



Ermington Flyer

2nd February 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

It was an absolute pleasure and delight to be able to accompany Year 5 and Year 6 on their residential trip to London. After many years of wishing to provide such an experience, seeing it come to fruition was fantastic. On several occasions, people stopped to congratulate us on the behaviour and manners of the group, and they were an absolute credit to themselves. Staying on HMS Belfast and visiting the British Museum, The Imperial War Museum, and The Houses of Parliament provided valuable 'cultural capital'. It also helped consolidate and extend some of the learning from the recent history topics. A huge thanks to Mrs Pell, Miss Foss, and Mrs Burton for researching, planning, and running the trip and to our parent helpers.

On a very different note, sadly, after much careful consideration, I have decided that it is the right time for me to move on from Ermington and West Country Schools. As such, I will leave my position as Headteacher at the end of this academic year. It doesn't seem possible that nearly nineteen years have flown by so quickly.

Ermington School has been a very special place to work, and I will be extremely sad to say goodbye. I have been very fortunate to have worked with talented, enthusiastic, passionate children and teachers and a supportive school community.

However, it is time to pass the baton to someone who will move the school forward and make it theirs within the WeST family. In the meantime, I still have lots to do with ensuring that we continue to focus on the school priorities and finish the year strongly. WeST will advertise next week for a new Headteacher, and I will update you accordingly.

Kind regards,

Mr Mitchell – Headteacher



Congratulations to all our worthy winners this week...

Special Award Certificates go to:

- Year F – Seraphina and Atlanta
- Years 1 and 2– Pria
- Year 3 - Hayden
- Year 4 – Casper
- Year 5 - Alfie
- Year 6 – Charlie A

Achievements

Ada (Yr 6), Louisa (Yr 4) and Benedict (Yr 1) participated in the annual Saltash Music, Speech and Drama Festival on Tuesday this week.

Their courage and determination playing several piano pieces in front of fellow students, their parents and adjudicators won them two trophies: One for Ada's solo piece and another for Ada, Louisa and Benedict's Trio (all three playing together)! Well done.



London Residential 2024



When we first arrived in London we made our way to the British Museum. Inside we saw many artefacts that linked to our topics at school such as the Benin Bronzes, Rosetta Stone and Roman sculptures. We then walked to the tube station and took the tube to London Bridge. From there we walked to HMS Belfast where we had an amazing feast and stayed the night in sailor's bunks!

After a breakfast of cereal, toast and porridge, our wonderful guide gave us a tour of the ship and let us explore many objects and items of clothing. Our favourite parts were the punishment room, game room and sick bay. We had an incredible time on the boat and everyone was sad to leave. Next, we enjoyed a beautifully sunny walk to the Imperial War Museum, seeing many famous London sights along the way. After an enjoyable picnic lunch, we headed off into the museum in our groups. We made so many fascinating discoveries in the galleries from the First World War to the present day, including stories from evacuees of the Second World War and messaging using the Enigma keyboard.

From there we walked to the Houses of Parliament. After going through security we split into groups with our tour guides. We went inside the House of Lords where everything is red and the House of Commons where everything is green. In the House of Lords there is a gold throne which is where the King would sit. We then had a workshop where we got the chance to vote on banning homework and held our own debate where we dressed as different characters.

After collecting our bags, we headed to the coach for a long journey home. We loved our service station stop for dinner. After a few more hours, everyone arrived home and happily greeted their parents.

Written by Orla and Alyssa

Diary Dates:

| Date | Event |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Mon 12 th – Fri 16 th February | Half Term |
| Monday 19 th February | Non-Pupil Day |
| w/c 26 th February | Parent Teacher Meetings |
| Tuesday 12 th March | Parent Forum 2.30-3.30pm |
| Fri 29 th March – Friday 12 th April | School holidays |
| Monday 6 th May | Non-Pupil Day |
| W/c 13 th May | SATS Week |
| Monday 13 th May | Parent Forum 3.30-4.30pm |
| 13 th - 17 th May | Y4 Grenville House Residential |
| W/c 20 th May | Y6 DTC Residential |
| Mon 27 th – Fri 31 st May | Half Term |
| 24 th – 25 th June | Y5 Dittisham Residential |
| Friday 28 th June 9-10am | Parent Forum 9-10am |
| 10 th – 11 th July | Y3 East Soar Residential |
| Friday 19 th July | Last day of Summer Term |

Message from Esther Gerlach, Chair - Hub Advisory Board (HAB)

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

As you may be aware, school governance at WeST changed in the last year, and our school is now part of a six-school hub supported by a Hub Advisory Board (HAB) - you can find out more [here](#). We work in a similar way to the previous Local Governing Bodies, getting to know our schools and representing our school communities to the Trust Board just like school governors used to do.

My name is Esther Gerlach, and I am currently chairing our HAB. Over the past twelve months, our role and responsibilities have been changing to strengthen local governance within the Trust. We are finding our feet, but to really have an impact, we need more people on board. HABs are currently quite small, so we are on the lookout for new members to join us as we move forward with this new model of governance.

Many of you are already doing all you can to support our school, but if you think governance sounds like something you might be interested in, we would love to hear from you. All that's needed is to care about our schools, their staff and, most importantly, our children and young people. You will be looking at all six hub schools, and your input will help shape the experience of children across WeST. If you have additional skills, perhaps from working in the social or education sectors, that would be helpful but it's not a requirement.

Nor do HAB members necessarily need to have a child in school at the moment: if this description fits your retired neighbour, a colleague, your Auntie, or a friend living in the area, they could quite possibly make an excellent member of [our team](#)! Please help us spread the word so we can ensure Ermington Primary School and our family of schools can continue to thrive and meet the needs of our local communities.

Please contact me via the school to find out more; I look forward to hearing from you.

Parent/Carer Email Inboxes

This week, we have received a few messages from Schoolcomms to advise that some parents' and carers' personal email inboxes are full and are unable to receive the message/letter/email that we have tried to send. Can we please ask that you check your inboxes regularly, as you will not be able to receive any communication from school on your Schoolcomms account and also from school directly - this is a vital way of communication for both you and us. Thank you.

Ermington School Friends Association (ESFA) Update

Valentine DISCO – Wednesday 7th February 2024

KS1 (Foundation, Yr. 1, Yr. 2) 4 pm to 5 pm

KS2 (Yr 3, Yr 4, Yr 5, Yr 6) 5:15pm to 6:15pm

Entry will be £3 and will include a drink and a sweet treat.

Children can wear whatever they want to the disco.

A tuck shop will be available, and it is recommended for the children to bring some change with them if they want to buy something. Starting prices from 50p.

Please can you note that the children will need to be signed in and out at the door at the side of the hall. Please arrive 5 minutes before the start time to allow for registration. Please have correct change with you to speed up the process. Please ensure children are collected promptly at their allocated time to allow for the other children's disco to start.

We would love to have as many helpers as possible, and we are therefore happy if you want to stay with your children in the hall and have fun with them if you want. There will be a professional DJ running the disco.



Please remember to use easyfundraising every time you shop online! Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate, so you can raise FREE donations for us no matter what you're buying. These donations really help us out, so please sign up if you haven't yet. It's easy and FREE!

Register here: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/esfa/>.

Contact Us:

Email esfa_devon@hotmail.com



Local

Hele's School

COMMUNITY SPORTS CENTRE

HALF TERM MULTI-SPORTS HOLIDAY CLUB

Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February 2024

| | | |
|----------------|-------------|--------|
| Early drop off | 08:00-10:00 | £8.00 |
| Standard day | 10:00-16:00 | £15.00 |
| Late pick up | 16:00-17:00 | £4.00 |

ALL CHILDREN AGE 6-12 WELCOME

| | | |
|------------|------------|----------|
| Basketball | Dodgeball | Arts |
| Swimming | Netball | Dance |
| Badminton | Team games | Football |
| Volleyball | Gymnastics | Crafts |

 WESTCOUNTRY SCHOOLS TRUST



 Hele's School

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