

The St Helena Ambassador

... An Extraordinary Place on a Path to Prosperity



Issue 46 August 2016

Primary School Open Days

Another year has passed where we celebrate and support our children's achievements at the end of their school year, in traditional Primary School Open Days.

These much anticipated days give Primary Schools a chance to say goodbye to the Year 6 pupils of each school, as they leave Primary School at the end of the term to further their learning at Prince Andrew School.

The first Open Day this year was at Harford Primary, followed by St Paul's and Pilling Primary. On all three occasions, the children in every group in the school, from Nursery to Year 6, put on a series of engaging and entertaining acts.

Parents and invited guests enjoyed songs, dances and plays from all three Primary Schools, followed by traditional prize presentations.

Refreshments were available for invited guests and parents, who were then able to view their child's school as well as their work.

Director of Education, Shirley Wahler, said:

"As always, the Open Days were a huge success. As the Headteachers say, the children never let us down!"

"The entire community had the opportunity to enjoy the creative talents of our Primary children, and to celebrate their success over the past school year."

"Parents also enjoyed the chance to see their children's work displayed and the classrooms were full of creative achievement."

"Well done to students and teachers for a very productive and positive school year!"



Community Forest Volunteer Day

The Community Forests project (CFP), a three-year Darwin Initiative funded project (2013-2016) run by the St Helena National Trust, aims to develop ecologically sustainable community forests to be enjoyed and appreciated by Islanders and tourists alike, ensuring the future existence of key Island biodiversity and environmental knowledge.

The Community Volunteer day has been held monthly since 2013 on each first Saturday of the month, to give local people a significant role at all of these sites, through activities such as planting, weed removal, seed collecting etc.

Community Forest Co-Ordinator, Cynthia LLAS, said:

"We would like to give people a feeling of belonging to the rare and sensitive native habitats of St Helena."

Under CFP, the Millennium Forest has held 16 volunteer days since 2013. On Saturday 6 August 2016, the most recent volunteer day, around 30 volunteers turned up, including the Brownies who are developing their Brownie Wood.

Cynthia added:

"The Brownies wanted to come back to look after their wood and plant more trees. They are really dedicated to their wood and friendship was the word of the day."

"We planted 120 Gumwoods and made a list of what to create in the wood e.g. shelter, basin, playground etc by using recycled material."

The next Volunteer day will take place at the Millennium Forest on Sunday 4 September 2016.



Reading Awareness Day

Children of all ages once again filled the Public Library to enjoy another 'Reading Awareness Day', held on Tuesday 16 August 2016.

Activities were provided for the children where they could decorate polystyrene containers using markers, sparkles and beads, or do a word search or puzzle.

There was also a treasure hunt where the kids had to find 12 pieces of treasure, or they could colour or quietly read a book.



Assistant Librarian, Ivy Williams-Newman, spoke of the aim of the day:

"The sole purpose of reading awareness is to highlight the importance of reading and the many benefits it brings, and to promote and encourage reading in our community."

The Public Library has hosted Reading Awareness Days in the past and never fails to entertain the many children that attend.



Scholarship Students

Seven students departed St Helena on Saturday 27 August 2016, to further their learning in various Universities in the UK. They will be met by family or friends in the UK before an induction with the SHG UK Representative who has already been introduced to them during her recent visit to the Island. All students are wished every success as they take this significant step towards making their aspirations a reality. The seven students are:

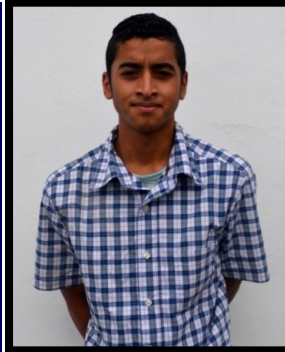


Name: Kyle Shoesmith

Address: Half Tree Hollow

Leaving to Study: BEng in Civil Engineering

University: Portsmouth



Name: Jordon Clingham

Address: Green Hill, Sandy Bay

Leaving to Study: BEng in Computer Engineering

University: Portsmouth



Name: Robyn Midwinter

Address: Ladder Hill

Leaving to Study: Foundation Degree in Science - Veterinary Nursing

University: Harper Adams



Name: Harley Williams

Address: Gordon's Post

Leaving to Study: BSc (Hons) in Environmental Science

University: Bath Spa



Name: James Cairn-Wicks

Address: Sandy Bay

Leaving to Study: BEng in Civil Engineering

University: Portsmouth



Name: David Clarke

Address: New Ground

Leaving to Study: BSc (Hons) in Mathematics

University: Portsmouth



Name: Louis Youde

Address: Longwood

Leaving to Study: Advanced Diploma in Electrical Engineering

College: Chichester

THANK YOU AND GOOD LUCK

Senior Press Officer, Kimberley Yon-Roberts, left SHG on 19 August 2016. She has been an asset to the Press Office Team and will be sorely missed.

We would like to wish her all the best in her new employment!

Good Luck Kimberley!



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Runway Dash

New Horizons once again pulled off another historic event - the Runway Dash - on Monday 29 August 2016 at St Helena Airport. The Event started at around 10am and finished at approximately 1.30pm.

The Runway Dash was organised by the New Horizons team on behalf of NASAS (National Amateur Sports Association St Helena), to help raise funds to send a team to the Island Games in Gotland, next year.

The event, which was originally planned for the opening of the Airport on St Helena's Day, saw around 300 people in attendance with 107 of them taking part in the Dash. All participants had to collect a minimum of £10 in sponsors to participate. Also happening on the day was a motorised go-Kart race, organised by Keith and Craig Yon, along with their families.

Director of New Horizons, Nick Stevens, said:

"It was another first that we have organised and a historic one which we are hoping to make into an annual event."

"Although we, New Horizons, will be organising it, we would like for the funds to go to sending the athletes off to future Games."

