

24th March 2010

Dear Parents and Friends,

It feels as though spring has sprung and summer can't be too far away. As usual we come to the end of a busy Hilary Term with some wonderful highlights.

The Junior Choir came second in their class in the Eisteddfod against strong competition. We are very grateful to Jean Owen for preparing them so well. Many other pupils, across the age range, have had outstanding successes with trophy winners including Ellie Holland and Ruby Tapp, with literary classes still to be announced. We have just heard that for the first time Blanchelande is the winner of the Schools' Art Exhibition. We are absolutely delighted. Many congratulations to Mrs Lee, Mrs Deane and all the girls involved. I hope that you all have the opportunity to visit the exhibition which runs until Saturday. This will also give you the chance to see some amazing displays from our younger pupils.

We had a second opportunity to enjoy some of the Eisteddfod performances as part of the wonderful Spring Concerts which are the perfect ending to this term. Once again Mr Claxton has inspired a huge number of girls involved in the orchestra, choirs and solo performances to treat us to a superb evening of entertainment. The Upper Sixth added their own special item, a dance routine tribute to Michael Jackson, which all the pupils had a chance to see on the last day of term.

During this term we have also held Parents' Meetings for almost every year in the school. We are delighted that so many parents take the time and trouble to come to these meetings which do so much to strengthen the partnership between us to benefit the pupils.

Another feature of the Hilary term is our fund raising efforts during Lent on behalf of CAFOD. Yet again the pupils, (with your help), have been ingenious and generous and the cake sales, sponsored fancy dress, hot chocolate, Easter egg hunts and other events have raised over £1200. This is in addition to the phenomenal total of almost £1000 raised in just one day for the Haiti Appeal. Thank you all.

The final 'icing on the cake' this term was the PTA Talent Show 'Blanchelande's Got Talent' on Tuesday night. What a fabulous display of talent! Acting as a judge was an almost impossible task but the final winner was Claudia Heyworth with a stunning dance routine. This was one of many great PTA events this term which included the busy book sale, and the very popular "doughnut day". Look out for more events next term! Lots of information, photos of past events, copies of forms, newsletters and much more is on the school website www.blanchelande.co.uk

Next term is looking busier than ever with PTA events, trips away to France and the U.K. on top of the usual round of lessons and examinations. The first PTA date for your diary is Saturday 22nd May, with a grand Car Boot Sale.

We are very pleased that the parish of Our Lady and the Saints of Guernsey will once more be holding an open air Mass on the playing fields creating a real family day. We hope we will be able to show lots of families around the school as they enjoy our beautiful grounds.

Along with the rest of the island we will be enjoying the additional public holiday on May 10th after a large number of our pupils have played their part in the amazing 'Guernsey Sings' on Liberation Day. They will be part of a choir of over 1200 singers and one of the main items will be a specially written composition by our own Mr Claxton.

Just a gentle reminder that the pupils return in summer uniform, that is the short sleeved striped shirts and all the pupils are asked to have a simple T-shirt in their house colours for school sports and other house events throughout the year.

Traffic seems to be flowing quite smoothly through the school grounds but please remember to keep your speed down, stop for the zebra crossing, and please do not stop to drop off or collect students anywhere it impedes the flow of traffic. Your 30 seconds multiplied ten times becomes a five minute tailback.

The sunshine of last weekend is in short supply today but I hope it returns for everyone. On behalf of the Blanchelande family I wish you all a very special Easter.

Yours sincerely,

Lesley Le Page (Mrs)
Principal