

Wednesday Whistle

The Christmas break is already a distant memory! We have certainly had a hectic start to term and Ofsted are keeping us on our toes.

Plympton St Maurice was inspected under section 8 of the Education Inspection Framework (EIF) last Thursday and Friday. Well done to Sarah Jane and her team. As I write ICC is also in the midst of hosting a two day inspection led by Sue Aykin HMI. Good luck Rachel!

For those who are yet to hear, Richard Woodland will be taking up the reins as WeST Director of Inclusion with effect from 1st September 2020. The obvious impact of this appointment is the need to recruit a new Principal for Coombe Dean School for a September 2020 start. We are liaising closely with the CDS LGB regarding this crucial process.

I return briefly to the Director of Inclusion role. This new post was brought forward through the TCaF bid process since we know how important it is to meet the need of our vulnerable children. WeST is now of a size where we can start to muster our resources and capital estate to strengthen our offer beyond first wave high quality teaching.

Importantly, we are able to do this at a time when we are facing the challenge of greater need in our schools.



I know many of you will have heard Ian Cload is leaving his post as Director of Primary School Improvement at the end of the academic year. Ian has brought great value to WeST and has been a driving force in the move to our new

hub model. Given the short length of the spring term we have acted speedily to recruit his successor. The advertisement is now live on TES and beyond.

We are now busy putting the final touches to the interview processes for the Executive Director of English and Executive Director of Mathematics. These will be held on 27th and 28th January at WeST HQ and in schools.

I close by saying how excited we are about the upcoming WeST INSET training day on Friday 14th February 2020. We hope to share a booklet outlining all of the sessions alongside a brief pen portrait of those facilitating aspects of the day.

Best wishes,

Rob Haring



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Astonishing and Powerful Gymnastics Performance



Sir Gary Streeter graciously accepted an invitation to attend a gymnastics performance at the College, based on the theme of 'The Hunger Games', on Monday, 6 January. This event was organised in recognition of Helen Reddy, Head of Performing Arts, in receiving a New Year's Honour.

He stated, "I watched the students smile as your name was mentioned, and this shows what a difference you make to all of their lives, you work in a special school, and Helen, you are a special teacher." He also complimented the College by saying, "I have seen quite a few school performances and I have never seen anything like that, it was astonishing and it was powerful. All teachers make a difference and I know how hard teachers work."



Viking myths and legends



We have had a brilliant start to the term in year 3/4 this week. First, on Tuesday, we became detectives when a mysterious camp was discovered in our school grounds with lots of strange objects left behind. We used the clues to try and discover who our 'mystery guest' was and deduced that it must have been a Viking warrior! Then, on Wednesday, we were visited by the Viking warrior (who had been fighting Anglo-Saxons down in Tavistock and got lost) and he told us lots of fantastically gruesome Viking legends and myths. We are now looking forward to discovering more about the Vikings over the rest of the term and writing our own Viking myths and legends.



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Wild Tribe Outdoor Learning

Wild Tribe Outdoor Learning Practitioner Award

Venue: Illogan Primary School

Course dates: Monday 14th & Tuesday 15th October 2019

Venue: Charlestown Primary School – *Schools in the Kernow Teaching Alliance will be eligible for a MAT discount*

Course dates: Wednesday 30th & Thursday 31st October 2019

Venue: Dunstone Primary School

Course dates: Monday 2nd & Tuesday 3rd March 2020

Venue: STERTS, Upton Cross

Course dates: Wednesday 10th & Thursday 11th June 2020

Venue: Holsworthy Primary School

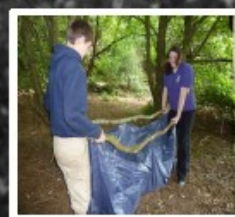
Course dates: Tuesday 16th & Wednesday 17th June 2020

Times: 9am-3.30pm each day

Price: £235 Arena SLA Members/£325 for Non Members

Please note: PE funding can be used to support payment and supply cover for this course.

Includes a mini starter kit for Teaching Outdoor Learning!



'The Elves and the Shoemaker'

Willow class enjoyed a fantastic morning at the Theatre Royal watching 'The Elves and the Shoemaker'.

The children were very excited about getting the coach and we arrived in plenty of time for a couple of photos before we went into the Drum Theatre to find our seats.

The performance was brilliant and the children were all completely captivated. There was singing, dancing and lots and lots of laughter. Willow class represented Dunstone Primary School beautifully.



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Policy Update / Implementation



To follow up on the Whistle article just prior to the Christmas break this is a reminder that the following revised employment policy documents are now live and applicable to all staff:

- Dignity at Work Policy and Procedure
- Redeployment Policy and Procedure
- Code of Conduct
- Supporting Social Media Employee Guidance

Thank you to those of you who provided feedback as part of the consultation process. A summary of the feedback, considerations and resulting changes is available to view via the WeST staff portal along with the policy documents. Should you need it your local senior school administrator can share the staff portal password or please contact HR on hr@westst.org.uk. One of the key areas raised was the difference in pay protection arrangements/durations for support staff and teachers in the case of redeployment. This difference is reflective of the differences in national terms and conditions and the Trust commitment to maintaining these.

In addition, the documents and supporting toolkits will be available from the HR Resources folder for Headteachers / Principals and Seniors Leaders to review. If you have not been able to access this folder area please liaise with HR and ICT for support.

Union consultation will begin shortly via our JCNC on revised/refreshed Appraisal and Capability policies and staff should expect to see these released for wider staff consultation in due course.

Please liaise with HR should you have any queries on the policy documents and implementation plans (hr@westst.org.uk).

Many thanks,
The HR Team

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NOTICE BOARD

Vacancies

The following vacancies are currently being advertised within our organisation:

Buckfastleigh Primary School

- Teaching assistants (x3)

<https://www.westst.org.uk/news/?pid=7&nid=2&storyid=69>

Heles School

- 1 x Learning Support Assistant Level 1 (Maternity Cover) - Temporary Fixed Term
- 1 x Learning Support Assistant Level 1 - Permanent

<https://www.heles.plymouth.sch.uk/category/vacancies>

Ivybridge Community College

- Deputy Principal

<https://www.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk/news/?pid=9&nid=3&storyid=815>

Plymstock School

- Teacher of Mathematics

<https://plymstockschool.org.uk/vacancies/>

South Dartmoor Community College

- Data Manager

<https://www.southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk/page/?title=Vacancies&pid=44>

Westcountry Schools Trust

- Director of Primary School Improvement

<https://www.westst.org.uk/news/?pid=7&nid=2&storyid=70>

HR One Reminder



Employees based at the following schools units have their pay processed through our allocated provider – HR One:

- Coombe Dean School
- Hele's School
- Holbeton Primary School
- Ivybridge Community College
- Plymstock School
- Sherford Vale School
- Stowford School
- Wembury Primary School
- WeST central team
- Woodlands Park Primary
- Yealmpton Primary School

This is an important reminder that the RPowered system will close down on 31st January 2020. After this date employees will not be able to access this system for pay advices/P60's so it is important that they download and save/print any documents that are needed.

For access you will need to log into Employee Self Service from either the quick links on the home page of Inside Devon, or by pasting the attached URL into your web browser <https://inside.devon.gov.uk/task/itrent-self-service/access-itrent/>

Once you have followed the links and logged into the system you will be able to select the "Pay & Benefits" tab along the top of your homepage and you will see your Payslips and P60's once they have been generated.

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HOT DATES




Train to be an outstanding teacher with Teach South West

Teach South West in association with South West Teaching School Alliance (SWTSA) provide School Direct teacher training with an Exeter University PGCE

 Teach South West @TeachSW
  Teach South West @TeachSWest



 For more information please go to:
www.teachsw.co.uk

TRAIN TO TEACH TASTER DAYS

Ivybridge Community College
9am – 1pm

Wednesday, 6 November 2019

Wednesday, 29 January 2020

Wednesday, 4 March 2020

Wednesday, 17 June 2020

Newton Abbot College:
9am – 1pm

Wednesday, 15 April 2020

Teach South West in association with South West Teaching School Alliance (SWTSA) provide School Direct teacher training with an Exeter University PGCE



CALLINGTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESENTS...

*****LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS*****

Tuesday 14 January - Friday 17 January

To book tickets please visit
Callington Community College
website.