

Newsletter— 13th September 2017

Message from CEO

Welcome to the first newsletter of the year, I am delighted to be able to start the year with such positive news from St Mary's Penzance. Their Section 8 report was published last Friday and it is really encouraging.

It is wonderful to read comments such as:

"Staff morale is high because all are receiving clear direction and purpose and they understand the role they play in driving improvements. All who met with inspectors felt well supported, valued, and acknowledged."

"Teachers' expectations of what pupils can achieve are rising. A new approach to matching activities to pupils' learning needs from the outset of lessons is proving successful and ensuring that no learning time is lost. Many of the most able pupils report they enjoy the increased challenge in lessons to either 'shine, sparkle and dazzle' or 'were dazzling today'."

"Pupils welcome the many changes that are occurring at the school. They are particularly positive about your work as headteacher and the way you conduct yourself in a 'kind, fair and real' manner."

Well done to all concerned, please keep up the good work.

I'm so pleased that so many of you managed to attend this weeks Headteacher briefings, sorry that the funeral of Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor and a meeting with Sir David Carter stopped me attending any of the events.



News from our Schools



St John's, Tiverton

The children at St John's in Tiverton have been busy filling backpacks for Mary's Meals. They have collected stationery, clothes and personal hygiene items for children aged 4 to 12. After lots of organising and sorting the children have filled 44 backpacks; this means 44 children who may not otherwise have had the opportunity will be able to go to school.



News from our Schools



Our Lady & St Patrick's, Teignmouth

Joseph and the Amazing Technology Dream coat, Reporter Ellie Class 5 : On Friday the 7th of July 2017 all of performing arts club met up at The Pavilions to get used to the theatre, after all we would be performing there! Once we had put all our packed lunches down we had a tour of The Pavilions.

After attempting to remember where all the doors led to we met the sound and lighting men. The sound guy was called Daniel and the lighting man was called David. During the day we rehearsed the full performance twice. Once wearing our school uniform and another with costumes and props. The show was a hit!!!!

The Sea Cycle, Reporter Sam Redfern Class 3 : In Year 3 the class had a performance to do at TCS that was led by Kip. We practiced sometimes throughout the summer term with Kip. When it came closer to the event we walked down to TCS to practice with the other primary schools. On the Friday we had a dress rehearsal in Italian colours (red, white and green). The reason why we dressed in these colours was because of the 'Church Rocks Wreck' song was about a boat which came from Italy but then unfortunately sunk near Teignmouth. Class 3 sang two out of the four songs that were performed. We sang Church Rocks Wreck and Teignmouth by the Sea. Class 3 really enjoyed it and the singing was great fun.

St Nicholas, Exeter

Through our Sports Premium Funding, we buy into the St Luke's sports partnership. Each Year the Sports Achievements are celebrated at an awards evening which this year was held on Friday 7th July.

We were very proud to nominate our Bronze Young Ambassadors for their outstanding contribution to active play at school; Our Football Team for winning the Exeter School's Trophy after a season of remaining unbeaten in any match! Alfie in Year 6 as gifted and talented sportsman, Captain of our football team and who plays in the Exeter City Football Academy.

We were so proud of Amelia in Year 6 who won Paralympian of the Year. This was an award for someone who demonstrates the Olympic values through sport. She received the award due to her willingness to try new sports and her commitment to challenging herself. Her determination has been recognised by Exeter City Football Club and she plays in their Wheelchair Football Team.



News from our Schools



St Margaret Clitherow, Brixham

Sal's Shoes

At the end of the Summer Term, the staff, children and families of St Margaret Clitherow decided that we wanted to support the 'Toe to Toe' initiative launched by the charity, Sal's Shoes. Sal's Shoes sends shoes to children across the world, protecting them from infection by parasite, a range of untreated injuries but above all enabling them to attend school.

Parents were invited to make donations following our performances of Scheherazade which would go towards the cost of sending the shoes to their new feet. Three performances raised a generous £186.08. On the last day of term, the children came to school in 'mufti' but wearing their school shoes, many of which were still in quite good condition. Before leaving the school grounds, the children removed their shoes (and socks), placed them on the outside wall and made a £1 donation, adding £66 to our fund. Fortunately it was a dry day; in fact, it was so sunny that at the end of the day, when the children left the school in their bare feet, the ground was quite hot in places. It was a lovely gesture and a beautiful and moving sight as the length of the wall filled with pairs of shoes. Some parents even brought along brand new sandals and plimsolls! Altogether we raised £252.08 and sent 106 pairs of shoes to Sal's Shoes. The generosity of our school community didn't end there! The husband of our Administrator offered to package and dispatch the shoes at no cost to the school or to Sal's Shoes so we were able to send them every penny we had raised without contributing to Royal Mail!

At the end of a difficult year and at a very challenging time for our school community, we pulled together and were able to reach out to others less fortunate than ourselves which gave us all huge hope and the confidence to face the year ahead.



News and Events



Pay Award for Teachers

Plymouth CAST Board has approved a 1% pay rise for all Teachers except those on MPS 1 who will receive 2%. This is in line with the Secretary of State's response to the recommendations submitted by the Teachers Pay Review Body which were published on 10 July 17. The award will be backdated to 1 Sep 17 and will be paid in October pay statements.

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

The Data Protection Act will be replaced by the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) in May 2018. Plymouth CAST preparations for the new regulations are underway and further information will be provided to all CAST schools before the end of September. Introduction of the GDPR has already sparked lots of new business opportunities in the Schools sector and it is inevitable that schools will be approached with offers of external support. Please politely decline these offers, if necessary referring them to the Trust's Chief Operating Officer.

Safeguarding Update

Now that Neil Maslen is busy at St Boniface College as Interim Head teacher he can no longer continue to be the member of the executive in charge of safeguarding. Therefore, if you have any queries please email our safeguarding mailbox, safeguarding@plymouthcast.org.uk and the team will ensure that they are forwarded correctly. Our HR team will deal with any queries concerning DBS checks and any safeguarding issues will be managed by a senior member of the executive team. The Safeguarding Strategy agreed at the Board meeting in May will be re-sent to Headteachers and Clerks in a separate email.

RE Training Dates

RE Whole School INSET Days:

30 October	Central Schools
9 February 2018	Plymouth Schools
19 February 2018	Cornwall Schools

RE Leaders Meetings:

13 November	Central Area
14 November	West Area
15 November	East Area
21 November	Secondaries
11 June 2018	West Area
12 June 2018	Central Area
19 June 2018	Secondaries
20 June 2018	East Area

God Matters, Writers Group:

9-10 November	Meeting One
18-19 January 2018	Meeting Two
7-8 June 2018	Meeting Three

RE Leader & Heads of RE Annual Overnight Conference:

1 & 2 March 2018

News and Events



Support Staff Training Dates

Finance Admin Year End Meetings:

19 September - West Area
20 September - East Area
21 September - Central Area

Administrator Network Meetings:

7 November - West Area
8 November – Central Area
14 November – East Area

English INSET for West Area Schools:

3 November 2017

Annual Heads & Deputies Overnight Conference:

22 & 23 February 2018

All training dates can be found on the CAST Website in the calendar – bookings are also through the website.

PWP Project Training for Central Schools:

Introductory Day	15 September
Team day, session one	10 October
PWP Big School Day	20 November
PWP Big School Day	24 November

2018

Team day, session two	2 February
PWP Big School Day	4 May
Team day, session three	5 June
Team day, session four	11 September
PWP Big School Day	9 November

2019

Team day, session five	28 February
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Catholic Induction for New Teachers to the Diocese Training Dates

6 November & 28 November	Central Area
29 November & 4 December	West Area
30 November & 6 December	East Area

Headteachers' Briefings

Thank you again to all school leaders for making the time to come to the briefings this week. It was really good to meet all of you and put faces to names. Thank you for your positive comments and helpful feedback. I am very much looking forward to working with you. The dates for our next meetings will be as follows: Central area: Tuesday 7 November, West area: Wednesday 8 November and East area: Thursday 9 November. Times will be confirmed once we have received all your evaluations.

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Shared Services



Health & Safety System

All schools within Plymouth CAST are now set up on the **Operational, Safety, Health and Environmental System** or 'OSHENS' for short.

OSHENS provides a Trust wide reporting system for all safety reporting and incident management, plus a comprehensive library of templates and policy guidance.

Plymouth CAST schools that used to be part of the Devon LA have used the system successfully without a hitch for many years. The main benefit of using it across all our schools will be the ability to identify areas for improvement to keep pupils, staff and visitors safe. Please note the OSHENS reporting threshold is for all accidents involving employees, contractors and visitors.

To prevent being overwhelmed by incidents involving pupils; OSHENS should only be used for recording where pupils are either sent home or to hospital. Anything less severe than that (for example bumps and grazes) should be recorded in a traditional 'accident book'.

Administrators received training in May and June 2017 and schools should now use OSHENS for accident reporting. Anyone needing top-up training or a reminder of their school log-in details should contact admin@plymouthcast.org.uk

Churchmarketplace

Please remember to use Churchmarketplace when looking for office surplus, IT equipment, etc. It is easy to set up an account and search for products on the website, links are provided to each supplier.

The contact for computer equipment/supplies is Matthew Ebrey at AMC Computer Supplies Ltd., Tel: 01536 513679, email: Matte@amccomputersupplies.com, Matt can supply quotations and help.

Date of Next Newsletter – 27th September 2017

Please remember to email in items for inclusion in the newsletter so that we can share the Good News stories across the Trust. Articles should be emailed to Helen Moram at helen.moram@plymouthcast.org.uk

Distribution List

CAST Board Members
Chairs of the Local Governing Bodies (via Clerks)
Head Teachers
Clerks to Local Governing Bodies
CAST Senior Management Team
All CAST Support Staff
Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) Members