

Wednesday Whistle

WeST Teaching and Learning Development Day

On Friday 14th February 2020 WeST headteachers, teachers and support staff joined forces to participate in WeST Teaching and Learning Development Day.

The core purpose of the WeST development day was to provide teachers and leaders with additional time to develop learning opportunities for all pupils, underpinned by the five evidence-based WeST Principles of Teaching and Learning:

- Developing long-term memory
- Questioning that stretches and challenges
- Feedback that moves learning forward
- Metacognition strategies
- Teaching the most effective independent learning strategies

English, Mathematics, Science, Geography, History and MFL are currently aligning across the Trust; for these subjects, the day provided an invaluable opportunity for subject leaders and teachers to work collaboratively. Some subjects even welcomed guest speakers; English received a lecture from Plymouth University lecturers Dr Bonnie Latimer, Dr Peter Hinds and Dr Rachel Christofides focusing on *Macbeth* and *A Christmas Carol*. Meanwhile MFL introduced staff to the aligned exam board in a talk led by specialist Pearson trainer Katy Lewis. All other subjects used the time within their subject teams to develop schemes of learning and high quality assessment.

For our primary teachers, Richard Light led the day. Richard is a current Senior HMI who will be stepping

into the shoes of Director of Primary School Improvement at WeST from September 2020. This day was a great chance for our primary teachers to learn more about Richard's background and expertise.

We were also excited to welcome 'behaviour guru' Tom Bennet to lead three sessions on Behaviour. The morning session focused on managing behaviour in the classroom, the afternoon sessions focused on creating a culture of positive behaviour in schools. Teacher Sarah Broom tweeted: "A great talk... this afternoon. Fantastic CPD on teaching not telling behaviour, and the importance of building a culture and using normative messaging and routines. Thank you for an inspiring 2 hours."

Finally, Sally Banfield organised a SEND-specific day which included a session delivered through Babcock International focusing on 'How Teaching Assistants can work effectively in the classroom to enable pupils to make progress'.

Well done to everyone involved in the planning and execution of this day, which received positive feedback Trust-wide.



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Primary Teachers Football

On Tuesday 25th February, teachers from the WeST schools of Stowford, Sherford, Wembury, Woodlands, Woodford and Glen Park attended a Primary Teachers Football Association course at ICC. It was a fantastic day, very informative and enjoyable but where no one kicked a ball at all! It was actually based around the skills required for all Games, not just football, which the teachers stated as very beneficial. Lots of running around, trying new games as well as how to ensure children could develop their Social skills.



Travel and Tourism and Language students visit Paris



Last week thirty-five students from Hele's School headed off on a whirlwind PGL organised trip to Paris. Just reading the itinerary would leave even the experienced traveller feeling exhausted! But both staff and students had a fantastic time and couldn't thank the staff enough for escorting them on the trip. Several students commented "we have had an absolutely amazing time".

Travelling to Paris by coach over-night for the 3 day trip, the group visited the Vimy War Memorial where they had a tour of WW1 trenches and battlefield and spent some time in the Visitors Centre, they were given an extensive tour of Paris including the Eiffel Tower but had time to end the day with a well deserved relaxing river cruise! The highlight of the trip has to be a tour of the Disney Studio and Disneyland Paris. PGL also spent quite a lot of time talking to students in preparation for their coursework – customer services, the role of a holiday rep and marketing and promotion.

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Ivybridge Qualify for National Schools' Rugby Semi Finals



On Thursday, 13th February the Ivybridge Community College Year 10 Rugby Team played Wellington College in the quarter final of the National Schools' Rugby Cup competition. We are delighted to announce that Ivybridge won 12-8 in a superb game of rugby. Good luck to the team for the semi-final next month, which will be played at home, against Harrow.

The team impressed World Cup winning player, Will Greenwood, who gave them encouraging words after the match, "That spirit you've got, epic! Defending on your own try line, with all the senior boys leading the chants.... the scoreboard says you won; just wanted to say outstanding effort".

Please click [here](#) to read the full match report.



CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to the Boringdon Primary Football Team, who having won the Plymouth Schools Kids Cup Competition, will now be representing Plymouth Argyle at the Kids Cup Regional Finals, at Swindon Town FC on Monday 9th March. In addition to this, they were also winners of the Bettison Trophy. Great news boys – we wish you all the very best of luck in Swindon!



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Wild Tribe

The Arena Wild Tribe Outdoor Learning Practitioner Two Day Accredited Award is aimed at teachers and teaching assistants. During the course you will complete 3 units of exploration these will be:



1. **Getting Started** - How do you set up an outdoor learning classroom at your school? We will deliver practical and theory sessions on; health and safety, site development and linking outdoor learning across a range of curriculum subjects.
2. **Practical Skills** - On a range of areas including; Fire lighting, using and maintaining tools, shelter building and cooking outdoors.
3. **Learning and exploration** - This unit will develop your knowledge and understanding of the environment, the importance of seasonal changes and will provide you with resources to support you in the development of outdoor learning.

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

Course Times: 9am-3.30pm each day

Course Price: £235 Arena SLA Members/£325 for Non Members this includes a mini starter kit for Teaching Outdoor Learning, SOW and lunch on both days

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

The Wild Tribe programme recognised by Ofsted at Holsworthy Primary school!

Teachers manage risks well so that pupils can take part in a range of exciting activities that develop their self-confidence and self-esteem. Examples of this are campfire building, using tools and developing outdoor crafts. Teaching and learning in the 'Wild Tribe' area make a strong contribution to developing pupil's SMSC understanding. (Ofsted Holsworthy Primary 2018)

For further information please e-mail:

jponting@callingtoncc.net



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NOTICE BOARD

Vacancies

The following vacancies are currently being advertised within our organisation:

Buckfastleigh Primary School

- KS1 & KS2 Teachers

<https://www.westst.org.uk/news/?pid=7&nid=2&storyid=81>

Chaddlewood Primary School

- KS2 Teacher

https://www.chaddlewood-primary.plymouth.sch.uk/web/pre-sent_vacancies_and_application_forms/45730

Heles School

- Exam Invigilators

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

South Dartmoor Community College

- Executive Principal
- Premises Manager

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

Westcountry Schools Trust

- ICT Strategic Manager

<https://www.westst.org.uk/news/?pid=7&nid=2&storyid=79>

Yealmpton Primary School

- Year 4 Teacher—temporary

<https://www.yealmpton-primary.devon.sch.uk/page/?title=Vacancies&pid=107>

Advice and guidance – Coronavirus - COVID-19 - NHS England

As a school and Trust we are regularly checking updates from the Department of Education (DfE), Department of Health, Public Health England and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Included are the latest advice to schools and parents below from the NHS England as an attachment and further advice below from Public Health England with regards to returning travellers.

We, like all schools, have been asked to support the government's campaign by passing on the following information.

You can access the page here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Further Guidance - Specified countries and areas with implications for returning travellers or visitors arriving in the UK

Specific advice has now updated for returning travellers

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas-with-implications-for-returning-travellers-or-visitors-arriving-in-the-uk>

If you have recently travelled and returned from the areas listed in the link. The advice from Public Health England is:

Category 1: Travellers should self-isolate, even if asymptomatic, and call NHS 111 to inform of recent travel.

Category 2: Travellers do not need to undertake any special measures, but if they develop symptoms they should self-isolate and call NHS 111.

What can we all do now?

A UK wide campaign has been launched to provide clear advice on how to slow the spread of Coronavirus. Please re-enforce the advice given in this campaign with your son/daughter in that the best way to stop the spread of any virus is to promote basic hygiene practices, such as regularly washing hands and always sneezing into a tissue.

The UK Chief Medical Officers have raised the risk to the public from low to moderate. But the risk to individuals remains low.

We will continue to update as advice is issued by the UK Government.

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HOT DATES

Buckfast Abbey is 'branching' out with a series of sessions for grandparents and toddlers. 'Oaks and Acorns' makes the most of the glorious setting and great facilities on offer at the Abbey and makes for a fun filled morning for the young and young at heart alike.

With the hands on help of our experienced Education team, toddlers and grandparents will have the opportunity to get stuck into a wide variety of activities from getting green fingered in the gardens, to exploring shape and colour through the windows and artwork on show in the Abbey Church.

Each session involves storytelling, exploration, messy making and much more. Great chance to meet other grandparents. **10th March 2020 from 10:30am to 12pm.**

See the [website](#) for further information. You can book online or call 01364 645517 to reserve your space.



Train with **Swim England** on their two day **National Curriculum Swimming** training for primary school teachers and TAs. The course will up skill staff and equip you with the knowledge and skills needed to deliver swimming lessons in line with the national curriculum.

Venue: Liskeard Leisure Centre

Course dates: Tuesday 5th and 19th May 2020

Course times: 0930 to 1530

Cost per candidate: £100 for Arena members and £160 for non-members this includes your £35 certificate and resource pack

[BOOKING LINK](#)



Please bring your own lunch. This is a practical course so you will get wet and you need to attend both days training

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

For further information please contact Julie Ponting on jponting@callingtoncc.net