



Le Rocquier School Newsletter Christmas 2017

*Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year!*



A very special Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all!!

As most of you will know, this is my last newsletter as I am retiring after 38 years of teaching, including 13 years in the UK, 9 in Bermuda and 16 in Jersey. I feel very blessed that I have enjoyed my time in each of the six schools in which I have worked. However, as you might expect, Le Rocquier is the closest to my heart. I will be leaving on the 15th December with mixed emotions: very sad to be leaving a place in which I have been very happy, yet excited at the prospect of what is yet to come.

The school has come a long way in the last 16 years which is down to an amazing staff who fundamentally care about the students and understand the huge responsibility we have to help them prepare for their future. Over 3,000 students have been taught at the school in my time and it has been a privilege to have worked with them and helped them in lots of little ways to become the young adults that they are today.

With one daughter in the Hospitality Industry in London and another in Australia, I can see lots of fine food and long haul flights in my crystal ball as I open a new chapter in my life. I have also been saying that I would be a better golfer if I only had more time to play... so no excuses now!

I leave the school in the very capable hands of Mrs Baglin and a group of staff who deserve twice the pay! (That will be a popular comment!). The future of the school and the students is quite rightly very bright. I wish all of them and all of you the very best for the future. I would also like to take this opportunity of thanking you for your support over so many years, it has been very much appreciated.

May the force be with you!

Mr Slater - Headteacher

YEAR 11 EXAM NOTICE

Please do not book any holidays for the 9th May, Liberation bank holiday. It has been identified that some learners will have a real GCSE exam that day. You will be informed closer to the date if you are to sit an exam on the 9th May 2018.

Failure to sit an exam will impact on your outcome.

STUDENT ABSENCES

Some parents have informed us that they have been experiencing difficulties with our new telephone system when advising us of student absence. This is caused by the high volume of calls being received at the same time. Please either contact the school on 855876 (option 2), Mrs Devereux, Attendance Officer's direct line 708975, or by emailing y.devereux@lrs.sch.je

BUGSY MALONE

Thank you to all the students who auditioned in early November to take part in the April production of Buggy Malone - the talent was amazing! Rehearsals have now begun and the timetable for these can be found on the door to the Drama studio. As we have such a large cast to kit out, please can we make a plea to any parent that if you have any old suit jackets/trousers (or indeed any 20s style fancy dress costumes!) that you were thinking of giving to charity, we would be very grateful if you could donate them to the school office or direct to Mrs Morlidge, our Head of Drama.

WOMEN IN POLITICS

On 28th November 6 Year 11 girls attended a Women in Politics event at the Royal Yacht Hotel in St Helier.

They listened to Sophie Walker, Chair of the Women's Equality party, talk about how she became involved in campaigning and running eventually for Mayor of London.



The girls were a credit to the school and Sophie has said she would love to come back and do more work with our students.

PIXL EDGE

Last year Le Rocquier became the first school in Jersey to introduce PiXL Edge - a programme to develop life attributes in young people within a validated qualification. We began with a small group of PiXL Edge Ambassadors, now in Year 10, and are currently rolling it out for all students in Y7-Y10.

Employers and Universities have said they look for 5 core attributes essential for employability and life in standout students: **leadership, organisation, resilience, initiative and communication**. The Edge is a framework for schools to develop and accredit these attributes with a website for pupils to log their achievements in and out of school.

We believe our students are so much more than "just" the certificates of academic achievement that they leave us with. This national programme, which now involves over 1500 schools, will encourage and develop these employability and life skills in students.

The first students to achieve the Apprentice Level qualification will have their certificates presented to them in school by representatives from PiXL in January and we are hoping that they will be the first of many who go on to successfully complete the award.



SCHOOL UNIFORM & EQUIPMENT

In preparation for the new term, we would like to request that students return correctly equipped for lessons and dressed in appropriate school uniform. Parents are advised to check the school uniform policy before buying new items of uniform. Wearing the correct uniform is something we take very seriously in order to educate pupils in the importance of looking smart, showing that they are ready to work and showing that they belong to Le Rocquier School.

Girls skirts' should stop just above the knee and black jeans, black trainers, canvas shoes, or shoes with white soles or coloured logos or are not acceptable. The school uniform code for both girls and boys says: "Sensible strong **black leather or leather look** low-heeled school shoes. Trainers may only be worn for PE lessons." Information regarding school uniform requirements and showing correct footwear is also available on our school website.

Wearing jewellery is not allowed in school with the exception of a watch, one pair of stud earrings and a charity bracelet. Nose studs are not permitted to be worn in school so students should not have their nose pierced during the school holiday. Students doing so may be placed in isolation.

Basic equipment required for lessons:

- ✓ Pen (and spare pen!)
- ✓ Pencil
- ✓ Rubber
- ✓ Ruler
- ✓ School planner

Thank you for your support in keeping standards at Le Rocquier School high.



LE ROCQUIER

PTA NEWS

DECEMBER 2017

AGM
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The PTA Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on 9th November in the school library, at which refreshments and nibbles were served. An AGM is required under the PTA constitution and provides for the presentation of the Chairman's report for the year, and also that of the Secretary and the Treasurer's accounts (please refer to the school website – lerocquier.com). An election was held for members of the new Committee and the under



-mentioned agreed to stand or to stand again (for which we thank them!) and were duly elected:

Chairman	Peter Monamy
Vice-Chairman	Stewart Elston
Secretary	Lisa Howkins
Treasurer	Jennifer Richardson

Committee members: Lloyd Banks, D Clark, A Cameron, P Cameron, Samantha Ennis, Fenella Le Signe, Phil Slater, Nicola Tucker, Adrian Walsh, Gary Whitelaw

This leaves us with one vacancy (which can in due course be filled by means of 'co-opting'). We are always pleased to welcome new and/or additional members on to the PTA Committee and, if you have kindly indicated an interest or offered your support previously, I apologise if we haven't yet contacted you but would be delighted to hear from you now! Why not help us to continue helping the school in all those areas where the school budget can't quite reach!

Please support your school's PTA



by attending events and through taking out 100 Club membership/s!



A 'Christmas Bingo' was held on Friday 1st December. This 'super-charged chocaholic' event was a great success and it's hoped to hold a further Bingo evening at Easter 2017. Please also keep a look out for announcements about '**Race Nights**' to be held in the New Year!



The last PTA event of 2017 was a 'sponsored bag-pack' at M&S St Clement with proceeds to be shared with the School's Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. The event was organised by Samantha Ennis, in conjunction with the School's DofE co-ordinator Mr Washington. Customers'

shopping was ably packed by a team of LRS students taking part in the 'DofE' Award Scheme.



And talking of the **PTA 100 Club**, I'm pleased to announce that the £100 prize for December 2017 – drawn at the Christmas Bingo - has been won by No. 48. Please don't forget that you can still join the **PTA 100 Club for 2017/2018**: it's only £1 for each month that remains until August 2018, so membership from January will only cost you £8 (if you're looking for a small Christmas gift for each of the family why not give them a chance to win a £50 prize every month!). (NB You can check out all the winning numbers on the PTA website: lerocquier.com, where you can also view other PTA-related information). Don't forget that you can join the 100 Club at any time during the School Year.



Our main fund-raising effort - **PTA Car Boot Sales** - has come to an end for 2017 (the last one was October). Thank you to all those who have supported us throughout the year. As you know, these events provide opportunities for the profitable disposal of those 'valuable' items you have stored away in the garage and the loft and always meant to get around to disposing of but couldn't quite bring yourself to sort out!! So why not come along in the New Year and 'recycle' your unwanted items, which might be exactly what someone else is looking for! We hope to start up again either on the first Saturday in February (weather permitting!) or – more likely – the first Saturday of March 2017.





The PTA has been operating a small 'second-hand uniform shop' at its last few car boot sales, but inevitably very little stock now remains and – as new stock is always required and we depend entirely on donations – we would be very grateful for donations of any items of good quality school uniform which could be put to good use by Le Rocquier students whilst at the same time raising funds for the PTA.



Please also don't forget our other ongoing fund-raising activities such as:

The Le Rocquier School PTA **C.I. Co-Operative Society Share No.** which is 313660 - you can use this at any of the Co-op shops. Even if you only use the PTA number once a month, this would be a great help in boosting funds.



We look forward to your continuing support in the coming months and we very much hope to see you at forthcoming events. May I wish you all very best wishes for the Christmas Season and here's wishing you all a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Peter Monamy
Chairman

Contact the PTA through the school website www.lerocquier.com or e-mail us at pta@lrs.sch.je or through Facebook: [lerocquierPTA](https://www.facebook.com/lerocquierPTA)

Twitter: www.twitter.com/LeRocquier



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