

PLYMOUTH CAST NEWSLETTER – 8 March 2017

Dear Heads, Governors, Staff and Volunteers,

Fresh from pancakes and Ash Wednesday, this newsletter, which provides a regular update on developments across CAST, the focus will be on:

1. Reminder of Head Teachers and Chairs of Governors Leadership Conference
 2. Update on OFSTED Inspections
 3. Keyham Barton – English
 4. Works Capital
 5. Website
 6. Date of Next Newsletter: 22 March 2017
1. We look forward to gathering Head Teachers and Chairs of Local Governing Bodies to a Leadership Conference on Tuesday 14 March 2017. The venue is Exeter Racecourse and timings are 10.00am for 10.30am with completion by 4pm. A detailed programme will be promulgated electronically by 4pm Thursday 9 March. The purpose of the day is to create an opportunity for the wider Leadership of the Trust, including Head Teachers and Chairs of Local Governing Bodies to jointly review, discuss and comment on activity designed to meet the challenges facing the Trust; in particular outcomes for School Improvement as a result of OFSTED inspection. Communication is the Key.
 2. Ofsted Inspections since October 2016

East

St Catherine's, Bridport	Requirements Improvement
St Joseph's, Poole	Good
St Mary's, Dorchester	Good
St Augustine's, Weymouth	Good
St Mary's, Poole	Requirements Improvement
St Mary's Marnhull	Good

Central

Our Lady & St Patrick's, Teignmouth	Awaiting publication
St Mary's, Buckfast	Good
St Joseph's, Exmouth	Requirements Improvement
Priory, Torquay	Special Measures
Queensway, Torquay	Special Measures
Our Lady's, Barnstaple	Requirements Improvement
St Margaret Clitherow, Brixham	Awaiting publication
Sacred Heart, Paignton	Waiting publication

West

Notre Dame, Plymouth	Awaiting publication
St Joseph's, Plymouth	Good
St John's, Camborne	Good
Keyham Barton, Plymouth	Requirements Improvement
St Mary's, Penzance	Special Measures
St Mary's, Bodmin	Requirements Improvement
St Peter's, Plymouth	Good
Cathedral, Plymouth	Good

3. Well done to Keyham Barton, Plymouth – Year 2 Class, who, as part of their English, wrote to the children's author Simon James and received the reply:

To all the children in Mrs Blake's class,

"Thank you so very much for all your lovely letters. It has been a pleasure to read them all. I hope you can forgive me for taking so very long to write back to you. It is very rude of me, but you see, I have been working very hard finishing a book and getting it ready for print. It's always a big job towards the end, when everything has to be in place and perfect! I have kept your pile of letters beside my desk all this time, knowing I must reply soon. Firstly, may I say what good writers you are! You all write very clearly too. Thank you for all your kind words saying how much you enjoyed so many of my stories. It is a wonderful thing to hear. Some of you, especially, Henry, have asked why I wanted to be an author. It is simply because, when I was a little boy, I loved to make little stapled homemade books of my own and I have been lucky to still do it today. I like having ideas and then making them come alive with words and pictures. I am very lucky to be able to do what I love to do. Ella, Danielle, Isabella, Kacey and Harry ask if I like to read, and yes I do read every day -but I love making books even more. Sophia, asked how many books I have made, I have made about twenty books so far. Shane wants to know my age, well, I am a bit older than you, but younger than my mum. Hedren asks if I have a sister or brother, I do, a sister, but we don't get on very well. Lily asks if I like my books, I am very fond of them, Lily, I do my very best each time, to make them look the best I can. I hope I have answered all your questions. Thank you again for writing to me and reading so many of my books."

4. We are delighted to announce that the Education Funding Agency have approved our request to carry forward a significant amount of capital works money into the next financial year. This will help us complete essential work identified in the 2015 Condition Survey and keep our schools and estate in the conditions that our pupils and staff deserve and our parents expect. Further details to be provided at the Leadership Conference.
5. Our main MAT website has carried an 'under construction' warning since early March. A new website is being built following a competition which was won by eSchools. We plan to launch this by the end of March.
6. Date of Next Newsletter: 22nd March 2017



Marcus Taylor
Chief Operating Officer
for and on behalf of the
Senior Management Team

Distribution List

CAST Board Members
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