



Wednesday Whistle

Exiting the European Union



With the possibility of Britain leaving the EU without a deal on 31 October it's important that our UK-based EU employees are aware of the process of making applications for the government's EU Settlement Scheme in order that they are enabled (as EU citizens) to get the immigration status they need.

If you are an EU citizen, you and your family members need to apply to the **EU Settlement Scheme** to continue living in the UK. The EU Settlement Scheme allows you and your family members to get the immigration status you will need to continue to live, work and study in the UK and you will continue to be eligible for:

- public services, such as healthcare and schools
- public funds and pensions
- British citizenship, if you want to apply and meet the requirements

Employees who are EU citizens may wish to take the opportunity to confirm their status ahead of the October deadline – the online systems are expected to be overwhelmed with applications in the last few days before the official date of the UK leaving the EU so early action is recommended.

A summary of key points and comprehensive advice and guidance on why and how to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme is available via the following links:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/799886/EU_Settlement_Scheme_Employer_briefing_information.pdf

<https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families>

In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns please do bring these to the attention of your senior leaders, or contact the HR team directly, so that we can ensure we provide the support you need.

The HR Team

Email: hr@westst.org.uk

What's Happening

9 October - WeST Trust Board Meeting, Coombe Dean School, 4.30pm

10 October - Secondary SI Meeting, Coombe Dean School

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Problems at home or at work?

Difficult to discuss with family or friends?

As an employee or volunteer of Zurich Municipal policyholder you and your family are entitled to use a free, confidential telephone counselling service provided by DAS*.

If you would like to speak to a counsellor who will listen and try to help you clarify your difficulty, explore choices or provide support please call us.

The service

- Highly experienced and professionally trained counsellors.
- All calls are handled in the strictest confidence.
- No limit to number of calls you or your family can make
- Available 24hours a day.
- Expertise if further assistance is required.

0117 934 2121

Free • 24 hour • confidential telephone counselling service



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Vacancies

The following vacancies are currently being advertised within our schools:



Ivybridge Community College

Assistant Principal - Director of Mathematics

Teacher of Foreign Modern Language

Apprentice Accounts Assistant

HR Advisor

HR Administrator

[Click here for more details](#)

Hele's School

Learning Support Assistant

Exam Invigilators

[Click here for more details](#)

Oreston Community Academy

School Administrator

[Click here for more details](#)

Sherford Vale School

Administrator

[Click here for more details](#)

Wembury Primary School

Teaching Assistant/Play Worker

[Click here for more details](#)

WeST CP and Safeguarding Programme 2019/20



DfE guidance Keeping children safe in education has been updated for September 2019. This guidance details the requirements placed on education establishments in relation to child protection and safeguarding matters and details the expectations in terms of knowledge, skills and understanding of all staff and of those staff with specific roles within safeguarding teams. To support these requirements a comprehensive programme of child protection and safeguarding training has been developed to support DSLs and other staff working in WeST schools and settings. Details of the full programme are available from your DSL who will be to advise on any safeguarding training needs.

All members of staff and volunteers including governors should attend a CP Awareness session at least annually. If you have yet to attend a session this academic year WeST are offering a catch up session as follows:

CP Awareness

Date: Monday 4th November 2019

Time: 4pm – 6pm

Venue: Yealmpton Primary

If you would like to attend this session booking is required. Please click on the link below to book your space.

Booking: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/XQWZ86P>



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WeST Governor Conference Autumn 2019



Date: 25th November 2019

Time: 12 - 5pm

Venue: China Fleet Country Club, Saltash

Booking link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RGDF72J>

The Autumn 2019 Governor Conference programme has been designed to provide WeST governors with updates and insights into a range of key areas and hot topics.

The conference this year will include inputs about the Ofsted Inspection Framework 2019, school curriculum/ teaching and learning, effective use of pupils premium and dealing with parental complaints. We look forward to seeing you on the 25th, join us for lunch from 12.

Poppy Bake Off



This week saw the judging at Hele's for the school's heat of the annual Poppy Bake competition which is organised by MKC Heroes. Having secured second place in the final last year, Hele's were hoping to do equally as well, if not better this year! The number of entries was overwhelming and the standard was phenomenal. The school had it's own equivalent of Paul Hollywood and Pru Leith who were lucky enough to try small morsels of each entry and give feedback on the overall appearance and flavour. The judges found it incredibly difficult but eventually decided on their three entries – they now have the challenge of re-creating their designs ready for the final on 7th November. Watch this space for the names of the three students that will need to prepare themselves for the next level of the competition and news of how well the students do next month.



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Starting the term with a splash

Year 3 and 4 (plus some year 5) started their swimming sessions this week - learning essential life skills and progressing well.



Year 5/6 Footballers

Well done to Year 5 and 6 boys who took part in a football competition this week. They were unbeaten and showed a great deal of sportsmanship and resilience. The boys played well as a team 1 win and 3 draws. They were great role models to the school.



Crime Scene Investigation Day



PC Kirkup visited year 5 today as part of their CSI day linked with their topic, 'ID'. A crime scene was set up for the children to investigate. The searched for fingerprints, missing items, footprints and pieces of clothing – all items that help to make up a persons' identity - in order to create a profile of the suspect. PC Kirkup spoke to them about identity and how to celebrate differences.



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Teaching in Thailand



Ivybridge Community College Year 11 student, Tommy Chapman, has spent his summer holiday volunteering in Thailand in order to help those children who were affected by the Boxing Day Tsunami of 2004.

This piece, by Tommy, explains his reason for why he decided to volunteer in Thailand. He writes, "After two energy-draining flights, totalling twelve and half hours in the air, we landed in the south of Thailand. We then travelled north to the small, tsunami-scarred village of Khao Lak. Although the town is lively and joyful, the coastline is etched with the seams of a distant disaster; most of the town is newly built and those buildings which have stood the test of time and nature are dilapidated, plant-infested, and fractured. Most of the lakes and ponds that are littered throughout the area are new, which shocks every newcomer. The destruction echoes further through the many trees, which line the shore and beyond. While you drive through the vast jungles, you can tell which trees are new, as they're in meticulous rows, as if they're a disciplined army of nature.

After a few days we started to teach English to the local Thai children. In Thailand, the ability to speak English is invaluable; you need it for higher education and any job in tourism, which is a massive sector over there. I taught both primary and secondary school students, which meant the subjects varied massively from colours to past and present irregular verbs, but whatever we taught and whoever with, the same messages were clear.

Not just the children, but the whole of Thailand has a completely different way of life. They're not the richest people, but they live with what they've got and love it. All the children were cheerful, polite, and respectful. Simple things were completely different, such as taking off your shoes in classrooms, the games they played at lunch and having what the locals call soi dogs in their equivalent of the dining hall.

We drove past the repatriation centre and vast tsunami cemetery every day on the way to the schools to teach; it was a poignant reminder of how fragile life can be. Their lives have changed so drastically over the past one and half decades and the fact is that every local knows at least someone who was affected by the Tsunami. Despite all this, the people stay hopeful of the future, smile all day and never let someone pass them without a wave or a cheerful hello."



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Stowford School Celebrate Harvest



Stowford School enjoyed a special Harvest Assembly this week. The assembly included a representative of the Ivybridge Foodbank, 'Jutta' (seen in centre of photo), who was delighted to receive a large range of items from children and parents, on behalf of the Foodbank (situated in the Methodist Church). All of the generously donated items will support families in our local community who are having difficulties.

(Jutta in centre of photo with School Council representatives from the left; Phoebe, Samuel, Daniella, Lennon, Ellie, Billy and Angus)



Sporting Success

On Tuesday 8 October, 10 ILC schools attended the Years 5/6 Netball Tournament. WeST schools were - Woodlands, Yealmpton and Stowford.

The weather was kind to us on the whole, although a heavy downpour near the start had everyone worried!

Some fantastic games played which were excellently umpired by ICC Students.

Overall a new school to ILC won - Diptford but Stowford came a very close second. Both schools will now prepare for the South Hams round in the new year. Good luck to them.



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TEACHER SUBJECT SPECIALISM TRAINING Secondary Mathematics Core Maths

Lead School: IVYBRIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Teacher Subject Specialism Training (TSST) courses provide high quality professional development to those teaching or wanting to teach Secondary or Core Maths. The aims of the courses are to:

- Enhance your mathematical knowledge to give you confidence to teach mathematics
- Inspire your enthusiasm for mathematics
- Provide you with motivating activities and tasks for teaching mathematics
- Enhance your pedagogical skills in teaching mathematics

For state school teachers, TSST courses are FREE, funded through the Department for Education. The courses are also open to Returners to teaching who wish to upgrade and revise their mathematical skills whilst gaining up-to-date teaching experience.

Ivybridge Community College as Lead School is partnering with the Centre for Innovation in Mathematics Teaching (CIMT) at the University of Plymouth to offer these courses. There will be regular face-to-face sessions throughout the year, supported by e-learning and on-line assessment, and certification from CIMT.

TSST Secondary Mathematics

The course focuses on enhancing the teaching of mathematics at Key Stage 3 and GCSE; it is also suitable for numerate teachers wishing to transfer over time to teach more mathematics at either Key Stage 3 or GCSE mathematics. It covers all topics in the Foundation Tier of GCSE including problem solving; there is an option to extend your study to include Higher Tier topics in GCSE.

TSST Core Maths

The TSST Core Maths course is for those planning to teach the new Core Maths courses in post-16 education, based on applications of mathematics and statistics to contexts in

Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Psychology, Business Studies, Geography.

The new Level 3 Core Maths courses are for students who have passed GCSE maths but are not continuing to A-level mathematics.

All participants will have the opportunity to register for 2 free 30-credit Masters degree modules:

"Teaching Mathematics through Problem Solving" and

"Teaching Mathematics for Understanding"

which can be the starting point for an on-line Masters degree in Mathematics Education at the University of Plymouth.

An introductory meeting for these TSST courses will be held on

Wednesday 13th November at the University of Plymouth,
1630–1730 hours.

For further information and an application form please contact:

Liz Holland on liz.holland@plymouth.ac.uk



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Employability Fair

Coombe Dean School will be hosting our bi-annual Employability Fair on Friday 6th December 2019 from 8am until 3pm. There will be 40 stands exhibiting in our Sports Hall from HE's/Training Providers/Colleges and Employers

If you are not holding a Careers Fair this year, why not bring a cohort of students to us! For further details please contact Nikki Gould on (01752) 482924

A child without
education, is like a
bird without wings.
~Tibetan proverb