



Fortnightly Headteacher Update



I am so pleased to be sending you the very first Headteacher update of this academic year- one that promises to be our greatest yet.

What a start it has been! The children have come back with enthusiasm and determination and it has been lovely catching up with the returners and getting to know our wonderful year 7s. They have been curious in lessons, excited about their new electives and throwing themselves into the new term. It fills me with joy to once again see the corridors and classrooms bustling with eager young people.

The term has begun with a bang with so many events going on. We had our Welcome Evening where our staff and student leaders got to show off the school to new cohorts ready to join us over the next few years. The prefects were particularly impressive, articulating what they loved about our school community and the opportunities they have, to be successful. We cannot wait to invite you all in for many more events this year kicking off with our Meet the Tutor Evening on 3rd October. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

As well as supporting your children and inviting you in, we love your feedback and the parent survey is now live. We really appreciate and listen to all your ideas and experiences of the school. It really does help to make the school even better. More details are below.

On behalf of all the staff of West Exe, thank you for the support and kindness you show us as a school. We couldn't do it without you.

Best wishes,

Julie

Celebrations

We have had an exciting start to this terms elective cycle, with students taking part in floristry, crotchet, jigsaw puzzles, pickleball, E-Sports and more.

Year 9 and Year 10 Photography students made the most of the sun on Friday by developing their own Cyanotypes. Cyanotype photography is a camera-less technique that involves laying an object on paper coated with a solution of iron salts before exposing it to UV light and washing with water to create stunning white and cyan blue images. Year 9 students used plants and other objects, while Year 10 used a more advanced technique of printing a negative image on acetate which they laid over their coated paper to produce a positive print. Students were very excited by the process and the results.

A group of student visited Plymouth to see Swan Lake at the theatre this week, a wonderful time was had by all and really enjoyed the show.

Year 7 received 1399 attribute merits yesterday! Well done, Year 7

Year 8 received 873 attribute merits yesterday! Well done, Year 8

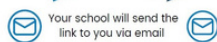
Year 9 received 649 attribute merits yesterday! Well done, Year 9

Year 10 received 634 attribute merits yesterday! Well done, Year 10

Year 11 received 212 attribute merits yesterday! Well done, Year 11



The Annual TWT Parent Survey is



Prize Draw

Complete our parent survey (anonymously) and then leave your name to be entered into our prize draw for the chance to win a £50 voucher

(All answers will remain anonymous and the prize draw is administered by Edurio to ensure confidentiality is maintained)

Update continued

Whole school information

Our Trust Parent Survey is now live! An email sent from us on Tuesday, 17 September provides you with the survey link and the chance to enter a prize draw for a £50 voucher!

Abbotts Way walk on Sunday October 6th – staff and students will walk in mixed teams over a distance of 23 miles.

Meet the tutor evening will take place Thursday, 3 October 2024 for all year groups.

We want to hear from you to give a 'shout out' for your child/children involved in a club/group, activity or just trying something new outside of school over the summer? Please email admin@westexe.devon.sch.uk with photos and a brief explanation and we will celebrate this in our next update.

To see term dates for the next academic year [click here](#).

Invigilators are required at West Exe School for 2024-2025, click [here](#) if this interests you or you want to find out more.

YEAR GROUP INFORMATION

YEAR 7

Jake C, Luca J, Jack F and Max J have been nominated by their primary school (Exwick Heights) for "team of the year" at the Ted Wragg Trust awards on the 17 October and will be attending the event in Plymouth.

Congratulations to Sebastian G and Haya M for speaking to 600 Welcome Evening attendees about their first week at West Exe. Visitors were blown away by the confidence they exhibited and staff were very proud.

Meet the tutor evening will take place Thursday, 3 October 2024 for all year groups.

YEAR 8

Meet the tutor evening will take place Thursday, 3 October 2024 for all year groups.

Year 8 tutor groups will start their rotation of their Reception experience, this activity is part of the students work experience and our School careers programme.

YEAR 9

Residential trips for next year are due to be launched in the coming weeks, look out for information on this and the trips on offer will come to you by way of an email.

Year 9 have completed their first week studying their bespoke GCSE curriculum choice subjects and are learning what is expected of them over the next 3 years and start studying their first GCSE text a Christmas Carol, which will be a large part of their Year 9 mock exam and Year 10 English Literature exam.

Meet the tutor evening will take place Thursday, 3 October 2024 for all year groups.

YEAR 10

Work experience sessions are being led by tutors to support students to think about where they would like to go for work experience including a session in tutor time to practice writing to employers.

Assemblies over the next couple of weeks will be focused on student leadership and a presentation on what opportunities we have available.

Meet the tutor evening will take place Thursday, 3 October 2024 for all year groups.

YEAR 11

Have had a fantastic start to Year 11, we are so proud of their maturity and commitment.

Meet the tutor evening will take place Thursday, 3 October 2024 for all years!



South West OPPORTUNITIES FUND

The Ted Wragg Choir

Do you enjoy singing?

Come and be part of an exciting new opportunity!

The Ted Wragg Choir

Led by a fully trained vocal coach

Fully inclusive and no auditions, Free to all in Year 6 - 13

Rehearsals
Thursdays (term time only)
4.00pm - 5.00pm (from 12th Sept 2024) at St Luke's CofE School
Free transport will be available

Performances
The choir will perform at the Ted Wragg Awards plus another two events over the year

[Sign up here](#) or scan the QR code



MONDAY FOOTBALL @ MERRIVALE

5-6PM - PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN
6-7PM - SECONDARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

BOOK TODAY

DATES: JULY 1ST, 8TH, 15TH, 22ND, 29TH,
AUGUST 5TH, 12TH, 19TH,
SEPTEMBER 2ND, 9TH, 16TH, 23RD, 30TH
OCTOBER 7TH, 14TH, 21ST



FREE TO PLAY

@EXETERCCT

EXETERCCT.ORG



Welcome to this first 'meet the team' section of the fortnightly update.

We thought it would be helpful to start the year with a roles and responsibilities update, as well as provide an opportunity to get to know the leadership team a little better.

This year as well as continuing as Headteacher at West Exe school, I will be supporting schools across our Trust with staff development as part of our new development institute. As some of you may be aware, at West Exe we have grown a teacher training institute which has developed almost 900 trainee teachers since 1997, teachers who have gone on to support children in West Exe and our wider Exeter and Devon schools. We want to continue this work so that every child in our community receives high quality teaching from well-trained professionals.

On the occasions when I am not on school site, Nicky Lewis, will be available in her new role as Head of School, one which she is really looking forward to.

As well as Nicky, you will be able to contact our two deputy headteachers: Joe Bispham, Deputy Headteacher for Community and Education, and Laura Jacobs, Deputy Headteacher for Curriculum and Standards.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the Meet the Tutor evening in October, please do come and say hello.



Like many people today, I had a life before teaching - one that included living and working overseas, raising my family, and working in a variety of different roles. However, I always knew that I wanted to teach, and so when my children were older, I started the journey that would change my life.

It began at Sidmouth College, first as a teaching assistant, and then swiftly into teacher training, and teaching. After 5 years at Sidmouth, I made the choice to come to West Exe, as the Head of English, and I can safely say it is the best decision I have ever made. I love this school, and the wonderful community we serve. It is an honour and privilege but it is also an absolute joy. The last three years as the headteacher have been wonderful - I love working with our young people, watching them grow in confidence, and seeing our staff grow and develop too. West Exe is in my blood!

When I am not at work, I love spending time with my loved ones, reading great books, travelling the world and exploring the libraries of every new town I visit.



My life-long passion has always been to work in education, as I was inspired by my PE teacher and all of the opportunities that school provided me with gave me a real sense of belonging.

I studied a BEd at Marjons in Plymouth and specialised in PE with my final teaching practice at West Exe School where I fell in love with the school and the community. During my time at West Exe I have been a School Sports Coordinator, Head of Year 7, Assistant Head for Transition and a Senior Deputy Head teacher for Character and Culture and I am now delighted to be Head of School.

I am fully committed to West Exe and I feel privileged every day to work with incredible students and staff and be part of a community that is kind, caring and works hard to transform the lives of our young people.

Outside of school, I enjoy spending time with my nephews, taking part in sport, walking and exploring new places in my camper van with friends. My favourite place is by the sea whatever the weather. I find being by the sea really relaxing and gives me time to stop and recharge.



I have been teaching for 18 years and have a real love of my subject, mathematics. For the past nine years, I have been part of the wonderful community at West Exe, where I love working with the incredible students and staff who make every day a learning opportunity. I studied Marine Geography at both Southampton and Bournemouth universities, which enriched my understanding of the world and fuels my enthusiasm for education. Being part of West Exe allows me to inspire young minds and contribute to their academic journeys, making every day a rewarding experience.



I have been at West Exe for 5 years and absolutely love this school and community. One of my favourite things about my job is teaching English Literature and seeing young peoples' eyes open to history, other cultures, and great ideas. It still fills me with joy.

My role is to ensure we are at the heart of this special community west of the river Exe. Your children will also know me for a love of football (up the City!) and a strange obsession with the European eel. I am also a bit of a crisp connoisseur and regularly debate the best flavours with students.