

Newsletter— 10th November 2017

Message from CEO

Dear Colleague

Thank you all very much for the positive way in which you have participated in our recent summits and, more recently the Heads briefings, I know there are a lots of questions still to be answered and we are doing our best to get responses, in particular from the ESFA. Please be assured that we shall keep you informed as things develop – we have already forwarded the letter from Sir David Carter and you will be getting another letter about school budgets.

As I said at the summit meetings the Board have embarked again on the search for a permanent CEO. Morgan Hunt have been appointed to help us in our search and we have broadened the Person Specification so that those with experience in associated fields can apply, they do not have to have a background in education. We are hoping to interview on 11th and 12th December so please put those dates in your diaries.

We must never forget that it is the education of the children in our charge that is at the heart of all that we do and so I am particularly pleased that while there is so much “stuff” flying around I have received good news for Dorset with regard to some of our schools. More details in the next newsletter.

Best Wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kate' with a long, sweeping underline.

Kate Griffin
Interim CEO

News from our Schools



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Newton Abbot

One Million Children Praying the Rosary

On 18th October, the pupils of St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Newton Abbot, joined one million children all over the world praying the Rosary. Their liturgy created a 'living rosary' in which they made Mary a crown of roses. Kayla said, "I never knew what the Rosary did. I see people at church praying the Rosary but I didn't know what they were doing. Now I know what the prayers are and what the Rosary does." Barney said, "It made me really happy."

Thanks to the Catenians Rosary Group, each child was given a colourful rosary to take home.



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Shared Services



Health and Safety Reporting

A big thankyou to all school staff for the continued successful implementation of the OSHENS health and safety reporting system. Almost 50 incidents have been reported this term including several near misses. This is fantastic progress; allowing us to continuously improve by acting on the insight provided. For example we have already reviewed procedures for supervision of diabetic equipment, identified some staff training needs and commissioned some property work which we would have simply been unable to identify before the system was operational. Brilliant effort. It is worth noting that 11 schools have yet to report anything in the system. This may be pure good fortune with excellent site management and leadership of course! To book any top up training for OSHENS please contact admin@plymouthcast.org.uk

Primary School Health & Safety Coordinator Briefings 2017

In November, the Devon Health & Safety Service is running a series of Health & Safety Coordinator Briefings for primary school H&S Coordinators across Devon, to which CAST schools are invited. The aim of these briefings is to raise awareness of any changes to legislation and national guidance as well as to highlight issues of concern.

Each event will run from 9.30am until 12.30pm, with a 30 minutes coffee break mid-morning.

There are 3 separate events held in Bideford, Tiverton and Ivybridge. Dates are as follows:

Tuesday November 21st, 09.30-12.30, The Caddsdow Centre, Bideford

Thursday November 23rd, 09.30-12.30, Tiverton Hotel, Tiverton

Wednesday November 29th, 09.30-12.30, the Watermark Centre, Ivybridge

If you want to attend please send return of e-mail to healthandsafety@devon.gov.uk to book a place. Places are limited, so availability will be on a first come first serve basis. You will be sent a confirmation along with directions to the venue of your choice.

Privacy Notices

The Trust Privacy Notice has now been published on our website under About Us/Policy/Privacy Notice. This is in accordance with the Data Protection Act which remains in force until 25 May 2018 when it will be replaced by the General Data Protection regulations. To assist schools with their own Privacy Notices for their own websites an exact copy of the Trust Privacy Notice is saved under Resources/Templates in editable form. Schools can copy this and replace Plymouth CAST MAT with their own school name. Please also change the 'contact' email on your own forms!

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Date of Next Newsletter – 22nd November 2017

Please remember to email in items for inclusive in the newsletter so that we can share the Good News stories across the Trust.

Articles for inclusion in newsletters should be emailed to Helen Moram at helen.moram@plymouthcast.org.uk