for Darcey Hodgson (Year 11) in which she represented the Island at the local Island Games; and also in the UK. She is now the

second fastest ever local female athlete over 800m and one of the youngest individual medallists from Guernsey Athletics.



Darcey won Silver in the 800m and Gold in the 4x400m relay at the Island Games. She has also competed in major events like the English Schools Championships in Birmingham and the Hampshire Championships in Portsmouth.

This success was noted and she was a nominee for the Pride of Guernsey Awards. Darcey's success this year epitomises what La Mare de Carteret values are: Attend, Aspire, Achieve.

She has a very bright future ahead of her. These competitions come at a great cost for an athlete who is training 4-5 times a week. *(Any sponsorship for Darcey would be welcomed.)*

Island Games Volunteers have a Special Experience

We had many students and staff who were representing the Island not just competitively but also by volunteering to help with the running of events and medal presentations.

Eleanor J (Year 11) found the experience incredible and is now inspired to be receiving medals on the podium in future years for the Island. A memorable moment for Eleanor was meeting both Cameron and Alistair Chalmers who are local athletes who are competing on the world stage and have represented GB at the Olympics and Guernsey at the Commonwealth Games.

Charlie H (Year 11) also helped out at the athletics with carrying athlete's equipment and kit from the start line. Charlie was inspired by the Faroe Island athlete Jonas Isaksen who at the age of 17 was an underdog prior to the 400m race but managed to secure the Gold medal.

Tom M (Year 11) was also involved in carrying athlete's kit and equipment for races during the week. A memorable moment for Tom was getting the opportunity to have a photo with Alistair Chalmers after he had received his Gold medal in the 400m Hurdles.

Team of the Term: Year 9 Football

This year our most successful school team has been the Year 9 Football Team. They have seen off tough competition to win this year's Guernsey Schools Division 2 football league.

Captain William H, was very pleased with how well the team has come together this year and playing some great football. A highlight for him was the win over Elizabeth College who came second in the league.

Going into next year, having been knocked out against Les Beaucamps High school in the Year 9 Cup, there are still areas he believes the team can improve on in order to improve and stay in the division above.

GFC's New Reporter and Commentator

La Mare student George F (Year 10) has discovered a new interest in sports journalism. George is currently in his second year of working with Guernsey FC. He commented on his first game earlier in March of this year.

George is also set to be going away to the UK for the next away games to commentate live for GFC. He has had a range of experiences since joining, starting with an audio-only commentary followed by joining the team to commentate on three away games - including New Year's Day which will be streamed live on Facebook. He

will also be responsible for post-match interviews shared on the club's social media platforms and in the match day programme.

George has said he really encourages any students to get involved in anything they have a passion for and just go for it. We as a school are very excited to see and listen to George over the course of this season!

Guernsey Selection in Squads for Football / Netball

We are delighted to announce the following students who have been selected after trials for the Island select teams in Netball, Football, Rugby and Hockey. These students will be competing across:

- Eleanor J - GFC Women's Training Squad
- Mollie W - GFC Women's Training Squad
- Henry M (Year 11) - U16 Football
- Charlie B (Year 11) - U16 Football
- Charlie H (Year 11) - U16 Football
- Emil F (Year 8) - U13 Football
- Harry W (Year 8) - U13 Football
- Giselle J (Year 9) - U15 Netball
- Jenny M (Year 11) - U16 & U18 Hockey
- Eben Le P (Year 10) - U15 Rugby
- Thomas D (Year 10) - U15 Rugby

Netball Tournament Results 2023

Year 7

1	Ladies College	25	
2	Blanchelande	21	
3	Elizabeth College	17	
4	St. Sampson's High	13	
5	Les Varendes High	9	
6	Les Beaucamps High	5	

Year 8

1	Ladies College	25	
2	Blanchelande	22	28
3	Elizabeth College	22	12
4	St. Sampson's High	20	
5	LMDCH	12	-17
6	Les Varendes High	12	-26
7	Les Beaucamps High	8	

Year 9

1	Ladies College	25	
2	Les Varendes High	21	
3	Elizabeth College	13	6
4	St. Sampson's High	13	3
5	Blanchelande	13	-12
6	LMDCH	5	

Year 10

1	Ladies College	25	
2	Blanchelande	21	
3	LMDCH	17	
4	Les Beaucamps High	9	-18
5	Les Varendes High	9	-40
6	St. Sampson's High	9	-56

Year 11

1	Ladies College	25	
2	St. Sampson's High	17	37
3	Blanchelande	17	0
4	LMDCH	17	-4
5	Les Varendes High	9	
6	Les Beaucamps High	5	

Dates for Your Diary

Wednesday 10 th January	Spring Term Begins for Students, 8.30 a.m.
Monday 22 nd January	Year 11 Mock Exams begin (2 weeks)
Monday – Friday 12 th – 16 th February	Half-Term
Friday 22 nd March	End of Spring Term
Tuesday 9 th April	Summer Term Begins
Monday 6 th May	May Day Bank Holiday
Thursday 9 th May	Liberation Day
GCSE Examinations Begin	GCSE R.S. Examination (a.m.) GCSE ICT Examination (p.m.) GCSE Drama Examination (p.m.)

