

Wednesday Whistle

CEO Update

Coronavirus has begun to change the pattern of daily life for many and we are seeing our government take even stronger steps to limit the impact of COVID-19.

We are certainly doing our bit to support the national strategy by provisioning clear information, remaining calm and trying our best to keep schools open for the benefit of our children and families.

Of our 22 WeST schools, 2 are now closed. These decisions have not been made on the basis of the spread of the virus but on the ability to effectively clean the school and have sufficient staff to keep our children safe and healthy. Holbeton Primary school has closed but we have been able to transport these children to nearby Yealmpton Primary School where they are joined in the life of this school and are safe, well taught and in receipt of a healthy school meal. Of the 20 that remain open a few are doing so though partial closure with a year group or two working at home. We are also busy ensuring that we have online resources available for home learning should we have to close all schools for an extended period of time.

I am aware that both our Local Authorities and central government are constantly reviewing the situation and suspect that we will receive greater clarity by the end of this week.

I thank everyone for their calmness and for remaining sensible under pressure. By collectively pulling together and supporting each other we will navigate our way through these most challenging of times for the benefit of our children and wider community.

Last week I celebrated the wonderful news of Kevin Dyke being appointed as the new Headteacher of Coombe Dean School. I am now able to share the news of another terrific appointment.

We are absolutely delighted to inform you that Jen Veal has been appointed as Executive Principal of South Dartmoor Community College and the Atrium Studio School. Over the course of the selection process, Jen performed exceptionally well and showed an insightful knowledge and understanding of school leadership. Her experience was very strong. Jen is currently a Headteacher in Somerset and has been in post for 4 years, having previously held a headship in Cornwall, as well as Deputy Headteacher and Assistant Headteacher positions. We very much look forward to welcoming Jen to the WeST family where I know she will enjoy our support as she embarks on the next phase of her career.

Best wishes

Rob Haring

CEO WeST



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Primary Football Tournament



On Friday 13th March, on ICC AW1, the first Westcountry Schools Primary Football Tournament was hosted.

The following schools attended: Boringdon, Buckfastleigh, Chaddlewood, Dunstone, Glen Park, Sherford, Stowford, Wembury, Woodford and Woodlands.

The schools competed in very wet conditions, supported by a number of parents who contributed a fee in aid of Sports Relief.

There were two pools who, with the runners up, competed in the semi finals. In the final it had to go to penalties.

The overall winning school was Boringdon. Congratulations to them.

A massive thank you to the ICC year 7 lads who were the referees and did a fantastic job. Lenny, George and Charlie.

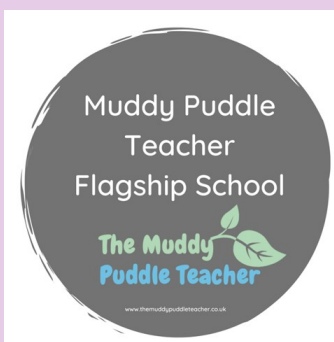
The next event planned is Netball, to be hosted in June at Heles school.



The Muddy Puddle Flagship School



Holbeton Primary School is delighted to announce that we have been selected as a Muddy Puddles Flagship school. Outdoor Learning is at the heart of our little school and we are thrilled to have achieved this status. We are lucky to be in an area with access to green open spaces, the forest and a beach so we make every opportunity to take our learning outside.



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NOTICE BOARD

Vacancies

The following vacancies are currently being advertised within our organisation:

Heles School

- Head of History
- Teacher of English
- Finance Officer
- SEN Admin Learning Assistant
- Teacher of Social Science
- Teacher of Music
- Teacher of French and Spanish
- Teacher of Art—Curriculum Lead

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

Ivybridge Community College

- Timetable Administrator

<https://www.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk/news/?pid=9&nid=3&storyid=900>

Oreston

- Class Teacher

<https://www.orestonacademy.com/current-vacancies/>

Sherford Vale

- Admin Assistant

<https://www.sherfordvaleschool.co.uk/news/?pid=0&nid=11>

Yealmpton Primary School

- Year 4 Teacher—temporary

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

The Big Pedal just got personal.. The Big Pedal is currently the biggest national and local competition for walking, cycling and scooting. The winner in Plymouth for last year's challenge was Woodford Primary School.

To make it more exciting, the **Big Pedal MAT challenge** has been set up and schools across the MAT are encouraged to sign up!

The Big Pedal will create a list for all schools in the MAT to compete with each other. Daily bike, scooting and walking scores will be available for everyone to see and the data can even be used for maths sessions in school!

Certificates and small prizes will be provided for the **Winner of the Big Pedal Big Inter-MAT challenge**.

Other category ideas:

- Best day for cycling/ scooting/ walking
- Best Big Pedal Active Travel Diary or Photo
- Best Class
- Big Pedal breakfast

Be Creative, Be Inspiring , Be Active – suggestions are welcomed

FAQ's

- if bike space is an issue allow one year group on each of the 10 days to cycle in
- The Big Pedal can train staff/pupils to run activities
- Resources are available once you sign up, including posters, assemblies and curriculum sessions on the theme of the Human Body: www.bigpedal.org.uk/login

Sustrans Plymouth team Claire & Ryan look forward to supporting you:

