



St Sampson's High School

PARENTS' NEWSLETTER

September 2008

Welcome

Dear Parents/Carers

Firstly, a big welcome to all of you as parents of students as we launch the St Sampson's High School ship. Over the last few weeks it has often felt a little like getting a huge liner underway but to continue the simile, the ship is now afloat!

Can I particularly welcome our new parents both of Year 7 students and the Year 10 students who have joined us from St Peter Port as well as those of you who have either moved from other areas or are new to the Island. I suspect the last week was quite tense for both you and your children as the start of term has rapidly approached. Now that it is here, I hope that the anxieties have been allayed and that your sons or daughters have enjoyed their first few days as members of St Sampson's High.

This is the first of a number of newsletters that you will receive; I usually send one per half term. As this one contains some important information on dates, it is being posted to ensure that parents receive it.

Also accompanying this letter is an information sheet on such things as lunchtime arrangements, educational visits, use of the Internet and use of data and a form we need you to complete and sign. It is important that we receive your reply so could you ensure that you return the completed form to your child's tutor without delay. We do need these as soon as possible.

We hope that the coming year will be a happy and successful one for your children. It is an incredibly exciting time as we begin life in our superb new buildings and as a collocated school with Le Murier with whom we will work closely. If you have not yet had the opportunity to see the School, there will be an Island Open Day towards the end of the month, believe me, it is worth seeing.

Finally can I remind you that if you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us, either by telephone, letter or email, and we will respond as quickly as we are able.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

*Hazel Tetlaw
Headteacher*

Staff News

We extend a warm welcome to new members of staff and hope that they settle in quickly and enjoy working at St Sampson's High. I have listed them below with their subject and Tutor Group, where relevant.

Mrs M Alton* – Food Technology (Mrs Alton teaches at St Peter Port but is helping us out by teaching 2 x KS3 classes)

Mr J Clark-Ridealgh – MFL, Drama and D of E
Ms E Cook – Science

Mr P Cosnett* – Media Studies - Senior Teacher

Mrs J Dorey – Schools Administrator

Mr F Everett – D & T Technician

Mr M Hassall – Reprographics Technician

Mrs J Herbert – English – 7JHT

Ms M Kostyrova – English – 7MKA

Mr D Loweth – Maths – 7DLH

Mr C Murphy* - Head of History

Mr C Northrop* - Inclusion & Transition Manager
(working partly at SPP and partly at SSH for this year)

Mr A Perkins – ICT/English – 9APS

Mr A Remfrey – Premises Manager

Mr R Sinkinson* - PE/Maths - Head of Y9 and
US Achievement Manager

Mr N Smith – Science – 7NSH

Mr J Vincombe* – Behaviour Coordinator

Those marked with a * have joined us from St Peter Port and they will be known to those of you whose children were at SPP.

Mr Pattimore has changed his role from Reprographics Technician to AV Technician because the new schools have a lot of AV equipment.

All the technicians and premises management staff will work across both SSH and Le Murier as needs require.

GCSE Success

We congratulate last year's Year 11 on their GCSE results which were very encouraging. Those who worked hard got the rewards they deserved and the success of so many is a tribute to the hard work

of these students and their teachers. Over 50% of the year group attaining at least 5 A* - C and 54% of grades obtained were Grade C or above.

We must also congratulate the 27 students in Year 10 who were entered early for some GCSEs and were very successful with two of them gaining two very good passes, Ben Vaudin, A* in ICT and B in Statistics and Henry Nel, B in English and a B in Statistics.

Homework and Internet

Many homework tasks now require students to use the Internet and mostly the tasks that have been set will be available on My Classes which is accessible through the Internet. We appreciate that some students may not have Internet access at home and whilst the school computers are available at break and lunch time for all ages and after school for Years 10 and 11, it may not always be possible for your child to use them at these times. If your child is experiencing problems completing his or her homework because of lack of Internet access could you contact Mrs Clark.

You can check your child's homework tasks through My Classes which is accessible through the website.

Some Reminders

Planners

We would ask you to check them regularly and sign them each week. Apart from information on homework tasks, we use them to communicate with you about other issues, for example if your child acquires a detention it is recorded in the Planner and from time to time we put in reminders of events. You also can use it to communicate with us.

Jewellery and Make-Up

As mentioned in the Prospectus and in the Student Guide, the only jewellery that is now allowed is one stud in each ear and a watch. Make-up is banned in Ys 7-9 and discreet in KS4.

Piercings

We do not allow any form of facial piercing apart from a single stud in each ear, nor is it acceptable to have clear inserts or any such piercings covered by a plaster.

Home School Link

I would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for all that the Home-School Link does to support the School. They do so partly by raising money, by providing opportunities for the students to broaden their experiences, being stalwart refreshment suppliers at school events and being an excellent sounding board of the parental viewpoint.

Last term there were a number of meetings of our HSL and representatives from St Peter Port and Oakvale and it was unanimous that we would have one organisation covering both schools, Baubigny Home-School Link.

The Home-School Link Committee has no restriction on numbers and is open to anyone who is interested. It is one of the most enjoyable committees I have ever served on so I recommend it to you.

The inaugural Baubigny Home-School Link AGM will take place at 7.30 on Wednesday, September 10 in Le Murier Hall (not the Library as the Planner sticker states). We look forward to seeing you there.

Senior Student Group

We congratulate the following who have been chosen to represent the students this year. Our new Senior Student Group is:

Head Girl:	Sophie Mackin
Head Boy:	Adam Piggott
Deputy Head Girls:	Chloe Abbott Tamlyn Priaulx
Deputy Head Boys:	Adam Dunn James Gaudion

We presented these six along with their equivalent students from Le Murier to all the students of Baubigny Schools in our first combined assembly that we held on Friday. We also presented the prefects who come from both schools. Unfortunately there is a delay in the new badges reaching us. We are expecting them in the next few days and will present them to the students. Adam and Sophie have already performed a public task by representing the students when being interviewed on Radio Guernsey on Thursday morning.

Drop-Off Point

One of the many significant improvements we are now enjoying at our new school are the arrangements for parents dropping-off and collecting their offspring. There is a designated drop-off collection area at the west or Les Effards end of the High School which is separate from the main traffic flow and where there is plenty of room to park and turn. Could you please not drop-off or collect from the designated bus lay-by at the front of the Schools.

Individual Success

Many of our students have achieved success in various activities in which they participate and we want to be able to share in their success. If you have news of individual achievements, please inform us either directly or via your child?

The following are successes that we know have occurred in the last couple of months. We congratulate the following students on their recent achievements:

Eben Marsh (now Y8) who broke 3 records at Island Games

Sam Teed (Y11) for winning Fish of the Month Award

Aimee Ponte (Y8) who was narrowly defeated in final of Ladies' Golf Island Championship

Bronze Division and played for Royal Guernsey Golf Club against Jersey

Luke Blondel (Y8) and **Sam Le Huray** (Y11) both selected for Guernsey Junior Golf Team in match against Jersey

Jordan Martel (Y8) who was selected for U12 and U13 Island Cricket Teams

Adam Harvey (Y11) selected for the Island in the Home International Surf Kayaking Competition

Kate Stubbington (Y8) who was in the Island Team competing in European U15 Table Tennis Tournament in Rome also with **Beth Priest** (Y10), **Vicky Stacey** (Y9), **Rachel Harm** (Y8) and **Lawrence Stacey** (Y8) competed for the Island in Senior Schools Tournament in Cardiff and Lawrence was also selected to spend 9 days in August in a British Table Tennis Federation Training Camp in Sheffield.

All this news reminds us how involved and how busy many of our students are as they take advantage of all kinds of opportunities.

Report & Consultation Evening Schedule for 2008-2009

Autumn Term 2008

Yr Group	Type	To Parents
Y11, 9, 8, 10, 7	Learning Reviews	
Y7	Settling-In Reports	10.10.08
Y7	Tutor/Parents' Evening	15.10.08
Y11	Subject Reports	14.11.08
Y11	Consultation Evening	04.12.08
Ys 7,8,9,10	Subject Reports	19.12.08

Spring Term 2009

Y11	Learning Reviews	
Y10	Consultation Evening	04.02.09
Y11	Tutor Reports	13.02.09
Y9	Learning Reviews	
Y9	Tutor Reports	27.02.09
Y9	Consultation Evening	11.03.07
Y8	Consultation Evening	02.04.09
Ys 7,8,9,10,11	Subject Reports	03.04.09

Summer Term 2009

Y7	Consultation Evening	30.04.09
Ys 7,8,9,10	Subject Reports	17.07.09
Ys 7,8,10	Tutor Reports	17.07.09

Autumn Term 2008

Wed September 10:	Home-School Link AGM at 7.30 pm
w/b September 8:	MidYIS, YELLIS tests – Ys 7 & 10
w/b September 15:	Y11 Learning Reviews
w/b September 22:	Y9 Learning Reviews
Thur Sept 25 & Fri Sept 26:	Y7 Team Building Days
Thur September 25:	School Committee at 5pm
w/b September 29:	Y8 Learning Reviews
Thur October 2:	Open Evening for Y6
w/b October 6:	Y10 Learning Reviews
Fri October 10:	Y7 Settling-In Reports to parents
w/b October 13:	Y7 Learning Reviews
Wed October 15:	Y7 Parents'/Tutors' Evening

Mon Oct 20 to Fri Oct 24 Half Term

Thur October 30:	Post-16 Parents' Information Evening
Wed November 5:	Ys 7, 9 11 Photos Thur November 13: Staff Training Day
Thur November 13:	Ys 10,11 Maths Mod. Exam
Fri November 14:	Y11 Reports to parents
Wed November 19:	Presentation Evening
Thur November 20:	Ys 10, 11 Science Mod. Exam
Thur November 20:	School Committee at 5pm
w/b November 24:	Y11 Work Experience Week
Thur December 4:	Y11 Consultation Evening
w/b December 8:	Y11 ESB
Wed Dec 17:	Carol Service at 7.30
Fri December 19:	Ys 7, 8, 9 & 10 Subject Reports to parents
	Term ends.

Spring Term 2009

Wed January 5:	Staff Training Day
Tues January 6:	Students' term begins
Wed & Thur Jan 7 & 8:	Careers Convention
w/b January 12:	Y11 Learning Reviews
Mon Jan 12:	Ys 10 & 11 Biology Exam
Thur Jan 15:	Ys 10 & 11 Chem Exam
Mon Jan 19:	Ys 10 & 11 Phy Exam
Mon & Tues Jan 19 & 20:	Y10 French Module
w/b January 26:	Y11 Mock GCSEs
w/b January 26:	Y9 Learning Reviews
Wed February 4:	Y10 Consultation Evening
Fri. February 13:	Y11 Tutor Reports to parents

Mon Feb 16 to Fri Feb 20: Half Term

Fri. February 27:	Y9 Tutor Reports to parents
Tues March 3:	Ys 10 & 11 Maths Exam
Wed March 4:	Ys 10, 11 Science Mod. Exam
Thur March 5:	School Committee
w/b March 9:	Y9 ESB
Wed March 11:	Y9 Consultation Evening
Thur April 2:	Y8 Consultation Evening
Fri April 3:	All years Subject Reports to parents
	Term ends

Summer Term 2009

Mon April 20:	Staff Training Day
Tues April 21:	Students' term begins
Tues April 30:	Y7 Consultation Evening
Mon May 4:	May Day Holiday
Wed May 13:	Y10 & Y11 French Module
Fri May 15:	Y11 Exam Leave
Wed May 20:	Ys 10 & 11 Biology Exam
Thur May 21:	Sports Day

Mon May 25 to Fri May 30: Half Term

w/b June 1:	Y10 Exams
Thur June 4:	Ys 10 & 11 Chem Exam
w/b June 8:	Y10 Exams
Tues June 9:	Island Sports Day
Wed June 10:	Ys 10 & 11 Phy Exam
w/b Jun 15:	Y7 ESB
Thur June 18:	School Committee
Mon June 22:	Ys 10,11 Science Exam
Wed July 1:	Y6 Induction Day & Parents' Information Evening
Mon Jul 13-Thu 16:	Opportunities' Week
Fri July 17:	Ys 7, 8, 9 & 10 Reports to parents
	Term ends