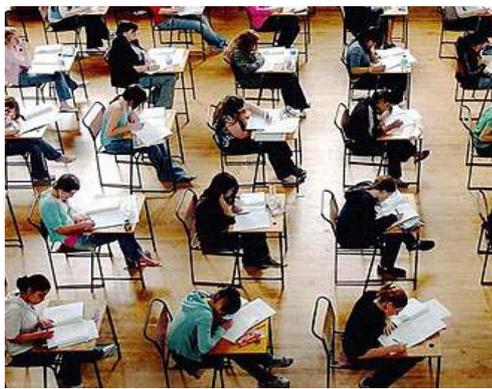


IN: TOUCH

GRAINVILLE SCHOOL

The summer term is a busy examination period for Year 11. We wish them every success in the coming weeks as they put to good practice all their well earned knowledge, understanding and skills. We will celebrate the end of their formal compulsory education at the Pomme D'or Hotel next month at our annual leavers Prom.



What a busy half term it has been so far and what a roaring success too. Our students have excelled in the field of sport to win the Under 16 School Rugby competition.



We have students representing Jersey in Cricket, Table Tennis, Football and Rugby. Our school First Aiders won the regional heats of the St John's Ambulance competition and will now represent Jersey in the National Final at the **Natural History Museum London on 23 June 2010** for the chance to become the overall winner. This competition provides young people in schools the opportunity to practice their first aid skills in a realistic, fun and active manner.



Our Pride of Grainville awards, now in its eighth year was celebrated this month and 21 students were recognised for their fantastic efforts this year in the face of challenges in their lives. What a humbling and proud evening of celebration it was. There will be a more detailed report further in this edition.



24 students from Years 7-9 were selected based upon outstanding commitment for learning grades to be wined and dined (but without the wine) at the Grand Jersey as part of a new hospitality link with the school. Our students were invited to give their feedback on the meal cooked for them by a Michelin chef, Richard Allen. They gave it 5 stars just like the hotel. We hope to maintain this link with the Grand Jersey and invite the chef into school to work with students on a termly basis. Our thanks must go to the Grand Jersey for their willing participation and innovative work with our students. Mr Allen said of our students *'The lunch went down a storm and I met some fantastic kids, all of whom I would love to see in catering in the future. We as the industry leaders need to do more for young people and make our professions more accessible and this is a great way of doing it!'*



Photography Update.....

Our GCSE photographers are gaining a reputation on the island. Five have been asked to be the official photographers at Government House to record celebrations of the Queen's Birthday.



Building Work

We continue to see developments at the school as we move ever closer to the start of Phase 4 which begins after the public examinations in late June. Preparations for Phase 4 began at Easter as we created a temporary staffroom and a new drama studio. We also relocated the library and built a temporary Attendance Office. Over half term we will relocate our fitness suite and install temporary changing rooms. Phase 4 will give us a new double height gym, improved sports hall, a new PE classroom and staffroom, new showers and changing rooms and a new kitchen and dining room for 250 students. The pictures below give us an idea of what our new kitchen / dining room might look like when completed.



With significant building work having started it is important to remind all users of the school, but especially students of the real dangers of ignoring no go areas and trespassing on the builder's compound. I would be grateful if parents would impress on their child the dangers that building sites pose to young people.

A new exit gate has been installed for users of our school site. Situated in the top corner of our school field it gives safe access into Deloraine Road and to the path leading to Grand Vaux. Despite this access we continue to have problems in the opposite corner of the school field with young people breaking down the very old Jersey granite wall. To date, the cost of its repair stands at a staggering £5,600. The school will have to make good a repair at great expense, money better spent on students resources and learning. I would ask parents to discuss the topic of vandalism and its impact on our local community. The police are involved in this issue but If anyone has any news that would be helpful, please make contact with the school.



Catering Contract

We have joined forces with 3 other schools and Highlands College to establish a catering contract starting in September. Students will support the Leadership Team to help select a new contractor. We will know who has been successful in June and report to you the tendering outcome in the next edition of 'In touch'. Plans for the new canteen are close to being finalised. They include seating for 250 students. The start of a new catering contract coincides with the introduction in September of the newly introduced Jersey Nutritional Standards for Schools and a significant move towards healthier eating.



Liberation Day

Liberation Day was celebrated early at Grainville with support of Mr Andrew Ridgway, The Lieutenant Governor. We had the good fortune of having two tanks on site for students to climb upon and meet with troops.



Staffing Update...

At this time of year we prepare for news of staff leaving and new staff joining us. It is with sadness I report the departure of Mrs Cam at half term as she moves back to the UK. In her place for the remainder of the summer term I am happy to let parents know that Mr Dodds has returned to Grainville after recently qualifying as a teacher. Mr Dodds had been a Teaching Assistant before completing his degree course and Post Graduate Qualification in Education (PGCE).

Red Cross

We also hosted a visit from Richard North, Head of International Logistics for the Emergency Response Team of the Red Cross. Richard had just returned from Haiti. Our Year 9 and 10 students were joined by students from both Haute Vallee and Beaulieu Schools to listen to Richard's account of the work of the Red Cross in the disaster zone in Haiti. Our school raised £700 towards the Red Cross Haiti appeal last term.



Island walk for Durrell—Friday 2nd July 2010 (Years 7-10)

Durrell Day was our first charity day way back in October and it will be our last in July. We plan to challenge students and staff to raise £10 of sponsorship each and walk to Corbiere and back from the Waterfront using the railway walk. This means we will have raised over £5,000 this year for Durrell enabling Grainville to become the first school ever to be a Conservation Partner. In doing so, we will be joining forces with a world class conservation organization saving species from extinction. We will have new opportunities to make a real difference through supporting Durrell projects, involving our students and staff in their work and using the Durrell site and facilities. More about this event after half term.



Uniform

Parents will be pleased to hear that the new school blazers have arrived. They cost approximately £18.00 and offer students a smart navy blue blazer with a silver school logo, side pockets and internal zip pockets for bus tickets, keys and lunch money, not to mention pens. The blazer also offers an inexpensive alternative to a coat, that can be worn in school, in lessons and travelling to and from school. They will be compulsory for the new Year 7 students in September. For current students they are optional.

I fully appreciate the costs of changing uniform and therefore this change will be phased in over the next five years. I am also aware that many parents of existing students want access to a blazer now and therefore blazers are now being sold to current students. We have had students modelling them in school during the school day and they are proving very popular indeed. Please note that a shirt and tie must be worn with a blazer. Polo shirts will no longer form part of the **new** Year 7 school uniform.

Parents will also be pleased to hear that the school Governing Body have twice debated the issue of the length of girls skirts and the problems this creates, not only in subjects like Drama, but around the school. The latest fashion trends often set the style and length of skirts. Despite girls leaving home with a skirt at a reasonable length, it often gets hitched up and becomes unreasonably short. In light of this it has been decided that for new students joining Grainville in Year 7 in September 2010 skirts will no longer be an option. All students in Year 7 will wear black trousers. This is to protect their modesty, avoid confrontation with staff over skirt length and set the highest of standards. The 'all trousers rule' will be phased in like school blazers. There will be no change to the uniform regulations for current students. We want our students to look smart and presentable travelling to and from school and in school. We also want students to feel comfortable in lessons, in activity based practical subjects or simply walking up and down stairwells. Parents will be able to purchase black trousers from school from this term.



Vocational Courses

Thirteen students in Year 9 have been successful in their application to start vocational BTEC level 1 courses at Highlands next year for one day a week. Students will be able to study Construction, Engineering, Hair and Beauty and Catering. This coming year we will begin planning to provide a Motor Vehicle course at Grainville School in September 2012. In the mean time our highly successful BTEC Business Studies course is being extended to subjects such as PE, Music and IT. This list of vocational courses reflects our commitment to get the right students on the right courses. 'One size does not fit all'. In years ahead the range of options for 14 year olds will be even more varied to meet the academic as well as vocational interests of young people.



New e-learning resource for students



'*i am learning*' is an award winning games-based revision system designed to motivate students for longer than traditional software. **I am learning** will be officially launched in September but we will see pilot studies undertaken this term. The software harnesses the engaging and motivating elements of games, it also makes students want to learn; supporting revision, study, knowledge consolidation, assessment and exam practice. Mr Bennet, Head of Science will be leading this new and exciting development. Students will be able to access this resource via our school website and VLE.

Parental survey

I am grateful to the 130 parents that returned the parental survey posted home recently. This equates to about 23% of the parental population, lower than anticipated. We hope that next year this new attitudinal survey will gain a higher response rate. Your views will now be collated and compared to the benchmark of UK schools. I will summarise the feedback received later in the year.

Year 8 Update—Student Reception

Last February our Year 8 students began the new Student Reception Scheme where two students help with reception duties at the main entrance. When not called upon, they work on tasks set by their subject teachers so that they do not miss out on their learning. This scheme was designed to develop their organisational skills, sense of responsibility, raise their self confidence and help contribute towards the administration of the school.

So far, it has been a great success and students cannot wait for their turn to get involved. So far three form groups have done their “Reception work experience” as some students call it. We are hoping to get the last two form groups involved by the end of the academic year.

Feed back from visitors, Staff and students has been excellent.



Allan W (8 Aubin): “As a Student receptionist, I have done jobs like: greeting visitors, delivering messages and guiding visitors around school. When I do not have any jobs to do I do my class work. I really enjoyed it and I feel like I am growing as a person”

Mrs Medder: “On the whole most students have been very helpful and polite on meeting and greeting. This has been especially good for delivery of messages from parents, lunches, P.E. Kits etc.”

Mrs Mallet: “Very helpful especially when we have a large amount of post to be sent out to all parents. Useful with regard to greeting and escorting members of the public for appointments with staff.”

Army Team Building Day

On Thursday 20th May, as part of the PSE Citizenship/Careers programme Y9 took part in the Army Team Building Day, led by the Army 25 Outreach Team.

The day involved team building, communication and leadership activities, as well as being mentally and physically challenging. Personal survival skills, Army kit and a presentation on the role of the Army in Today’s Modern Society and the careers available completed an action packed and thoroughly enjoyable and educational day.

Y9 are to be congratulated on their enthusiasm, their team spirit, their humour and commitment to making the day such a success. Y9 were outstanding ambassadors for the school, their families and above all themselves.

Thank you—Mrs Blampied

Y10 Trident Work Experience

Year 10 have just completed 3 weeks work experience in a whole range of employment/careers available both here in Jersey and further afield. Overall this has been very successful and certainly a learning experience for all and there will be a celebration display available next term. Thanks go in particular to the dedicated staff at the Trident office and to all the employers who offered placements, to the staff at Grainville for the monitoring of the students, but above all to the students themselves. Wishing them all a well deserved half term break—Mrs Blampied



The evening of Thursday 13th May saw the eighth annual Pride of Grainville Awards ceremony. After a very successful 7 years of being held on the last day of the spring term it was decided to move the event to an evening and to invite parents of the award winners.

Due to the hard work of some of our staff the school hall was transformed into a fantastic venue for the event and we made use of the new visual equipment to ensure the evening had a professional look. Special thanks must go to Nathan Hewlett who offered his expertise with the lighting effects and to Andrew Pallot who expertly controlled the PowerPoint presentations and ensured the timings were accurate.

No awards evening can run without the award winners a special congratulations to the following,

Gemma Goodchild	Showing outstanding resilience in the face of considerable personal difficulties
Kayla Stringfellow	Showing outstanding courage in the face of adversity
Kieran Mitchell	Making progress despite major personal difficulties in their lives
Alex Cronin	Achieving in education despite challenges with their learning
Max Cronin	Achieving in education despite challenges with their learning
Josh Noel	Making considerable effort to improve their commitment to learning despite challenges
Pam Chaihan	Achieving in education even though English is not their first language
Katie Le Herissier	Achieving in education despite difficulties in health
Jahmal Brady	Showing an outstanding commitment to the school community
Todd Michael	Personal progress in the school community, benefiting from inclusive education
Logan Walker	Supporting the school's wider community
Cliona Elliott	Being ambassadors for the school in the local community
Luke Cassin	Being ambassadors for the school in the local community
Lauren Byrne	Being ambassadors for the school in the local community
Nathan Hewlett	Being ambassadors for the school in the local community
Matthew Le Roy	Regularly volunteering to support the school
Schizan Knight	Giving support and encouragement to their peers
Liam Correia	Giving support and encouragement to their peers
Robyn Le Plongeon	Raising the most money for charity this year
Curtis Gillard	Awarded to the student who has made significant effort to improve their attitude and approach to school life
Mrs Malorey	Staff member of the Year Award
Mrs Moiani	Headteacher's Award
Phoenix Odyssey	The group of students who have raised the most money for charity this year
Year 9B Netball	Team of the Year

We must give a special mention to Mr De Gruchy and to Mrs Moiani who oversaw the evening's proceedings plus a special cameo role by Kieran Mitchell who delighted the audience with his feelings on an old school photograph. One final thank you must go to the Grainville School Association who have supplied the trophies for the third year running. The work of the GSA must be mentioned here and they are always looking for your support, without which events such as Pride of Grainville would not be as special.

In conclusion, Pride of Grainville 8 was a resounding success and we as a school community would like to congratulate all the award winners as they are indeed the 2010 Pride of Grainville.



ATTENDANCE – Same Day Contact

In the hope to improve communication between school and parents, Grainville is running a scheme to facilitate same day contact when students are absent from school, with no authorisation from a parent or carer. Currently, a lot of time is spent telephoning home when students are absent with no notification.

Grainville are offering a text service to parents / carers, whereby school can send a text message to parents' mobiles informing them their child has failed to register at school and requesting they contact school by telephone or by return text.

The appeal of this is that school is able to contact a large number of parents in one go instead of making many individual calls, thus saving much time and ensuring all parents can be contacted the same day. Same day contact has a huge impact in reducing the number of unauthorised absences each day and retains effective communication between school and home. We hope you will support us in this matter.

If you **do not** wish to receive this service, please inform the Attendance Office on 822934. If, however you do wish to avail yourself of this service but have not provided the school with a mobile number, please contact the school as soon as possible.

The system has full data protection and all information will be treated with the utmost confidentiality. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries on 822922.

Mrs T Radiguet—Welfare & Attendance Officer

Year 11 Uniform

To all Year 11 parents. If you have no need for your son / daughters old uniform and are wondering what you can do with it. Grainville school would be grateful to receive any item for our School Welfare Dept. Ties in particular.

Thank you for your support—Mrs Radiguet.

Year 7 Charity Day

This year Year 7 had a non uniform day and a sponsored aerobics session to raise money for Leprosy in Action (LEPRA).

We had a lovely morning and everyone really worked hard during their keep fit session. The fitness first instructor was really impressed with how well behaved Year 7 were and how much effort was put in to their exercises. Many students left red faced and everyone enjoyed it.

We managed to raise over £1000.00 which will go towards helping to change the lives of at least 48 people who are suffering from Leprosy.

I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who took part, I am very proud of the amount that we have raised.

Mrs Bisson

Busy time for Year 9s

The Summer term is again shaping up to be a busy one for our Year 9 students and looks to remain that way for the rest of the term.

A number of our students applied for the 14+ courses being offered at Highlands and we are delighted to see that so many have been successful. September will be the first opportunity that Grainville students have to access the Vocational courses that the College has to offer and we have a number of students who will be starting in Engineering, Construction, Hospitality and Catering, Hair or Beauty. This will be an invaluable opportunity for students to develop the skills needed for the world of work. At the same time, the Options lists are being finalised, with almost all students achieving places on their first choice course.

Developing academic achievement and interest in Key Stage 3 is crucial for a successful Key Stage 4. As such, many departments have been running events designed to encourage independent investigation and thinking. The first week in June will see all Year 9 students visit the Jersey War Tunnels. There will be an opportunity for a Scavenger Hunt, a quiz and a chance to learn outside the classroom. The Humanities Department will then be looking at various issues surrounding the impact of World War 2 on Jersey, with History looking at the Occupation, Geography looking at the concept of war and tourism and RE looking at the morality and issues around the Holocaust and prisoner of war camps. This will be a great opportunity for students to learn about the history of their local community.

As we move into the final stretch of the school year many of our upper school students are sitting GCSE examinations. They are not alone in this as June also sees a number of our Year 9 students take their ICT Key Skills exam. After many months working on projects and portfolios the exam is the final stage in achieving their qualification and I would like to wish the students the best of luck.

Finally, I am sure that we will have a great end to the school year, with the Year 9 Charity Week in June, which supports Macmillan Jersey, and the end of year Activity Week. There will be lots of fun things going on in and around the school for students to take part in and I know every one will have fun. I would encourage students to remember sun cream as it warms up and, should parents wish to give their child hay fever medication to be kept in school I would suggest that they contact Mrs Mallet, Medical Officer, at the school reception.

I hope you all have a fabulous Summer. Best wishes.

Mrs Hobson—Head of Year 9

FOREST SCHOOL

Grainville School now has a member of staff qualified to deliver Forest Schooling. Forest Schooling is an exciting initiative where students are taught new skills related to various curriculum areas in an outdoor environment. However in order to get the Initiative up and running we need to have use of a woodland area away from School on a once weekly basis. Therefore if anyone has a possible area or knows of an area that we could possibly use please contact Mr Wood at school on g.wood@grainville.sch.je or 822935.



Year 11 Update

Year 11 are now in the middle of a very busy exam period and we wish them all the best for their forthcoming exams. Students must make sure that they are arriving fully prepared for their exams at the correct time and with the correct equipment, especially BLACK pens to write with. The uniform guidelines have been relaxed for after half term, and from Monday 7th June all Year 11 students will be allowed to wear smart, casual clothing.

This year we have an exciting new venue for the Y11 Prom, the Pomme D'Or Hotel. Mr Roworth and the Prom Committee have been busy making the final arrangements for the evening. All that remains is for students to organise their posh frocks and hair appointments.

Year 11 students sit their final exam on Monday 28th June at 9am and the school will be open from 10:30 am on 24 August 2010 for students to come in and collect their results, with the final Year 12 Presentation evening taking place on 18 November.

All that remains is for myself and the Year 11 tutor team to wish Year 11 the best of luck for their remaining exams and all the best for their future.

Mr Selby—Head of Year 11



Parents are right in wanting their school to do its absolute best for their children, we want parents to take a real interest in the school and, for this reason, we want to increase the number of parent governors.

Governors meet twice a term to discuss and deliberate on a whole range of topics: giving advice on the new school buildings; learning about particular successes or challenges; hearing about the latest policies to come from the Education Department and discussing directly with the senior staff proposed changes in the way the school is run. It is a fascinating opportunity - for parents - to make a difference and for the staff to gain new insight about their work from the family's perspective.

On the governing body, we include people from different professions and walks of life who can bring their own expertise to benefit the school. But perhaps most important of all are the parent governors.

If you'd like to find out more, please get in touch with me, Katie Le Quesne, the current chairman of the governing body at katielequesne@jerseymail.co.uk

FORTHCOMING DIARY DATES

June & July	
16 & 17 June	Year 8 Parents Evening
25 June & 2 July	Yr 8 St Malo Day Trip
1 July	School Sports Day
2 July	Durrell School Walk
7 July	Science Fair
19—22 July	Activities Week
22 July	End of Term