



Wednesday Whistle

We have certainly settled back into the hustle-bustle of daily school life and the new academic year.

WeST is now a tight knit family of schools based around natural geographical proximity in the South West. The WeST family now comprises 18 schools of which 5 secondary and 13 primary. All 13 primary schools naturally transition children into a WeST secondary school and this is an area of work we wish to strengthen as we move forward.

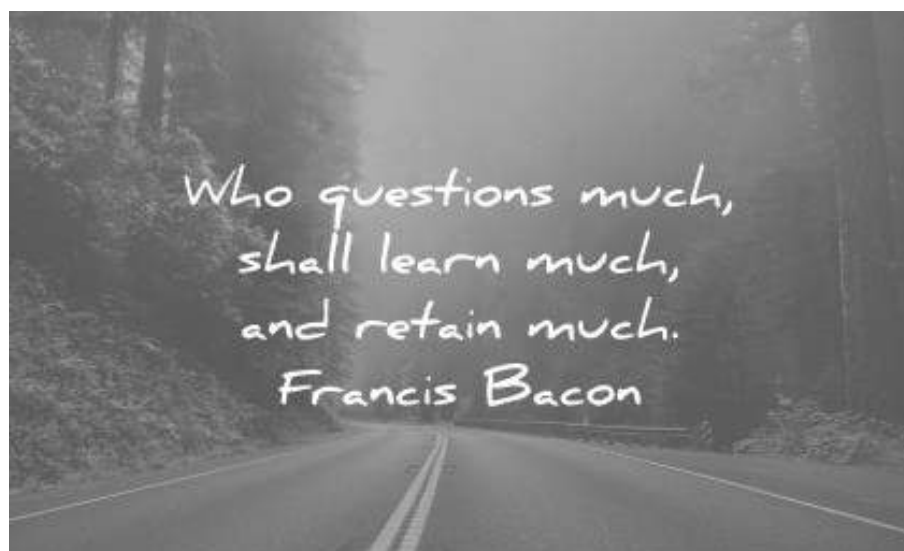
We shape our work around several key principles:

- We believe that for every school to be great we need fantastic people and a positive culture
- We know that to be great and to deliver the blend of education in which we believe, we need to be resolute and uncompromising in our approach. We will work with honesty and transparency
- When we make decisions they will always be based on the best available evidence and founded on making sure that childrens education and well-being is paramount
- WeST is determined to recruit, develop and retain the best staff possible. We want our staff to hold a passion and enjoyment for what they do and the difference the make.

It has been a privilege to visit WeST schools so early in the term and see how enthusiastically our children are approaching their studies. I'm afraid that I can't let pass the opportunity to say how thrilling it was to visit Sherford Vale School and see a class of children in every classroom - hard to believe that this one year old school now has 172 children on roll!

Enjoy the weekend when it arrives!

Rob Haring
CEO



Stronger Together...every child in a great school



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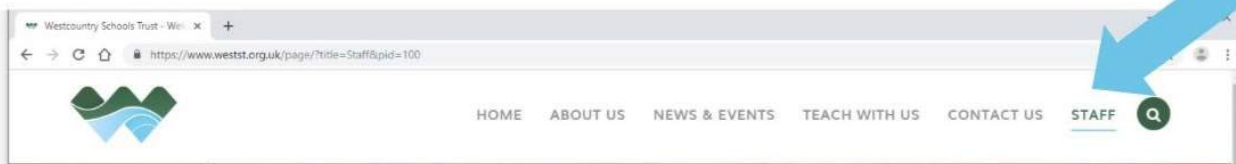
Accessing The Staff Portal



We don't need these anymore!



All of the current staff policies, procedures, and information is now available on the Staff Portal of the WeST website.



Welcome

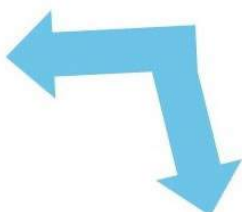
To access this area we need you to login using the username and password provided to you by the school. Please enter this information below and click login to proceed.

If you have forgotten your username and/or password please contact the school.

Username:

Password:

[Forgotten your password?](#)



Username: staff@westst.org.uk

Password: west

Wednesday Whistle

What's Happening

- 12 Sept - Secondary Heads SI Meeting, Ivybridge Community College, 8am
 17 Sept - Primary Heads Meeting, Woodford Primary School, 1.30pm
 23 Sept - WeST Leadership Conference, venue tbc, 4.15pm

A New Start



What an amazing start to the new school term. All the children looked so smart and are already settling into school.

I am very proud to be the head teacher of such a lovely, vibrant school with dedicated and caring staff who all want the best for each and every child. We have so much planned this year already.

We welcomed our foundation children and also 16 new children who have joined the school this academic year. Alongside this we have had three new teachers: Miss Mills, Miss Edwards and Miss O Neil and a new Caretaker, Mrs Wright.

Carla Bennett
Headteacher



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It's a Red Litter Day at Coombe Dean

From Monday 9th September, staff and students at Coombe Dean have been working together to ensure that the beautiful grounds at Coombe Dean School are protected from litter. The prize is a better working environment and real-life lessons for students in the importance of taking responsibility for the world around them.



At the centre of the campaign are Red Litter Days - special days where the Headteacher, Richard Woodland, will inspect the grounds to ensure that they are rubbish-free at the end of break and lunchtime. If any rubbish is found, the mid-morning snack facilities in the school canteen will be closed on the next day.

To add to the challenge, the dates of the Red Litter Days will be a closely guarded secret. Students will need to be vigilant at all times and encourage each other to maintain the highest possible standards.

As well as the demanding rules of Red Litter Days, Coombe Dean is making changes to encourage and reward caring for the environment. The Student Senate will work alongside the staff, finding ways to help reduce litter. Students will be rewarded for public-spirited behaviour, such as picking up litter.

Richard Woodland said, *'The message from young people across the world has been clear; they demand that we care more for the environment. Like them, I believe that our lives depend on everyone living more responsibly - reducing waste, recycling and finding alternatives to damaging materials like plastic.'*

'I was struck by the passion and determination of the young people who contributed to the recent environmental campaigns. I believe that teachers have a responsibility to channel that passion. One way we can do this is by working with our young people in simple ways to protect their local environment.'

'With Plymouth becoming officially 'Plastic Free' and Zero Waste Week (2nd-6th September) providing an inspiration, there has never been a better time to demand the highest possible standards from our students and staff.'

'Over the summer break, we have invested in fantastic new canteen and eating facilities. We can ensure that fresh, package-free food is always available to students. It has never been easier to eat well and to keep our environment clean.'

'Peer pressure can be a positive force when it is for a good cause. I am confident our Red Litter Days will quickly promote a spirit of mutual support in which our school community understands we all have a part to play in protecting our environment.'

Richard Woodland – Headteacher



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Music Hub Launch



We are delighted to announce the launch of Ivybridge Music Hub on Wednesday 25th September. Our new Primary music provision includes a free Junior Orchestra (funded by DMEH), group tuition on an orchestral instrument for only £3 per session for new starters and individual instrumental tuition. Sessions are open to Primary students in our feeder schools and the MAT in years 4-6.

Please see the website for further details
<https://www.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk/page/title=Primary+Music+Hub&pid=1373> or email musicchub@ivybridge.devon.sch.uk

'Road Trip USA'



This term the year 3/4 pupils at Dunstone Primary are off on a 'Road Trip USA'! During the summer we put out a plea for postcards from America on Facebook and have been overwhelmed by the response.

Children were thrilled to see over 200 hundred postcards from all corners of the States, along with gifts including an American football, fridge magnets, brochures, books, food and drinks!

We have thoroughly enjoyed spending time reading all the cards; people very kindly wrote facts on the back to tell the children something about where they had come from. The cards keep on coming and we are enjoying our learning so much!

