



PEOPLE

WITH JULIET POUTEAUX

I hope £1,000 will buy a lot of flowers - floral stalwart

Specsavers nominated Unsung Hero splits donation between schools

by Juliet Pouteaux

FIVE St Peter Port schools are benefitting from a special donation from a floral stalwart.

Katina Jones has been working with Floral St Peter Port for around 10 years and this year was nominated for the 2014 Specsavers Unsung Hero award.

That nomination earned her the chance to donate £1,000 to her favourite charity. Rather than one cause, she decided to share the money between Amherst, Vauvert, Beechwood and Notre Dame primary schools and Les Voies – a school to support young people with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties.

'I am with Floral St Peter Port, so I know how difficult it is to get money for plants,' she said.

'I hope £1,000 will buy a lot of flowers.'

She said growing was very important for young people.

'Flowers have got a feel-good factor and it is nice to see children outside gardening,' she remarked.

'All of us can grow flowers and vegetables.'

Amherst has worked hard to have green spaces and head teacher Tracey Moore said the money would be well spent.

'It will make a big difference,' she commented.

'It is going to be a lovely opportunity to develop the gardens further and we will take ideas from the children about how to use it.'

Les Voies caretaker Rob Domaille has been working hard to improve the grounds at one of Guernsey's newest schools. While the site used to house Oakvale – which was replaced by Le Murier – it closed in 2008 and Les Voies opened there in 2013.



Specsavers Unsung Hero nominee Katina Jones, seated centre, has chosen five schools to share the £1,000 donation awarded to her to spend on floral enhancements. Left to right standing: Jo Annetts and Les Voies caretaker Rob Domaille. Sitting: Amherst head teacher Tracey Moore and Angela Pollard, representing Beechwood. (Picture by Steve Sarre, 9059112)

'The school has been trying to encourage children to grow things,' Mr Domaille said.

'I'm also trying to tidy the place

up. The gardens were a bit run down.'

Beechwood PSHE teacher Angela Pollard said the students

enjoyed gardening and the extra money would help boost what they could do.

'It is quite a surprise,' she said.

The school has an active gardening club, which allows the school to send home students with potatoes and onions.