



HALF-TERM NEWSLETTER

23rd May 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

It's hard to believe we've reached the end of this half term already – it's flown by! With bank holidays and events, it hasn't felt like we've been in school for long, but while we have, the children have been working extremely hard. They've completed lots of reading and writing assessments, and after the break, we'll be turning our attention to maths.

We had a fantastic time celebrating Liberation Day—a memorable occasion for the whole school. A huge thank you to our amazing PTFA, who so generously provided all the food for the celebration. Their continued support makes such a difference, and we are so grateful for everything they do for our school. We're also looking ahead to the much-anticipated Beach Barbecue on 12th July, another event kindly supported by the PTFA—we can't wait!

There are a few changes to Sports Day this year. Our Juniors will have their Sports Day on Friday 4th July at Footes Lane, once again generously funded by the PTFA. The children are already excited about the new location and using the amazing facilities there.

After the break, we'll begin our Transition Programme a little earlier than usual. Children will have the chance to meet their new class teachers in June. I'll also be sharing updated staff photos early next half term—we've had a few changes, and I'm so delighted with the strong team we have in place.

Unfortunately, we won't be holding our Pentecost Celebration of Culture after school with parents this year. However, we will still be marking Pentecost together in school on Friday 6th June. We're asking all children to come dressed in colours or national dress that represent their own cultural heritage or where their family comes from. It will be a wonderful opportunity for children to learn about each other's backgrounds, share stories, and celebrate the richness of our diverse school community.

As the weather warms up, please remember:

- Children must wear hats and have sun cream applied before school each day.
- Water bottles are essential – we've noticed many children without one, and while we do provide drinks, having their own bottle allows them to stay hydrated throughout the day.
- Uniform adjustments: Ties are not needed for the rest of the summer term, and while we expect children to continue wearing most of their uniform, they should still look smart with shirts tucked in.
- PE kit: Just a plain white T-shirt (or tie-dye T-shirt for Year 3 and 4), and blue shorts are all that's needed.

Please keep an eye on ClassDojo for updates on upcoming residentials and trips, particularly for Years 4, 5, and 6. Kit lists and key information have already been shared, but if you need any support, do get in touch.

We also have Notre Dame's Got Talent, more exciting events, and—of course—plenty of fantastic learning to come in our final half term.

If you get a chance over the break, don't miss the exhibition on the Shroud of Turin at St Joseph's Church—it's well worth a visit and may be of particular interest to the children.

Finally, I want to sincerely thank you all for the kind and supportive messages I've received regarding my new role. Your warmth and encouragement have meant so much. Please be assured that my heart and commitment remain firmly here at Notre Dame—I will continue to be present, available, and always working for the best of our wonderful school.

Wishing you a joyful and restful half term. We look forward to seeing everyone back safe and well on Monday, 2nd June.

Best wishes,

Mrs R

Dates for the Diary

JUNE

Mon 2	Back to school
Thur 5	First Reconciliation 2pm at Notre Dame Church
Fri 6	Pentecost Celebration of Culture Y5/6 – girls cricket tournament
Tue 10	Y6 – Transition day (1 of 2)
Wed 11	Y5 – Fauxquets Valley Y6 – Herm
Thur 12	Y5 – Fauxquets Valley Y6 – Herm
Fri 13	Y5 – Fauxquets Valley Y6 – Herm
Wed 18	Y4 – Les Maingys Island schools' Athletics – Footes Lane
Thur 19	Y4 – Les Maingys
Fri 20	Y4 – Les Maingys Y5/6 – boys cricket festival
Sat 21	First Holy Communion
Mon 23	Y6 – Transition day (2 of 2)

JULY

Fri 4	Sports Day - JUNIORS - Footes Lane
Mon 7	Sports Day - INFANTS - Government House
Tue 8	Y6 Leaver's Evening 6pm
Thur 10	Leavers' mass 9.30am
Fri 11	Year 3 beach Trip
Sat 12	PTFA Beach BBQ
Mon 14	Infant Beach Trip
Fri 18	Term Ends



Response to Parent Survey



Here's a brief summary of highlights and things to work on suggested by you.

Overall, parents are highly appreciative of the communication, support, and nurturing environment provided by the school. They value the positive reinforcement, good values instilled, and the inclusive nature of the school community. However, there were 3 concerns raised about consistency in communication and allocation of Dojo points, as well as the need for more competitive opportunities for the children.

91% of parents felt their child had an adult they could trust, 9% said they didn't know

93% of parents feel their child is treated fairly at school, 7% said they didn't know

91% of parents feel their child is safe at school

100% of parents say their child's experience of school is OK to very good

Common Strengths Identified:

- Strong communication with parents and students
- Supportive and nurturing environment
- Encouragement of good values and positive behaviour
- Inclusivity and respect for all backgrounds
- Dedicated and caring staff

Areas for Development:

- Improve communication consistency, especially through Dojo - request for a search function
- Strengthen discipline for repeat offenders
- Provide more competitive opportunities for the children
- Consider increasing support for teachers to retain quality staff

46 parents responded to this survey and we always take on board all comments that parents make. Because the survey is anonymous, if any parent would like to discuss anything that concerns them, please get in touch with me via Dojo or email: ndp.headteacher@education.gg