

# LES VARENDES HIGH SCHOOL

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## JLT Spotlight

We have a wonderful Junior Leadership team within school and our Head Prefect Team Anton Le Poidevin, Danielle Cookson, Holly Greenslade and Molli McCreight are pictured above. We also have Student Ambassadors in Year 10. Class Reps, Sports and House Captains and we are introducing and training Peer Mentors this term... The future is bright at Les Varendes and young leaders are paving the future!

## Learning Together, Growing Stronger



Happy New Year to our entire school community! Looking back, our first term at Les Varendes was truly memorable. From academic achievements to personal growth, our students continue to make us proud every single day.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our parents, carers, teachers, and support staff. Your unwavering partnership, alongside the hard work of our wonderful students, is the reason we celebrate so many successes across our school.

## Message from the Principal Mrs Verona Tomlin

Dear Parents, Students, and Staff,  
Welcome back! I hope you enjoyed a restful break with family and friends; it is wonderful to see our hallways buzzing with energy once again as we embark on the 2026 school year.



Reflecting on the final term of 2025, I am struck by the incredible growth and momentum within our community. From outstanding academic milestones and creative showcases to hard-fought sporting events, seeing our students step outside their comfort zones was the absolute highlight of my term.

These achievements are a testament to our students living our values. They have demonstrated Ambition through a commitment to Respect by collaborating across diverse teams, shown Responsibility by taking genuine ownership of their learning, and displayed remarkable Resilience by meeting every academic and athletic challenge with the grit to move forward.

As we look toward 2026, our focus remains on expanding horizons through even more specialised opportunities for every learner. I am incredibly excited for the future; the skills our students are building today, grounded in our core values, will be the foundation of their success for years to come. I encourage every student to view this year as a blank canvas: stay ambitious, remain resilient, and embrace every opportunity to grow. Thank you for your continued support of our school and our students.

## Workshops this term...

FAMILY WORKSHOPS		Jan/Feb 2026	LVHS
15 JAN	<b>GCSE MATHS ACTION</b> Current 113. What to do after receiving your maths mark today. The essential GCSE maths plan.	Video Link	
15 JAN	<b>ONLINE SAFETY</b> Open to all. Delivered by Southampton Data Protection Commission on the risks of internet controls, & talking to your class.	6pm - 7pm	
22 JAN	<b>SCIENCE SUPPORT</b> Available to all. The session includes using Google Classroom, Science Support Portal and Canvas.	Video Link	
29 JAN	<b>MFL - GCSE PREP</b> Current 134. Get ready for your language exam. Common mistakes and how to avoid them!	6pm - 7pm	
5 FEB	<b>ENGLISH SUPPORT</b> 121 and 122. What are the English GCSE exam? How can you help your child prepare? Why does your support matter?	6pm - 7pm	
12 FEB	<b>Y9 OPTIONS INFO</b> Current 108. Follow up information from the 10 options evening.	Video Link	

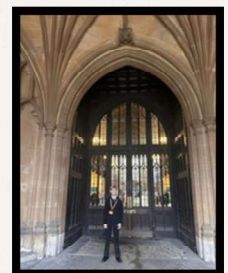
## Cole Foad Storming Parliament "Progress begins with reflection"



Last September, the Youth Commission invited young people across the Bailiwick to submit speeches on the essential nature of Youth Work funding. We were delighted to see such strong participation from Les Varendes, with our students making up more than half of the thirteen entries.

Among these, Cole Foad (Year 10) stood out with a powerful video submission and a truly impressive interview. His passion, empathy, and clear vision earned him the honor of representing the Bailiwick at the House of Commons in November. There, he spoke on the winning 'Make Your Mark' topic: physical and mental health in Guernsey.

Cole's delivery was exceptional. He skillfully addressed complex issues—such as CAMHS, travel costs, and isolation—while also championing local resources like our sports facilities, the Guernsey Sailing Trust, and the Youth Commission.



"In Guernsey we take pride in empowering our young people."

"Progress begins with reflection."

"When asked many said we need social spaces where we can relax, feel safe and have fun."

"So i ask of you Mr Speaker what are our young people meant to do?"

These are among many other fantastic quotes. Well-done Cole! We are inspired.

We are also proud of all our students who entered the competition: Ethan Ogier, Isabella Esau, Alyssa Duki, Emilie Waylen; and our other finalists Eleanor Stanley and Amelie Ozanne.

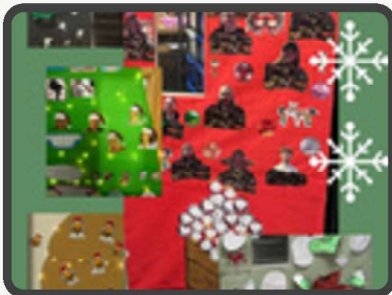
## Mr Goddard Brings History to Life

Our Remembrance Assembly was a particular highlight this term with Mr Goddard sharing.

It is vital that the core message of Remembrance is not ignored or downplayed, and that it continues to grow and be shaped by our communities particularly in the face of continued conflict around the world. I was very proud of the respect shown by our students and it was especially touching to hear of the many stories and experiences that students and staff shared as part of our LVHS Poppy Memorial as well as in conversation. It is clear that many of our LVHS students are very engaged in reflecting on the past and it was great to see so many involved



## End of Term Fun!!



Our annual Christmas Door Competition was as popular as ever with students designing and creating festive vibes around the school!

We saw Snowmen, an LVHS Polar Express, Naughty and Nice lists and Mariah Carey even made an appearance!



We ended the term with **The Big LVHS Christmas Quiz...** it really was a quiz with a difference.

We had snowmen being built, treasure hunts, trips to Lapland... lots of fun had by all and a perfect end to the term.



## The Friquet Takeover

Every term, we have a Reward Trip for our 'Zero Heroes' or those students that have worked hard all term. We took over 80 students to the Friquet this term for an Ice Skating activity...

***"There is no better place to create a caring community than in our schools - the heart of our future"***

—Patricia Gandara

## Staff feeling festive!!

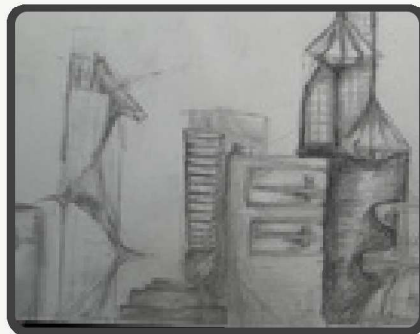
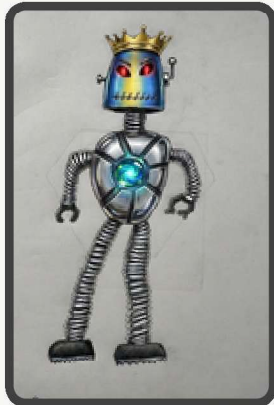
Staff also got in the Christmas mood with a wreath making workshop. Thanks to Mrs Pearce for organising!



## Getting Creative in the Art Department

It has been a busy and colourful term in the artrooms! Here is a look at what our students have been working on:

**Year 7: Colour and Watercolour** Students have been exploring the world of colour theory. They are currently mastering the art of **watercolours**, learning how to blend paints and use different brush techniques to create vibrant fruit and veg artworks.



**Year 8: Future Cities and Robotics** Imaginations have been running wild in Year 8 as students design **futuristic towns and robots**. This project has challenged them to think about architecture and technology while developing their 3D drawing and design skills.

**Year 9: Monoprinting** Our Year 9 classes have been focusing on **monoprinting**. This technique allows students to create unique, one-off prints, focusing on texture, line work, and experimental mark-making.



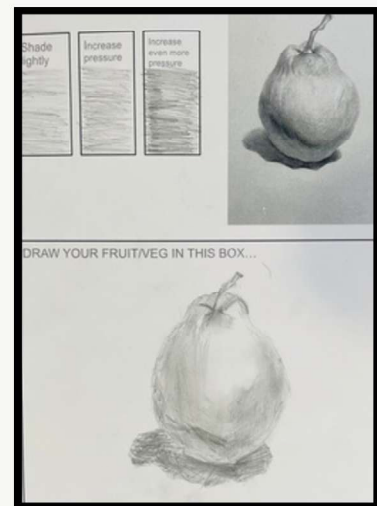
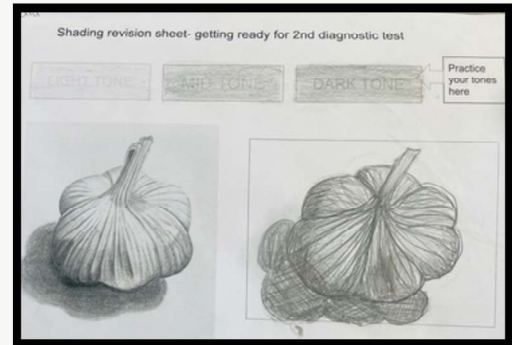
**Year 10: GCSE Success** Our new **GCSE Art** students have made a fantastic start to their course.

**They have already completed several intensive workshops to build their skills, including:**

- **Oil Pastels:** Learning to layer and blend rich colours.
- **Watercolours:** Developing fine-detail painting techniques.
- **Observational Drawing:** Improving their ability to draw accurately from real life.

We are incredibly proud of the hard work and creativity shown by all our students this term!

*"Every child is an artist. We need to encourage children to remain an artist once they grow up"*



## THE DRAMA DEPARTMENT

### All the world is a stage...

The Drama department is buzzing with energy. It has been a privilege to watch students from all year groups step out of their comfort zones, collaborate with their peers, and develop the empathy and confidence that are central to our subject.

The renowned theatre practitioner Stella Adler captured the essence of our subject in education when she said: "Growth as an actor and as a human being are synonymous."

This term, our students have explored exactly that—using drama not just to act, but to understand themselves and their potential.



### Celebrating Success: The Departmental Awards

We believe in celebrating excellence the moment it happens. This term, we introduced our own unique Oscar reward to recognise outstanding work, creativity, and effort during lessons.

We are delighted to be awarding the following during our lessons:

- The Boscar: Awarded by Mrs. Birkett
- The Hoscar: Awarded by Miss Hantonne
- The Doscar: Awarded by Mr. Dodd
- The Poscar: Awarded by Miss Pogson
- 

These are given to students who demonstrate exceptional focus, performance skills, or teamwork. The competition is fierce, and it has been wonderful to see students' pride when they are awarded this recognition.

**The arts**  
can help students become  
**tenacious,**  
**team-oriented**  
**problem-solvers**  
**who are confident**  
**and able to think**  
**creatively."**



### Why Drama Matters

As we look forward to next term, I want to reiterate that Drama is a vital, creative part of our curriculum. Beyond the lights and the applause, it teaches our students how to communicate effectively, how to work as a team, and how to approach problems with a creative mindset. To quote the great Sir Idris Elba about his experience of drama in school "I remember coming out of that class and being given a slightly different confidence that I then put into other things."

Thank you for your continued support of the Arts at our school.



### Curriculum Highlights: From Time Travel to Technique

It has been a busy term in the drama studio. Here is a look at what our year groups have been exploring:

**Year 7:** Our newest cohort has hit the ground running, learning the foundational skills required to create compelling drama. They unleashed their imaginations by "travelling to the future," where they discovered and embodied an ancient race known as the Zephutans. It was wonderful to see them embracing the story physical to bring various characters to life.

**Year 8:** The studio became a place of heightened emotion as Year 8 explored the genre of Melodrama. They have been mastering the art of stock characters—from the villainous scoundrel to the heroic protagonist—learning how exaggeration and body language can help tell a story.

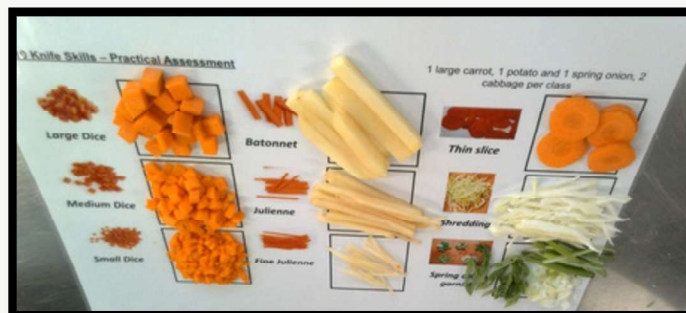
**Year 9:** Moving into more naturalistic work, have tackled the complex theme of stereotypes. Through the lens of renowned playwright John Godber, they have explored how characterisation works and how drama can be used to hold a mirror up to society.

**Year 10:** Our GCSE students have been diving deep into theatre history and technique. They have begun to explore the contrasting methodologies of Stanislavski and Brecht. Putting theory into practice, they studied the play *Too Fast*, culminating in the confident performance of duologues that showcased their growing maturity as performers.

**Year 11:** It has been a crucial term for Year 11, who have now completed the Devising component of their GCSE course. This involved creating their own original piece of work from scratch—a challenging task that requires immense creativity, patience, and teamwork. We are incredibly proud of the work they have all produced.



## FOOD TECHNOLOGY Ready, Steady, Cook...



Food Technology has been cooking up a storm and dishing out knowledge. We have introduced our year 7's to using the oven and hob, knife skills and safe cutting and slicing techniques. They have produced items like; fruit salad, apple crumble, and quiche just to name a few. Years 8-11 continue to develop their knowledge of nutrients and skills, making dishes and items such as pavlova, Christmas cakes, chicken burger (making their own brioche bun, and mayo), sausage plaits, pizza etc

The department also hosted the Christmas bake off where students could win prizes for their sporting house, entries included mince pies and snow man cake.

Food Craft club is something else coming out of the department, cooking up delicious food from around the world with students of all year groups. Dishes produced included, fruit bowls, jerk chicken kebabs, cupcakes, gingerbread men etc. The Food Craft club welcome a new set of students every half term to given as many students as possible a chance to participate.



## THE MATHS DEPARTMENT CALCULATING SUCCESS...

As we settle into the new year, the Maths Department would like to take a moment to look back and celebrate the incredible efforts of our students during the Autumn term. It has been a busy and productive few months, and we have been consistently impressed by the level of dedication shown across all year groups.

The Spring term promises to be even more exciting with several key events on the horizon:

- **House Maths Competitions:** Get ready to represent your House! We will be running a series of inter-house challenges designed to test logic, speed, and teamwork. All points count toward the final house points score.
- **World Maths Day (March 4th):** We will be joining millions of students worldwide to celebrate the power of mathematics. Expect a day filled with global challenges and fast-paced numeracy games.
- **Pi Day (March 14th):** As is tradition, we will celebrate  $\pi \approx 3.14$  on March 14th. We have some "irrational" fun planned, including our annual Pi-recitation competition as well as Pi-Cityscapes, colouring competitions and others.

### Maths Student of the Half Term

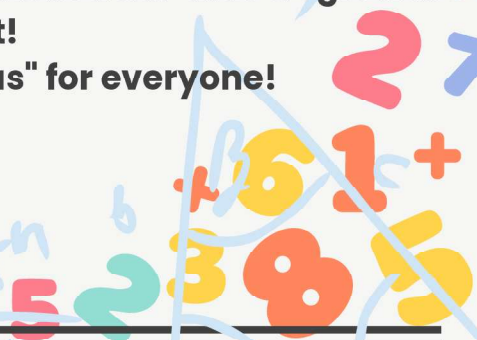
We believe that success in Mathematics isn't just about getting the right answer—it's about the journey to get there. Starting this term, we are launching the Maths Student of the Half Term award.

This award isn't necessarily for the highest test scores; it is designed to recognize our budding mathematicians who:

- Always give their absolute best effort.
- Show resilience by never giving up on a difficult problem.
- Maintain a consistently positive attitude toward their learning.

Winners will receive a certificate of excellence and a spot on our departmental "Wall of Fame." We can't wait to celebrate those of you who demonstrate that a "growth mindset" is the most important tool in a mathematician's kit!

Keep up the hard work, everyone. Let's make this term a "plus" for everyone!



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## THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

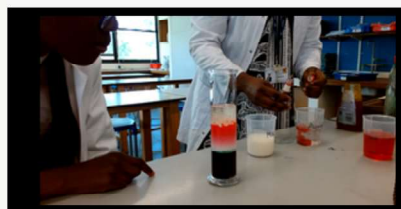
### Science in KS3

Science lessons across Key Stage 3 have been full of curiosity and hands-on learning this term, following the Ark Curriculum and placing practical skills at the heart of lessons.

Students in Years 7–9 have been developing their confidence and independence in the laboratory through a wide range of investigations. They have learned how to safely use Bunsen burners, explored diffusion, investigated osmosis, and observed onion and cheek cells using microscopes. Pupils have also carried out practical work on forces and friction, as well as calculating the density of regular and irregular objects, strengthening both their mathematical and analytical skills. These experiences have helped students build strong scientific foundations, encouraging careful observation, accurate measurement and thoughtful discussion of results. The enthusiasm and focus shown during practical lessons have been a real pleasure to see.

### Science Club

Science Club has been a vibrant and exciting space this term, giving students the opportunity to explore science beyond the classroom in a creative and fun environment. Members have enjoyed a range of memorable experiments, including making a magnetic turner, creating explosive elephant toothpaste, growing a dramatic carbon snake, and designing a festive 'Chemistree' during the Christmas period. More recently, students have been working on building their own hydroelectric power station, and they cannot wait to see how it turns out. Photos from Science Club capture the energy, enthusiasm and enjoyment of our students perfectly, and we look forward to welcoming even more budding scientists.



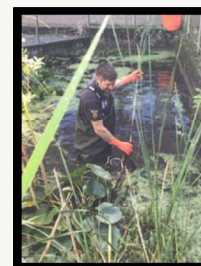
### Science in KS4

Thank you to the continued hard work of our Year 10 & Year 11 students in science. Your commitment to learning is valiant and we encourage you to continue working hard! Year 10 students are deep in their learning of Biology, Chemistry and Physics, developing knowledge on chemical bonding and extracting metals, digestive systems and circulation, matter and energy conservation. Keep working hard, you are doing amazingly!! Year 11 students have completed their Paper 1 mock exam and are coming to the end of their teaching and learning. Once all content has been covered, students will experience a Paper 2 mock exam during lessons. These outcomes will inform some of the classroom led revision leading up to the exams, beginning in May 2026. We encourage all our Year 11 students to continue working hard and we wish them all the success.

### Nature Club

Every Tuesday, during the first half of lunch, students join Mr Taylor and Miss Wright in the Nature Club. We are currently designing our school pond. Our main objective is to increase the biodiversity of our pond life and sustain the habitat environment. This week we have started to design two duck houses, and we will be making these over the coming weeks.

We are always on the lookout for new members to our club, so if you are interested in all things nature, we can't wait to see you!



# BEYOND THE BOOKS

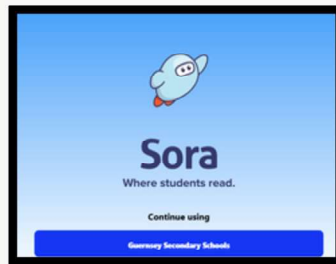
## Our wonderful school Library

Our school library is a very busy place... with Mrs Anna Quick at the helm, it is an absolute hive of activity.

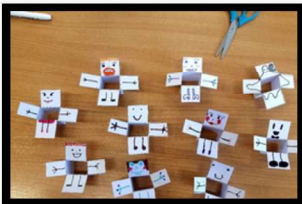


**Chess and Scrabble at lunch in the library!**

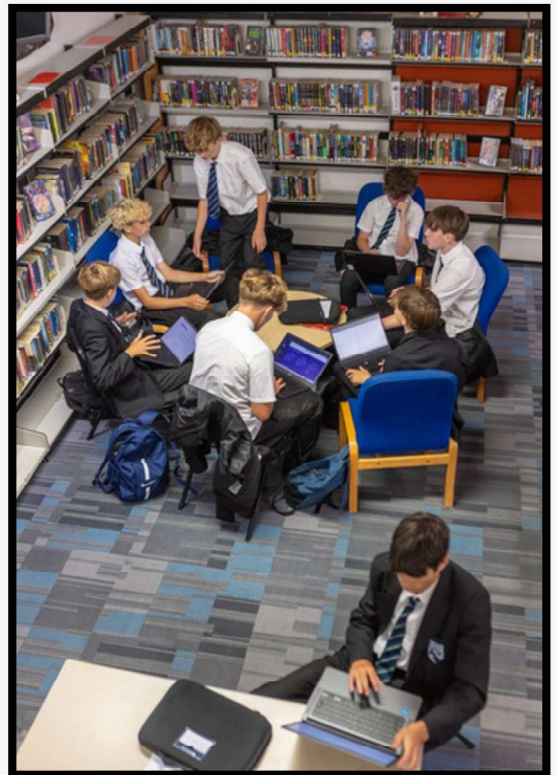
The Library has been training students in the use of Sora e-books. This great collection has thousands of audiobooks, fiction and nonfiction books, and comic books, all age-appropriate and free to use on a browser.



## Papercraft Club



Papercraft Club has been proving that with a little imagination and some careful folding, a simple sheet of paper can become almost anything. From intricate origami animals to custom-engineered "squishies" and 3D pop-up cards, the club has become a hub of creativity and focus..



**And we have lovely new furniture in the library**



## PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT IN SCHOOL because character counts...

Personal Development (PD) is a branch of the curriculum that focuses on a student's growth beyond the classroom. While other subjects teach you what to know, personal development teaches you how to be: how to manage your emotions, how to work with others, and how to prepare for life as a healthy, responsible adult.

Think of it as the "Life Skills" toolkit that helps you navigate the world after Les Varendes

PSHCE at Key stage three is never boring – we have covered a variety of subjects from Emotional Health and Peer Pressure in Year 7 to Independence and Success and First Aid in Year 8 followed up with Year 9 lessons on Risk and Personal Safety and Dream Jobs. Most lessons in PSHCE have a different approach to other subjects in that the students are in the lecture theatre, and we join classes up, with two teachers and more opportunities to work with other students. As a vital part of PSHCE is listening and communicating with others. This allows our amazing Support Agencies to deliver lessons on a variety of topics and gives all students the opportunity to learn and ask questions about the topics in a safe and respectful environment.

We are looking forward to a bumper-packed Spring Term with Year 7 having lessons delivered by Action for Children on the risks of Vaping, Drugs and Alcohol, as well as a visit from the Digital Safety Officer from the Police to keep us safe online and finally the Year 7 SHARE lessons on reproduction on Puberty. Year 8 have a variety of lessons on Careers, Digital Safety, Action for Children and their SHARE lessons on Healthy relationships and Pregnancy.

Year 9 have a focus on Careers and making Choices with their upcoming GCSE Options to choose in the Spring term.

All of Year 9, 10 and 11 students had the opportunity to visit the Careers Guernsey – Careers Show at Beau Sejour in November. Most students had a prep lesson in their PSHCE lessons to work out which stands they wanted to visit. Our students were super lucky to be able to visit over 100 different exhibitors from employers, to Post 16 and Post 18 education opportunities. Students took part in a range of activities and challenges on each of the stands to gain stamps for a prize draw, to enter competitions and to gain the elusive freebie! From pens to flip-flops and sunglasses – students had to engage with different employers and education providers to find out what would suit them in the future. It was amazing to see and hear so many conversations taking place – it was a shame when staff had to ask students to gather for the transport to leave and get back to school.

Well Done to Zach and Noah in Year 11 who won two amazing competitions. Zach answered the questions on Titan Wealth Stand to win a Silver coin! Noah was praised for his accuracy in his competition entry for AFM and won a £50 Amazon voucher – that I'm sure he will use to treat all his favourite teachers! Well done to both students and to all the LVHS students who visited the show and represented the school with impeccable behaviour, uniform and standards.

Year 11 Students are in the middle of the Post 16 Process – students and parents have had the opportunity to visit both the TGI and the new Sixth Form Centre at Cobo, students have had individual careers guidance meetings with Careers Guernsey – with many more booked in for after Christmas. Year 11 students have another opportunity to visit the TGI or Sixth Form in January before the guidance meetings in February and Post 16 applications in March.

Year 9 Students are about to embark on the Options Process, with Parents Evening in December and then the Options Evening in February. All students will have Careers lessons from Careers Guernsey and opportunities to learn about decision making and the choices they have to make in the Spring term during their PSHCE lessons.



# PE AND SPORT AT LES VARENDES HIGH SCHOOL

## In a league of their own...

### Netball Reports



#### Netball Roundup: Success on the Court!

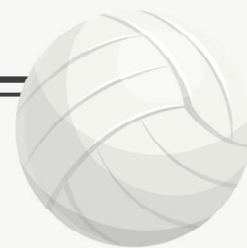
What a sensational term it has been for our netball squads. From nail-biting fixtures to Island Schools Netball Tournaments, our students have displayed incredible skill, sportsmanship and fierce attitudes.

#### Fixture Highlights

Our weekly fixtures saw great talent and determination across the Key Stage 3 teams. The **Year 7 squad** showed great commitment to netball with over 35 students at training each week. Special mention to **Addy Margetts and Olivia Duki**, whose clinical shooting and defending left our opposition stunned.

Regardless of the weather or the opponent, the **Year 8 squad** this group has shown up with a positive attitude and played brilliantly. They have **worked well as a team**, developing a seamless passing game and supporting one another through every win and loss. A mention to **Cora Blampied and Lacey Rosamond** for taking great leadership in the team cohesion.





## PE AND SPORT AT LES VARENDES HIGH SCHOOL In a league of their own...

### Netball Reports

Meanwhile, the Year 9 Team showed immense resilience and teamwork in a mixture of physical and well fought matches against the local schools. A special mention to Tia Masterton and Imogen Torode for being super versatile for the team!

We have witnessed some truly great fought games and brilliant wins from our Year 10 and 11 Teams this term, proving that their tactical understanding of the game has reached a new level.

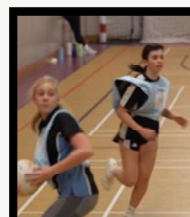
The Year 10s displayed an inspiring level of enthusiasm every time they stepped onto the court. Most importantly, their seamless teamwork was undeniable on court. Congratulations to all our players for representing LVHS with such pride and sportsmanship! Special mentions go to Eva Mollet and Chloe-Taylor Sallis for their exceptional attitudes both on and off the court.

The Year 11s, in particular, have shown how much can be achieved through perseverance. We have seen great leadership from Mika Etesse, Molly Pontin and Ava Le Page with their experience within Island Netball they have used this to guide their teammates to success!

### Tournament News

In December, all of our KS3 and KS4 represented LVHS at the Island Schools Tournament.

- Year 7s battled through the stages with some immensely close games, eventually securing 3rd place, showing great promise for the future.
- Year 8, 9, & 10: All three year groups secured a solid 5th place, demonstrating consistency, grit and earning high praise from the umpires for their tactical play.
- Year 11: Our seniors led by example, battling through to the finals to take home 2nd place.



## PE AND SPORT AT LES VARENDES HIGH SCHOOL

### THE ZEDRA CHALLENGE students going the extra mile...



Our LVHS school spirit was on full display this October as a huge contingent of Les Varendes students tackled the Zedra and Guernsey Athletics Mud Fun Run. It was brilliant to see so many students put themselves forward for the challenge, braving the challenging course with huge smiles.

The atmosphere was electric as our runners navigated a creative course designed to test their grit. From navigating the high-speed tyre run and leaping over hay bales to crawling through the soggy cargo nets, our students proved they aren't afraid to get their hands dirty for success!

A massive congratulations to everyone who participated, with a special shout-out to **Jess and Imi**, who delivered spectacular performances to finish **3rd and 4th** respectively! Whether they were racing for a podium spot or simply helping a friend out of a mud pit, our students represented LVHS with pride and incredible energy.



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## PE AND SPORT AT LES VARENDES HIGH SCHOOL

### FOOTBALL ROUNDUP a kick in the right direction...

#### Year 7 Football: The start of success

It has been quite the season for our Year 7 football squad, defined by incredible participation with over 30 students representing LVHS throughout the year, the sheer depth of talent in this year group has been a real joy to witness!

The strength of the squad was reflected in our league standings, as both the A and B teams performed fantastically to reach their respective League Finals held at Victoria Park . While both sides were sadly beaten at the final hurdle, reaching two finals is a massive achievement that speaks volumes about their work ethic and dedication.

Whilst we are incredibly proud of every player who contributed. Special mentions must go to **Liam le Cheminant, Willow Dodd, and Jack Morgan**, who were colossal throughout every single game. With such a dedicated pool of talent, the future of football at LVHS looks exceptionally bright !



#### Year 8 Football: A Season of Two Halves

The Year 8 football season was a true story of resilience and growth. Initially, both the A and B teams struggled to find their rhythm, facing a tough run of early results as they worked to find their form on the pitch.

However towards the latter part of the season both teams found their feet, putting together an impressive string of performances in the latter half of the leagues. It was fantastic to see the players' confidence grow with every game. This strong finish is a brilliant foundation for next year! This surge in momentum carried the A team all the way to a final against LBHS. While they sadly missed out on the trophy in a hard-fought match, the journey from a difficult start to a cup final was a brilliant achievement!



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## PE AND SPORT AT LES VARENDES HIGH SCHOOL

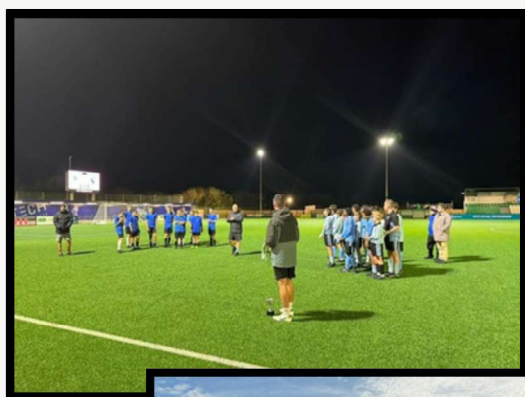
### FOOTBALL ROUNDUP The Goal Standard

#### Year 9 Football: A Historic Season of Success

The Year 9 football season has been nothing short of legendary, with both our A and B teams finishing their league campaigns undefeated. The quality of football on display was exceptional, characterised by tactical discipline and fantastic teamwork.

Huge credit goes to team managers Mr. Bougourd and Mr. Martel, who rotated the squads superbly. Every player contributed to the team's momentum, ultimately leading to a piece of school history: LVHS becoming the first school ever to have both an A and a B team compete on Finals Night at Victoria Park. Our B team put up a valiant effort in their final, battling hard against a very strong side. Although they were sadly beaten, their journey to the final was a massive achievement. The A team followed with a masterclass performance; they were clinical in every department, coming out as convincing winners to lift the trophy.

Congratulations to all the players and coaches on a historic, record-breaking season!



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## PE AND SPORT AT LES VARENDES HIGH SCHOOL

### FOOTBALL ROUNDUP

#### Grass stains and glory...

##### Year 10 Football: A Season of Growth and Grit

It was a pleasure to see over 20 students consistently representing the school, with players rotating across the squads to ensure everyone contributed to the team's success.

While there was sadly no cup final up for grabs for this age group this year, the players didn't let that dampen their competitive spirit. After a narrow, solitary loss at the very start of the season, the squad showed incredible character to bounce back, finishing the year incredibly strong and remaining unbeaten in all subsequent fixtures.

A huge thank you goes to Mr. Agypong for his unwavering time and effort. Special mentions must go to **Kit Roberts** for his fantastic effort and work rate throughout the season, and to "captain fantastic" **Teddy Sharp**, whose leadership on and off the pitch was invaluable. We are already looking forward to seeing what they can achieve next year and hope that they can bring home some silverware!



##### The Dawber Era: Year 11 Footballers Flourish

The Year 11 football season has been a standout example of student-led success. This year, the team was managed by student Archie Dawber, who took on coaching and organisational responsibilities with impressive professionalism. Under Archie's guidance, the squad developed a strong identity and a resilient tactical approach on the pitch.

It was a privilege to play all of our fixtures at Victoria Park this year. We must extend a huge thank you to the Guernsey FA for providing such a fantastic opportunity for our students to play on a premier surface; it truly added to the sense of occasion for every match.

The season was marked by several brilliant results against top-tier opposition, including a great win against Les Beaucamps and hard-fought draws against both Elizabeth College and a very strong SSHS side. Alongside Archie's leadership, there were some exceptional performances from Hugo Jardim, Lewis Konken, William Hockey and Evan Kennedy, all of whom were instrumental to the team's success. Congratulations to the entire squad on a highly successful campaign and we hope that they continue to represent their clubs and Island with the same pride and commitment shown to Les Varendes.



# PE AND SPORT AT LES VARENDES HIGH SCHOOL

## beyond the sidelines

### Opportunities in PE Lessons

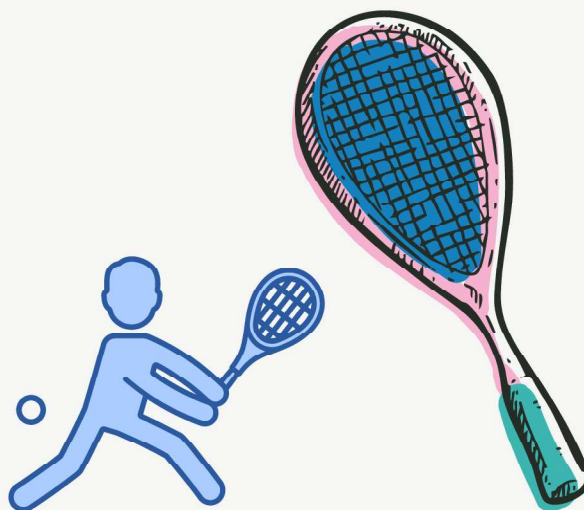
This term, our students have been making the most of Guernsey's fantastic sporting facilities, stepping off-site to experience new environments and expert coaching. These trips provide an invaluable opportunity for students to build confidence, learn new skills, and discover passions they can carry forward outside of school life.

**🏊 Mastering the Courts: Beau Séjour**  
Students have been heading to Beau Séjour to take advantage of the facilities. The variety of sports on offer has kept everyone on their toes:

**Squash with Martin:** A huge highlight has been the squash sessions. Under the expert guidance of Martin, students have been learning the ropes through a series of fast-paced, fun games that have made the sport accessible and exciting for everyone.  
**Badminton & 5-a-side:** Students have also been sharpening their reflexes on the badminton courts and heading to the sports hall for high-intensity 5-a-side football matches.

**⚽ GFC Coaching at Victoria Park**  
Our Year 10 girls have been down at Victoria Park, benefitting from specialist football sessions with Guernsey FC. The girls have absolutely loved these sessions! Having the chance to train on a nearly built pitch with professional insight has seen their skills and their enjoyment of the game skyrocket. It's been wonderful to see such high levels of engagement and teamwork.

**🥊 Ringside Success at Guernsey Boxing Club**  
The Year 10 students also visited the Guernsey Boxing Club. The feedback from the students has been overwhelmingly positive. Many students commented on the quality of the coaching, noting how supportive and knowledgeable the coach is. Beyond the technical drills, the students particularly enjoyed the competitive games incorporated into the training. Discipline and fun, the sessions have been a perfect blend of physical challenge and genuine fun.



## PE AND SPORT AT LES VARENDES HIGH SCHOOL making a splash!

### The Skipton Swimathon

#### **LVHS continues to make a Splash with close over £800 raised at Skipton Swimathon!**

We're thrilled to announce the incredible success of this year's **LVHS Swimathon**, which saw our dedicated students, staff, and volunteers raise a fantastic sum of over **£8,00** for local charities!

The day was about more than just swimming lengths; it was a celebration of teamwork and most importantly having fun! The atmosphere in the pool was electric with swimmers powered through their laps, cheered on by enthusiastic staff, parents and fellow students. Adding to the excitement, students had the chance to ditch their regular swimwear and participate in the swim in fancy dress, resulting in some fantastic costumes. Special shout out to Casper in year 9 that swam in full Red Arrows Pilot attire! As is always now tradition at this event the grand finale was the much-anticipated belly flop competition, where judges scored participants on splash size, style and sheer bravery.



Thank you to Charlie in year 10 who, once again, accepted the Swimathon's most prestigious award of 'Most Fun' for the 4th year in a row!

A huge thank you to everyone who swam, volunteered, and donated. Your support has made a real difference and helped us raise a fantastic amount for local charities. . We can't wait to do it all again next year!

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## IN OTHER NEWS...

# ALL THE GREAT STUFF HAPPENING AT LVHS

Life at Les Varendes moves at an incredible pace, and beyond the headlines, there is a constant hum of activity that makes our school community so unique and this term has been a whirlwind of engagement. In this section, we take a moment to shine a light on the 'everyday excellence'—those extra projects, community initiatives, and hidden gems that ensure every student has the chance to find their spark and succeed

### Student Voice

Every four weeks our Class Reps meet to discuss various aspects of school life, we then ask them in their leadership role to go and feedback to their form groups and get ideas. Feedback is then taken to SLT to discuss. Areas of discussion this term have been...

### Active Travel

So many of our students cycle to school... keeping fit and lowering the LVHS carbon footprint.



### Weekly Celebrations

Each and every week we celebrate students nominated by their tutor and Head of Year... anything from showing kindness or manners from top marks in a test of showing improvement...

YEAR 7 STUDENT OF THE WEEK	
7.1	Isaac Le Prevost
7.2	Hollie Green
7.3	Ella Rowlinson
7.4	Lauren Gardner
7.5	Jaden Bloodlet
7.6	Amelia Pengelly

YEAR 7 HEAD OF YEAR STUDENT OF THE WEEK  
**Kale Bennett (7.5)**  
For smashing this year so far...

### The Care Cupboard

The Care Cupboard has everything a student needs - deodorant, shower gel, toothbrushes and toothpaste, hand cream, lip balm, hair products, socks, snacks, hats and gloves, period products, moisturiser, face wash, shampoo - to ensure they are ready to learn. Stocked entirely through donations and free of charge, it is open to all students to use - just ask a member of the Hive staff or office staff during break or lunch.

## IN OTHER NEWS... ALL THE GREAT STUFF HAPPENING AT LVHS

### DUKE OF EDINBURGH

We have relaunched DofE in school with 24 Year 9 students and 15 Year 10 students undertaking their Bronze Award. We have students volunteering across different football teams, beach clearing and in charity shops. With other students completing their skill by baking cakes or learning how to play a musical instrument or a new language or how to play Warhammer. The physical challenges cover a variety of team sports from Rugby and Football to our individual sports stars on the track and in the dance studios. All of the DofE team are keen to get everyone expedition ready for the summer and can't wait for those glorious sunny expeditions around Guernsey in the Summer Term.

A big shout out to Dan and Noah who have checked every DofE Tent is clean, put away correctly and with all the parts needed to put a tent up as part of their volunteering. Another big shout out to the PE team for helping to clear the DofE store even though the spiders were as big as tennis balls!

Bring on the Summer!



## IN OTHER NEWS... ALL THE GREAT STUFF HAPPENING AT LVHS

### HOUSE NEWS



The House Competition remains FIERCE!! with competitions for the European Week of Languages, in Graphics to design a Halloween card, the Swimathon, Maths Challenges... This term we will be holding more Maths Challenges, Inter-House Sports Competitions, a flowerpot design competition in Art!!

And here is the leaderbaord so far...

<u>OVERALL LEADERBOARD</u>	
HAVELET	58644 POINTS
FERMAIN	62800 POINTS
BORDEAUX	65150 POINTS
L'EREE	60198 POINTS

AMBITION through RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY and RESILIENCE

 Les Varendes  
HIGH SCHOOL

# WELL DONE BORDEAUX!!

## IN OTHER NEWS... ALL THE GREAT STUFF HAPPENING AT LVHS

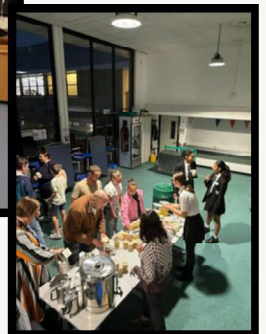
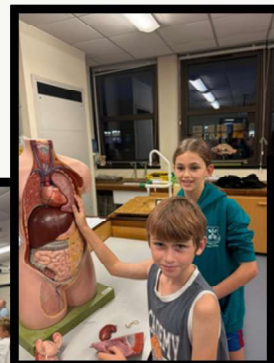
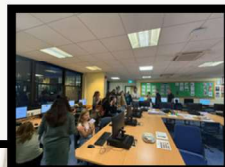
Back in October, visiting UK author Ele Fountain visited the school to talk to all our Year 7s and 8s about her award-winning books for teens, including *Boy 87* and *Fake*. She took questions about writing and how she got started as an author, and gave the audience plenty of food for thought! Ele's visit was made possible by the Schools Library Service.



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## YEAR 6 OPEN EVENING

The halls of Les Varendes were buzzing with excitement last week as we welcomed hundreds of prospective students and their families for our Year 6 Open Evening. It was wonderful to see so many young faces eager to explore their future home. From the 'explosive' demonstrations in the Science labs to the incredible musical performances echoing from the Drama studio, the energy was electric. Our student ambassadors did a fantastic job guiding tours and sharing their own experiences, proving that the heart of Les Varendes truly is its students



## IN OTHER NEWS... ALL THE GREAT STUFF HAPPENING AT LVHS

### CHRISTMAS SHOE BOX APPEAL

Last term, the Les Varendes community came together for our annual Shoebox Appeal, and the results were nothing short of inspiring. It was moving to see our hallways filled with brightly wrapped boxes, each one packed with care, essentials, and a few treats.

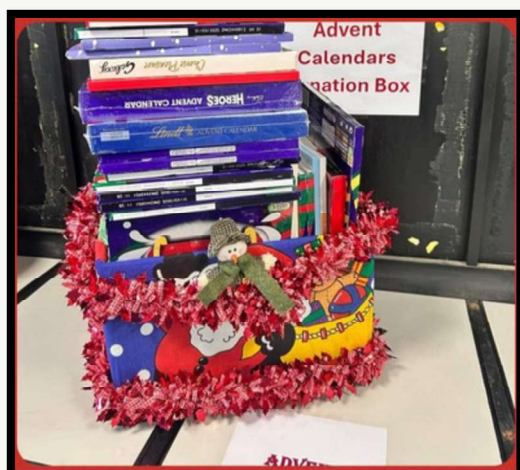
These boxes were delivered to children who face incredibly difficult circumstances. What might seem like a small gesture to us—a new toy, a warm hat, or a pack of crayons—represents a message of hope and kindness to the child that opened it. A huge thank you to every student, parent, and staff member who donated. You haven't just sent a gift; you've sent a reminder that someone, somewhere, is thinking of them.



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### GUERNSEY WELFARE DROP OFF STATION

Check out this mountain of chocolate! We asked and our community delivered... as we asked for donations of Advent Calendars for the Guernsey Welfare Service. We managed to collect forty calendars in total that were then given to children across Guernsey. Thank you for helping us make sure that everyone in our community gets a sweet start to the festive season. Our green collection bin is in our reception area all year round as well...



## IN OTHER NEWS... ALL THE GREAT STUFF HAPPENING AT LVHS

### AMBITION

#### Building Bright Futures: University Insight Sessions

In November, we took full advantage of Careers Week by hosting a range of prestigious universities from across the UK. Students in Years 9–11 attended engaging talks with representatives from universities in Bath, Bristol, Cardiff, and Chichester.

While university may feel like a distant goal for some, our students showed impressive engagement. The sessions covered everything from the excitement of campus life and degree choices to the practicalities of moving away for further education.

Special highlights included:

Modern Languages: Key Stage 4 French students met with Alliance Française and Campus France to explore studying abroad.

Creative Arts: Performing Arts students gained valuable insights from the Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance.

Our students asked an array of insightful questions, proving that they are already looking forward to their bright futures beyond Les Varendes.

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### A FOND FAREWELL

Class of 2–25... it was an absolute pleasure.

In November we celebrated our 'leavers' in the proudest of ways as they received their certificates from the Lieutenant Governor Mr Richard Cripwell.



# ENRICHMENT AT LVHS

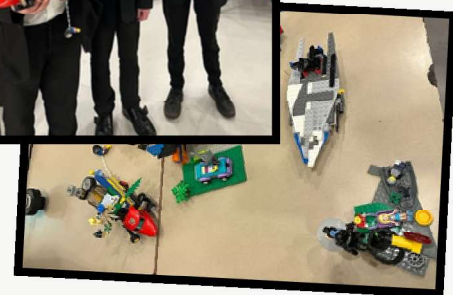
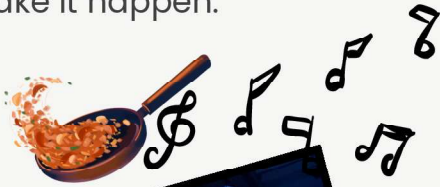
At Les Varendes, we believe that education extends far beyond the classroom. We are incredibly proud to offer a "huge" and diverse enrichment program designed to spark curiosity, build friendships, and help every student find their niche.

While Sport and Music remain core pillars of our school life, our wider offering is more vibrant than ever. Whether your child is a strategist, a creator, or a collector, there is a community waiting for them. Our current clubs include:

- The Strategists: Board Games, Darts, Bingo, and our popular Trading Club.
- The Creators: Art and Textiles, Gardening, and Lego Club.
- The Tech & Gaming Hub: Nintendo Club and Digital Arts.
- Global Citizens: International Club, where students celebrate culture and community.

## Your Voice Matters

We are constantly looking to evolve. If you have an idea for a club that isn't on the list yet, we want to hear it! We aim to provide a space for every passion—you name it, and we will try to make it happen.



# ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES THIS TERM...

## MONDAY ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

CLUB	WHO	WHEN	WHERE	STAFF INVOLVED
5 a-side football (Girls)	Y9-Y11 2nd half	lunchtime	Gym	GFA - Joelle and Scarlett
Astro Football (No Year 7)	Year 8-11	Lunchtime (Meet at Pavillion SHARP at 12.35pm)	Astro (Hockey Club)	Mr S Lee & Mr J Allen
Year 7,8 and 9 Basketball Shoot-Around	7,8,9	Lunchtime	Hall	Miss De Gans & Miss L O'Regan
Girls 5 a side football	7-11	Lunchtime	Gym	Mrs Joelle Proulx (Guernsey FA Development Officer)
GCSE PE Revision	Yr 11	1st half of lunch	Room 21	Mrs Meijer
Orchestra 1	All	Lunchtime	Music Rooms	Miss Pogson
Super Sevens	Yr 7	Lunchtime	ELSA room	Mrs Baker
Nintendo Club	All	Lunchtime	Room 45	Mr Lowther

## TUESDAY ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

CLUB	WHO	WHEN	WHERE	STAFF INVOLVED
Astro Football (No Year 10)	Trainers and Coat Only	Lunchtime (Meet at Pavillion SHARP at 12.35pm)	Astro (Hockey Club)	Mr S Lee & Mr J Allen
Girls Basketball Shoot Around	Trainers only	Lunchtime (2nd Half)	Hall	Miss L O'Regan
GCSE PE Badminton and Table Tennis	PE KIT	After School - 4.15pm	Hall	Mr S Lee
Orchestra 2	Yr 7 - 11	12.25	Room 26	Miss Pogson
Silcom Appreciation Society	7-11	lunch	Room 4	Mrs Durcan
The Art Lab	7-11	Lunch (12.55)	Art	Miss Shapcott
Papercraft Club	7-11	lunch	Room 9	Mrs Quick
Coding Club	7-11	lunch	Room 53	Mr Chesters
Debate Club	7-11	lunch	Room 28	Mr Goddard
GCSE History Revision	11	3.15-4.15	Room 26	Mr Goddard
DoE Silver	10	Lunchtime	Lecture Theatre	Mrs Mauger
Science Club	All	Lunchtime	Room 20	Mrs O'Donohy
Nature Club	All	Lunchtime	Rm 19	Ms Wright Mr Taylor
Science Revision (beginning week 19th Jan)	11	After School	Rm22	Ms Threadgodd
GCSE PE Coursework	11	After school till 4	Rm 23	PE department

## WEDNESDAY ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

CLUB	WHO	WHEN	WHERE	STAFF INVOLVED
Astro Football (No Year 11)	Trainers and Coat Only	Lunchtime (Meet at Pavillion SHARP at 12.35pm)	Astro (Hockey Club)	Mr S Lee & Mr J Allen
Martial Arts	PE KIT	Lunchtime (starts at 12.35 sharp)	Gym	Mr Agrepong
Flight Club (Darts)	N/A	Lunchtime (2nd Half)	Rm 17	Mrs Mason
Year 10 and 11 Table Tennis	Trainers Only	After School, Until 4.15pm	Hall	Mr S Lee
Year 7,8 and 9 Rugby Club	Full PE KIT	After School - 4.15pm	Hall	Mr J Allen and Mr C Taylor
Badminton	KS3/KS4	KS3 1st KS4 2nd	SPorts Hall	Mrs Meijer
Lego Club	7-11	lunch	Lecture Theatre	Mrs Mauger
NEW - Board Games Club	7-11	Lunch from 12.30	Room 6	Mrs Quick
School Production	The cast	Lunch After school	Drama Studio	Mrs Elliott, Miss Hantonne and Mr Goddard
Humanities Club	7-11	lunch	Room 28	Mr Goddard
Composing Catch-Up	11	After School	Music Rooms	Miss Pogson
Food Craft	All	Lunchtime	Room 37	Ms Wright/Ferroc
Bingo	7-11	lunch	Room 11	Ms Hewitt/Year 11 Prefects

## THURSDAY ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

CLUB	WHO	WHEN	WHERE	STAFF INVOLVED
Astro Football (No Year 8)	Trainers and Coat Only	Lunchtime (Meet at Pavillion SHARP at 12.35pm)	Astro (Hockey Club)	Mr S Lee
Year 10 & 11 Basketball Shoot Around	Trainers Only	Lunchtime	Hall	Miss L O'Regan
Whole School Dodgeball	Trainers only	Lunchtime	Gym	Mrs E Hughes
Year 10/ 11 Basketball Training	PE KIT	After School, Until 4.15pm	Hall	Mr S Lee
International Club	All years	lunch	Room 1	Ms Reyes
SOPM Music Club	All years	Lunch	Music Rooms	Denis from SOPM
School Show	All	Lunch/ after school	Stage	Miss Hantonne
Morning sing!	7-11	Tutor Time	Music	Miss Hantonne / Miss Pogson
MFL GCSE Revision	KS4	Lunchtime	1	Mrs Reyes
Textile Art	All	Lunchtime	room 42	Mrs Ferreira
Science Home Learning Drop In	All	Lunchtime	Rm22	Ms Wright
Grow Club	All	Lunchtime	Room 54 and / or The Shed	Ms Flatley
GCSE PE Coursework	Year 11	After school	23	PE Dept

## FRIDAY ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

CLUB	WHO	WHEN	WHERE	STAFF INVOLVED
Astro Football (No Year 9)	YEAR 7,8,10 AND 11	Lunchtime (Meet at Pavillion SHARP at 12.35pm)	Astro (Hockey Club)	Mr S Lee/Allen
Just Dance	All years	Lunchtime	Front of Hall	Mrs E Hughes
Year 10 and 11 Basketball Shoot-Around	10, 11	Lunchtime	Back of Hall	Miss L O'Regan
Year 7,8 and 9 Basketball	7,8,9	After School (until 4.15pm)	Hall	Mr S Lee
PACE	7-11	Lunch	Room 8	PACE
Thirst Band Mentoring	All years	Lunch	Music	Thirst Music School
Trading & Collecting Club	7-11	Lunch	Room 9	Mr Bougourd
DoE Bronze	9	Lunchtime	Lecture Theatre	Mrs Mauger
Yr11 Science Revision	11	Lunchtime	Rm 25	Mr Moore



# THIS TERM...



Dust off your leather jackets and get ready to turn the volume up to eleven! This term, LVHS is trading textbooks for power chords as we bring the hit musical **School of Rock** to the stage. Following the journey of Dewey Finn as he turns a class of straight-A students into a face-melting rock band, this show is a high-octane celebration of finding your voice and 'sticking it to the man.' You won't want to miss the talent, the laughs, and the live music—class is officially in session!!



LES VARENDES HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS...

THE NEXT GENERATION

# SCHOOL of ROCK

THE MUSICAL

SCHOOL PRODUCTION

7PM

10<sup>TH</sup>, 11<sup>TH</sup> & 12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026

THE PRINCESS ROYAL CENTRE FOR PERFORMING ARTS

TICKETS	TICKETS AVAILABLE ON
£10 ADULTS	GUERNSEYTICKETS.GG OR
£7 CONCESSIONS	FROM THE PRCPA

BASED ON THE PARAMOUNT MOVIE WRITTEN BY MIKE WHITE

MUSIC BY ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER    SCRIPT BY JULIAN FELLOWES    LYRICS BY GLENN SLATER



# BAND NIGHT

FEATURING LVHS BANDS FROM THIRST MUSIC SCHOOL'S BAND MENTORING

FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2026

7PM

LES VARENDES HIGH SCHOOL MAIN HALL

ENTRY: £5 ON THE DOOR

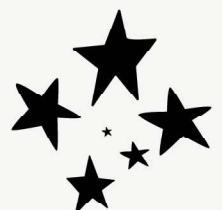
DONATION BAR AVAILABLE

RAISING MONEY TOWARDS OUR PRODUCTION OF 'SCHOOL OF ROCK'

THE NEXT GENERATION

# SCHOOL of ROCK

THE MUSICAL



# THIS TERM...



## NATURE WRITING COMPETITION!

We in Guernsey are so lucky to have the sea and its wildlife on our doorstep.

In January, enter a major national newspaper competition for Young Country Diaries and GET PAID for your writing about nature!

For more details, see Mrs Quick or Mrs Wright (Science).

We also have the Nature Commission in for monthly presentations. This week kicked-off with a session on birdwatching attended by boys from across the school - it would be great to see some of our young ladies take an interest too! Keep your eyes on Class Charts for details of upcoming sessions. The next is on Monday 9 February where Angela will present The State of Nature 2024.

Nature Commission programme:

- Monday 9 February: State of Nature 2024
- Monday 9 March: Bluebell Wood
- Thursday 21 May: Ecology and Sampling
- Thursday 11 June: the Great Eggcase Hunt
- Thursday 25 June: Citizen Science Projects
- Monday 6 July: Big Butterfly Count

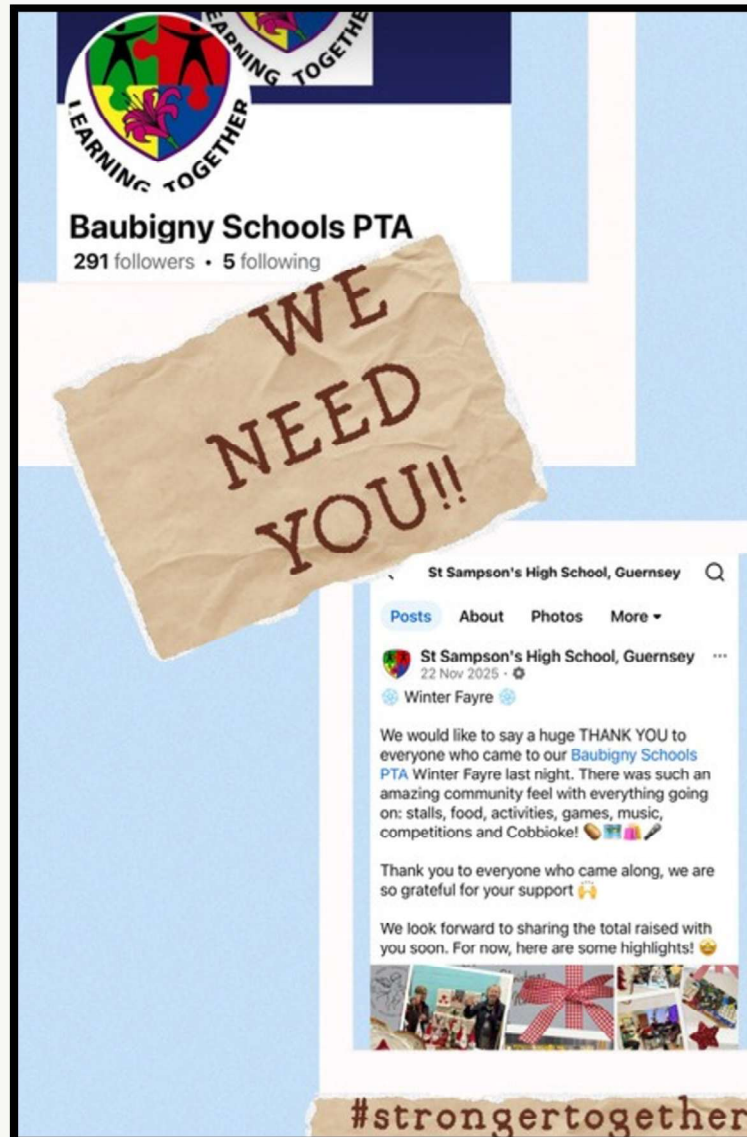
**And that's a wrap! It was certainly an action-packed first term, and we couldn't be prouder of everything our students have accomplished. From the classroom to the sports field and everywhere in between, the spirit of our school has shone through. Thank you for being such a vital part of our journey this term.**

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# THE FINAL PIECE IN THE JIGSAW

## #strongertogether



As we continue our journey as a new school community at Les Varendes, it is clear just how far we have come. Following the merger with La Mare de Carteret, we have "weathered the storm" together to emerge as a strong, vibrant, and supportive community.

While we are incredibly proud of the work being done to support our students, there is one thing missing: LVHS is currently the only school on the island without a PTA.

We want to change that. We are looking for a group of passionate parents and carers to help us build a PTA that reflects our unique spirit. Whether it's helping with events, fundraising for extra-curricular opportunities, or simply strengthening the link between home and school, your input would be invaluable.

If you think you can help, please can you email [emma.hughes@education.gg](mailto:emma.hughes@education.gg)

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