

The St Helena Ambassador

... An Extraordinary Place on a Path to Prosperity

Issue 58 November 2017

OLDEST LIBRARY IN SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE GETS A MAKEOVER

The Public Library in Jamestown is said to be the oldest library in the Southern Hemisphere, and was established on 11 October 1813 by Governor Colonel Mark Wikes.

Today, the Library, situated near the Court House, has developed to house a current stock of 15,000 books of various genres, DVDs, audio tapes and magazines suited to both children and adults alike, along with a new upgraded electronic system, allowing the Library to introduce membership cards and books with bar codes that can be scanned.

To get to its current state, the Library recently underwent a period of restoration works to make it more customer friendly.



The Library re-opened with a special ribbon-cutting ceremony on Wednesday, 22 November 2017.

Director of Education & Employment, Shirley Wahler, said:

"The re-opening ceremony was an opportunity for us to celebrate both the history of the St Helena Public Library and the exciting future that lies ahead. It was very exciting to see the new look of the Library and the new electronic library management system. I'm really grateful to the Library staff and to everyone who has contributed to making this project such a success."

Contact details for the Public Library are as follows:-
Telephone: 22580 Email: publiclibrary@helanta.co.sh

Prince Andrew School hosted their first ever 'Enterprise Day' on Thursday, 30 November 2017.

Organised by Advisory Teacher Business & ICT, Frazer Stone, this event was aimed at enhancing students' understanding of how business and enterprise concepts relate to different elements of their lives and studies while developing their communication and problem-solving skills. It also helped to promote teamwork and enterprising skills.

The all-day event began when students of Years Seven, Eight and Nine, were divided into groups and set their task for the day.

Year Seven was tasked with planning, designing and pitching an Eco-Home. Groups of students had to build a prototype Eco-Home and prepare a presentation displaying the cost of each item they had included to build the home and showcase the benefits of an Eco-Home compared to a conventional non-environmentally friendly design.

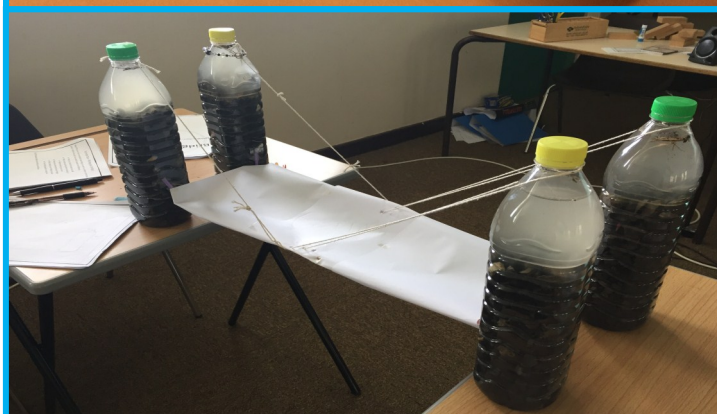
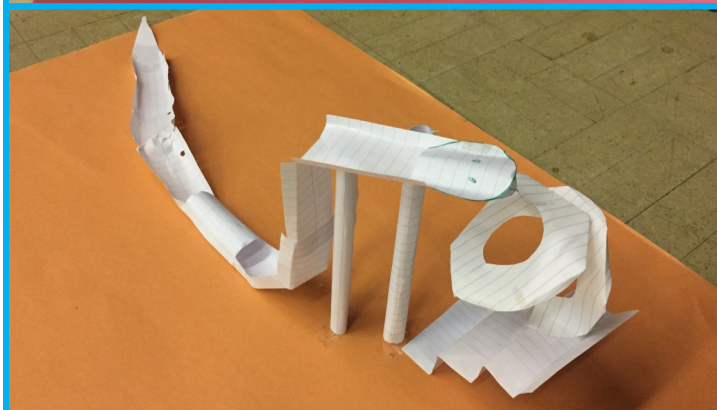
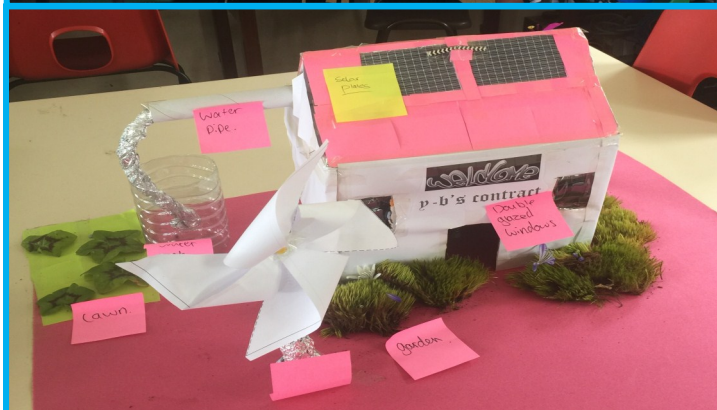
Year Eight was given the task of constructing a roller-coaster business model. The challenge was to mould the longest running roller coaster with a set budget, so that it made a profit. Students were given items with a cost and had to record their costings on a spreadsheet.

Year Nine was given a bridge building challenge. The aim was to build a bridge that could support most cars; materials used had an individual cost and groups were set a budget to design the most effective load bearing bridge.

A prize presentation followed in the afternoon. Prizes were awarded by members of Enterprise St Helena for the winning teams in each year group which displayed the best work and most innovative idea.

Frazer commented:

"I am very happy with the outcome of Enterprise Day; I feel it was very successful. All the students involved worked exceptionally well demonstrating maturity and enthusiasm. The staff at Prince Andrew School did an excellent job keeping the students engaged and productive throughout the day. I would like to extend my gratitude to Enterprise St Helena for funding the prizes and hopefully we will be able to run more events such as this in the future".



Island schools recently hosted Anti-Bullying Week.

The SHG Press Office was invited along to St Paul's Primary School on Friday, 24 November, to have a look at some of the work done by pupils over the week.

Below is an account of St Paul's Primary School's participation in Anti-Bullying Week organised collaboratively between School staff and led by Deputy Head, Sherell Thomas.

This year's theme, 'All Different -All Equal' aimed to empower children and encourage them to celebrate what makes them and others unique, and to help children understand how important it is to make everyone feel valued and included, and able to be themselves, without fear of bullying.

The week, held between 21 and 24 November 2017, began with an inspiring Anti-Bullying Assembly. All staff and pupils joined in 'Odd Socks Day' where everyone wore two different socks to show that although we are different we all are equal. Throughout the week the school hosted various activities related to anti-bullying each day in class. Activities included: children creating a golden scroll with their picture for their class to write a kind message and placing 'stop bullying' trees in classrooms for pupils to share ways to end bullying. An assembly was also presented by the Police Directorate focusing on Cyber Bullying plus various types of other bullying.

The school hall, classrooms and the outside wallboards were finally decorated with the outcomes of the week, including posters and acrostic poems.

Headteacher, Mrs Patricia Williams, commented:

"I was very pleased and impressed at how the week developed with lots of activities going on. Pupils seemed very engaged and enjoyed each day. We hope the week will make them more aware of how we need to be treated equally and with respect no matter where we come from or what we look like, and understand the impact that bullying can have on individuals."



Bristol 24/7, an independent online newspaper, offering news and features for the city of Bristol, wrote an article on Monday, 20 November 2017, entitled 'A Bristol Chocolate Advent Calendar'. This article features 'Bemmie', a Bristol based business, owned by St Helenians, Robin and Emma-Jane Richards, which designs and creates many original items, including unique illustrative posters.

The article reports that Robin and Emma-Jane both grew up on St Helena Island before moving to Bedminster, Bristol City, eight years ago, after wanting to begin a new adventure professionally and creatively, and deciding to settle in Bristol because of its rich creativity and inspiring diversity.

The articles quotes:

"Forget Father Christmas, snowmen and canoeing reindeer, for your Advent calendar this year you can find your chocolates underneath the SS Great Britain, Cliftonwood's colourful houses or the Cabot Tower."

Alongside of their advent calendar, Robin and Emma-Jane have also designed two types of wrapping paper for Christmas, which features scenery of Bristol, carol singers and cyclists.

Emma-Jane commented:

"This year we created an advent calendar inspired by the popularity of our Bristol travel poster. We wanted to offer something for our customers outside of the normal greetings cards and decided an advent calendar and Bristol wrapping paper was an interesting, fun and unique gift for the local markets."



FESTIVAL OF RUNNING 2017 - A SUCCESS

The Festival of Running, an annual event hosted by the St Helena Tourist Office, National Amateur Sports Association and New Horizons, took place between 19 and 26 November 2017.

The Festival of Running which launched in 2001, aims to encourage runners and fitness enthusiasts to compete against like-minded participants, in order to challenge their personal bests, engage in a community event and also stand the possibility of winning some prizes and medals. The event also enables people of all abilities and ages to participate in the organised fun runs.

This year's festival included a Marathon, Half Marathon, 10km and 3km Fun Runs, Jacob's ladder Challenge, Trail Run and Triathlon, and attracted interest from local participants and international athletes including a journalist. A total of 60 individuals took part, including three dogs. Some participants chose to partake in more than one event, resulting in a total of 102 recorded entrants. An Individual Triathlon record was broken by Steve Coates.

The Festival of Running concluded with a prize presentation held at the Mule Yard.

St Helena Tourism said:

"We would like to thank all volunteers and participants for the 2017 Festival of Running, without you this event would not have been possible."

