

Wednesday Whistle



Welcome to this edition of the 'Whistle'. I know that everyone is 'full-on' at the moment doing all they can to ensure our children get a great education every day in

a WeST school. This doesn't come easily; however, it's the hard work and sheer determination to succeed which shines through and helps us achieve our collective goals.

At the end of last week, we received the wonderful news that our Trust Capacity Fund (TCaF) bid had been successful. This government grant will be put to good use in building and strengthening our school improvement function and ensuring that WeST is sustainable moving forward.

I was delighted to meet the Headteachers and Principals of South Dartmoor Community College, The Atrium, Ashburton Primary School and Buckfastleigh Primary School last week.

We very much look forward to working with them on a daily basis as they become part of the WeST family. This is, of course, subject to thorough due diligence and appropriate legal processes.

In similar fashion, it was a privilege to join the WeST Primary Headteachers SI meeting yesterday - thank you to Sherford Vale School for hosting. A key element of the meeting was focused on how to harness our collective expertise and work in the most efficient manner to ensure all of our schools go from strength to strength. The positivity, energy and dynamism of this group was tangible and I am therefore excited about the work and development that lies ahead.

Best wishes,

Rob Haring

CEO



Stronger Together...every child in a great school

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Yealmpton Primary—Year 6 Evacuee Day



As part of their new topic for the term, 'A child's war', Year 6 made their very own evacuee boxes just like the children did in World War 2. To go inside them, the children brought in a keepsake, a family photo, toiletries, a book or magazine to read and other similar items, complete with their own government evacuee label. Year 6 then spent the day role playing as evacuees travelling from the city to the countryside.



Blue Peter Book Awards 2019



Oreston Community Primary are delighted to announce that the school has been chosen as one of only 12 schools nationwide to take part in the Blue Peter Book Award.

These awards celebrate the best authors, the most creative illustrators and the greatest reads for children. Children in Year 5 and 6 will be selected to judge the best children's books published in the last year in two categories: The best story and the best book with facts.

Previous Blue Peter Book Award winners include Onjali Rauf, Cressida Cowell, Michael Morpurgo, Katherine Rundell, Oliver Jeffers and Liz Pichon. The school cannot wait for the children to get started.



World Kindness Day

Today—Wednesday 13 November marks World Kindness Day, an international observance first launched 21 years ago by The World Kindness Movement.

The theme for this year's World Kindness day is empathy, encouraging people across the globe to better understand "the pains of others" and touch their lives "positively".

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Remembrance Day Special—Part 1



Character Education at its Best – Respect, Charity, Tolerance and Empathy



Students representing Ivybridge Community College attended the Remembrance service in Ivybridge on Sunday, 10 November along with the Principal and other senior members of staff.

At the memorial cross, Tom Rowe, in Year 10 and Ava Bradley-Roberts, in Year 7, laid a wreath on behalf of the whole College, staff and Governors to remember those who gave their lives to give us our tomorrows.

The College was extremely proud that Mailli Allen-Waldron, in Year 7, played the Last Post for the Ivybridge ceremony and again at the one held on Monday, 11 November for our whole College community. At this service the College was delighted that our local community Police Officer, Sergeant Wilson, was able to attend, along with a number of our own students who represented the Military Forces.



"The ceremony held at the College is a very emotional one. To listen to the Last Post played by a Year 7 student and then followed by a two minutes silence is a very special scene to look upon," said Mrs Taylor, Deputy Principal.

Fantastic feedback for Sherford Vale



"Sherford Vale invited a number of serving and ex-serving personnel to lunch, followed by a Remembrance service and the opportunity to talk about our experiences in the armed forces. The respect shown by all the students from nursery to Year 6 was a credit to the school. The children's behaviour was impeccable, highlighted by the manner in which they observed the 2 minutes silence. Carla Bennet and her staff really made it a special day for all those involved and should be rightly proud of how well proceedings went." - Daniel Broome CPO RN (Parent, Governor and serving member in the Royal Navy)

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Remembrance Day Special—Part 2



Remembrance Day at Stowford School



Stowford School has marked Remembrance Day by making a whole school 'Poppy' wall of special messages in the school hall. Children were invited to make a poppy at home as part of a special homework. They could write a personal message to go with their poppy for anyone in their family who has fought in a war and also anyone who is currently serving in the armed forces.

Before a whole school Remembrance assembly to mark the occasion with a 2 minute silence, children brought their poppies to the hall to be added to the 'wall'. Children in the Early Years had a special circle time where they could share their thoughts about the people that they love and how to make the world a better place.

Children who currently have members of their family serving in the armed forces went into Ivybridge to lay a wreath at the Memorial on behalf of the school.

Staff member Miss McIntosh who is a former soldier, is in charge of Stowford School's Field Gun Crew, a highly popular club which fosters strong links with commemorative events such as D-Day and Armed Forces Day in Plymouth. Miss McIntosh, who accompanied the children into town for the laying of the School Wreath said, "this is always such an important time for our children to think about the events of the past and to reflect upon what is happening in the world today".



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NOTICE BOARD

Vacancies

The following vacancies are currently being advertised within our organisation:

Glen Park Primary

- Teaching Assistant EYFS

<https://www.glenpark.plymouth.sch.uk/community-1/job-vacancies>

Ivybridge Community College

Internal opportunity available to WeST staff only

- Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead NJC Grade F

37 Hours per week 39 weeks per year (term time +1 week)

A vacancy has arisen at ICC for a Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead with responsibility for attendance.

For further details please contact mvinc-cent@ivybridge.devon.sch.uk

Holbeton Primary School

- SEN Governor

Holbeton are looking for someone with a knowledge of Special Needs Education to join their Local Governing Board. Training and support will be available. The term of office for governors is four years.

For further information about the role, please contact Shona Godefroy, Chair of Governors on: chair2016@holbeton.devon.sch.uk

Vacancies (cont)

The Learning Institute, Roche

- Admissions Officer
- Operations Administrator

<https://www.learninginstitute.co.uk/vacancies>

Trust Meetings

Estates Committee

25th November 2019

Education Standards Committee

28th November 2019

Audit Committee

4th December 2019

Trust Board

12th December 2019

Christmas Pay Dates

Devon and Plymouth

We are pleased to confirm that arrangements have been made to align the Christmas pay date for Devon and Plymouth payroll and that all staff will receive their December pay on the 20th of the month.

Cornwall

Following staff consultation the Cornwall pay date will remain as 31st December.

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HOT DATES



Hele's School
Christmas Music Concert

Thursday 19th December
7.00pm
Tickets £3.00

Seymour Road, Plympton, Plymouth, Devon, PL7 4LT. www.heles.plymouth.sch.uk



IVYBRIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PRESENTS

Disney's
**BEAUTY
AND THE
BEAST**

WEDNESDAY 11 TO SATURDAY 14 DECEMBER 2019
www.ticketsource.co.uk/ivybridge

Christmas Lights Switch on

Date: 14th November 2019

Time: 4pm onwards

Where: Armada Way, Plymouth, Devon, PL1 2AA

Hosted by Radio Plymouth, there will be a range of entertainment leading up to the Christmas Lights switch on.



Children in Need—Friday 15th November 2019

Next week we will be welcoming 'Wednesday Whistle' contributions linked to Children in Need.

Any contributions should be sent to Beth, **BAL-**
ford@westst.org.uk, by Tuesday 19th November.

