



St Helena  
Government



'To Inspire and Achieve'

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17<sup>th</sup> October 2014

## NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

### Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to this first half term of the school year where we will be celebrating the **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the opening of Prince Andrew School**. If you come to the school Foyer you will see a display on the history of the school together with the number '25' with portraits of all staff and students currently in school now.

At the entrance to the school you will also see our **new school sign** designed and made by the Building and Construction Apprentices under the guidance of their instructor Mr Geoffrey George.

The new sign includes the tag line for Prince Andrew School *'to inspire and achieve.'* This statement is central to the school **Mission Statement** recently revised by the staff and students:



*'At Prince Andrew School, we aspire to ensure that all our students achieve their full potential academically, personally and socially. We inspire our students to rise to the challenge of the modern world so they become responsible global citizens who have respect for themselves and for each other.'*

Supporting our Mission Statement is our **Charter of School Values**. These were also revised by the staff and students and put simply so they are accessible to all. We want all our students to:

- Follow your dreams
- Enjoy your learning
- Be ambitious
- Be determined
- Be kind and caring
- Respect everyone
- Be honest
- Be responsible
- Get involved in Prince Andrew School

### **New Advisory staff at Prince Andrew School**

We are delighted to welcome our new team of Advisory staff here at Prince Andrew School. Here is a brief introduction about them:

#### **Mrs Beverley Tyson, Marine Science Advisor**

*Mrs Tyson's professional background is a mix of Marine Biology and Science teaching. She has a BSc in Marine Biology and an MSc, in Marine Environmental Protection. Mrs Tyson has been teaching Science for 8 years and is thrilled to be able to combine her qualifications and experience in what she has said is her 'perfect job! Mrs Tyson is accompanied by my husband and two boys, Oliver age 6 and Charlie age 3. "As a family we are absolutely loving island life and the 'wonderful Saints have made us feel so welcome".'*



### **Mr Andrew Parkinson, Maths Advisor**

*Mr Parkinson has been teaching Maths for over 20 years, in Yorkshire and in Kent. For a number of years he has been Head of Department focussing on raising expectations and attainment in both learning and teaching. "Maths is a subject which I am passionate about" and said one of his favourite numbers is  $1234567 = 127 \times 9721$  the product of two prime numbers, that read the same forward as well as backward! Mr Parkinson once remembered pi to about 500 decimal places as an exercise in memory and thinking! He said that he now likes to think of himself as "a teacher of thinking". Mr Parkinson is married to Debby, a librarian and they have 4 grown up children who are still living in the UK. Mr Parkinson has varied interests outside school including astronomy, walking (sometimes around a golf course), chess and juggling. He is a lifelong supporter of Tottenham Hotspur and still remembers the night at Manchester City when the team qualified for the Champions League. He admitted is that he is still hoping Tottenham Hotspur will once do this again!*



### **Mr Jonathan Lambdon, Maths Advisor**

*Mr Lambdon is now in his 3rd year of teaching, having spent time in Warwickshire in the UK. In his short career to date, he has been a training mentor for new teachers as well as helping run extracurricular clubs in all areas of the school. He studied Economics and Finance at University, but a career in the financial world was not for him. A combination of a childhood love of Maths and a short time volunteering in schools in Africa inspired him to go into teaching. Mr Lambdon enjoys quirky Maths, and is always on the lookout for puzzles and interesting problems – he loves the number plate system on St Helena, and was particularly excited when his own car was given the registration of 212 – 1. Mr Lambdon has a wide range of hobbies when not teaching, enjoying a standard of mediocrity rather than being particularly good at anything. He is a keen sportsman, playing football, cricket, golf and badminton as well as a musician, having recently joined the Big Easy and Salvation Army bands on St Helena. Mr Lambdon's unique trick is that he can name every capital city of every country in the world, though has yet to find a practical use for this skill.*



### **Madame Alison Laycock, French Teacher**

*Madame Laycock comes to us after 2 years of working with VSO, a voluntary organisation, where she was training teachers, head teachers and working within the communities in Cameroon and Nepal. After these 2 years where she was able to use her French skills personally and professionally in Cameroon and also learn Nepali in her latest role, she is excited to return to her role as a Modern Foreign Language teacher. Learning languages, she believes, is fundamental to all students especially as it can reinforce so many subjects and certainly promotes the learning of one's own culture as they learn about other cultures and traditions. Students learn/consolidate group skills through language learning and their communication skills as a whole can develop further. Madame Laycock looks forward to interacting with all students in the school and hopes that they will enjoy learning and trying new French words even if they don't study French in school.*



*Merci beaucoup!*

Madame Laycock would also like to share some tips for parents and guardians to help their children with their language learning:

A big congratulations goes to all students who have been taking part in the French lessons this half term. They are all doing very well and are trying their best to speak and understand French both spoken and written. I have been very impressed with their willingness to engage in all lessons which are naturally interactive lessons due to the need to produce the language. Hopefully, your children are coming home and either teaching yourselves or other relatives as this is the best way for them to practise their understanding and pronunciation.

In Year 7, students have learnt to greet each other with Bonjour (formal) and Salut (informal) to say Hello and how to ask How are you? Ca va? And reply by saying oui, ça va bien Yes I'm good oui, ça va très bien Yes I'm very good Bof! I'm fed up comme ci, comme ça so-so and Non, ça ne va pas No, I'm not good.

They have also learnt 1-15 and classroom objects which will help them speak as much French as they can in future lessons including classroom language.

In Year 8s and 9, students have been studying the topic of sports and musical instruments so they are able to say what they play and like/ don't like playing.

In Year 10, we have spent the first half term covering grammar before we move on to working towards their GCSE.

All students have done tremendously well and the following students received awards for their contribution so far:

Year 7: Blaine Joshua and Colby Thomas

Year 8: Alaina Crowie and Kelsey Thomas

Year 9: Tiffany Leo and Kaitlin Peters

Year 10: Toby Day, Morgan Hannah and Thomas Hickling

Keep up the good work students, you are all doing well!

Merci beaucoup,

Madame Laycock

We also like to welcome two other members to our staff, music teacher Mrs Charlotte Graham and grounds man Mr Jonathan Crowie.

### **Booster Revision sessions**

All students in Year 11 are required to attend compulsory revision sessions during period 6 in the afternoon (3.10pm – 4pm). Students not required to attend a Booster session MUST attend Private Study.

### **Election of the Student Council and President and Vice President**

All students were involved in the election of those students who they would like to represent them. The staff and new Student Council also elected the School President and Vice President.

### **New Student Council for 2014-15 are:**

Student President: Lizemarie Robbertse

Student Vice President: Crystabel Greentree

Year 7: Latisha Fowler & Vontray Thomas

Year 8: Demi George & Isaac Greentree

Year 9: Tasmin De Wet & Christopher Herne

Year 10: Thomas Hickling & Tanisha Benjamin

Year 11: Deolandre De Jager & Cody Thomas

Year 12: Ross Leo & Elizabeth Cairnwick

Year 13: Harley Williams & Louis Youde

### **General Notices**

Parents are reminded that when ordering footwear for their child that black shoes or trainers are preferable. Students may only wear a white T shirt under their uniform.

Students in year 11, 12 and 13 are permitted to bring laptops to school if they wish. However, the school will not accept responsibility for loss of any personal property.

### **Events this half term**

*3<sup>rd</sup> September: New PAS website launched*

*10<sup>th</sup> September: 'Teaching a moment in time' (photos of students at work in schools shared worldwide)*

*16<sup>th</sup> September: Education Committee Meeting at PAS and presentation of examination results*

*18<sup>th</sup> September: The PAS Radio Show 'News and Views' launched*

*26<sup>th</sup> September: European Day of Languages*

*1<sup>st</sup> October: Voting of the Student Council*

*3<sup>rd</sup> October: 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Assembly*

*4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> October: Year 12 students involved in judging of 'My St Helena' and PAS Choir performs*

*6<sup>th</sup> October: Visit by Iris Lindsay, Poet and Artist*

*7<sup>th</sup> October: Visit by Dr Don Taylor, DfID Advisor*

*15<sup>th</sup> October: Careers Day*

*17<sup>th</sup> October: 'Mufti-Day' to raise funds donated to Cancer Awareness*

*25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Ebony planting*

**Forthcoming Events during Term 1B:**

Wk 5: Year 11 and 13 Mock Exams

Wk 5: Exam Certificate Presentations

Wk 6: Year 11, 12 and 13 Full Reports

Wk 6: Year 8, 9 & 10 Grade Reports

Wk 6: 5<sup>th</sup> December - 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 'Black Tie Dinner Dance (former PAS staff members and partners)

Wk 7: 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Christmas Concert and 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Athletics Day

Additional Events: 18<sup>th</sup> December - 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fashion Show



*Come & Celebrate our..*



*Fashion Show!!*

Thursday 18th December 2014

@ Prince Andrew School

Start your Christmas season with a  
**BANG** & make a Date for your Diary!!!

Tickets:

£1-Kids £2-Adult

On sale soon!!



Paul Starkie

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