



# SteinerAcademyExeter Newsletter

Issue No 90 5<sup>th</sup> October 2018

## Dates for your Diary

For meetings outside of school hours please use the West Garth Road pedestrian gate to access the site. All evening meetings start at 19.30 unless indicated

Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct 09.00	Friends meeting		Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> Oct after drop off	Parent choir
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct 19.00	Class 7W and 6R parents' evening		Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> 19.00	Class 1Z Bibliography evening
Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup> Oct 19.30	Class 5 parents' evening Parent and child parents'		Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> 17.30	<b>2V parents' evening</b>
Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup> Oct 19.00	Open evening for prospective families for year 7 2019		Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct - Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	2 week half term including 2 inset days on Wed 31 <sup>st</sup> , Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup> and Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup>

## Welcome Ceilidh (Friends)



*"Thank you Leone Rose Ellis, Karina Daly, Anna Piskozub, Callie Giles, Jackie Koury and Helena Koprowska for a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon of scrubbing, roasting, steam cleaning (?), chatter, laughter and love! If that's what the prep was like, the main event will be awesome!"*

*"I had a great time- spending time with my girls, dancing, laughing-thank you everyone"*

## More Michaelmas photos



## GCSE Drama Students experience their first live performance: Frantic Assembly - The Unreturning

On Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October our Class 9 Drama GCSE students went to the Theatre Royal Plymouth and were captivated by a dynamic physical theatre piece set in three time periods. The SAE students gasped as performers told stories through highly crafted choreographed movements on a revolving stage with other Drama students from Plymouth University. Our SAE students conscientiously made notes for their

evaluations on: set design, costume, acting and lighting of 'The Unreturning'. They were also invited to a 'question and answer' session after the show with the actors. What a truly inspirational evening!

Our next visit is on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October at the Theatre Royal again for another devised performance helping us with our Devising Component. **Jane Berry English Lead**

## Fit to work!!

Four weeks into term, (and at times it has felt like four *months*), I now have the thumbs up from the professionals for a phased return to work. I want to say a massive thank you to all who all who sent good wishes and especially to those who have stepped up to fill the gap during my absence.

The first few weeks of any school year are always the most intensive and potentially the most creative. Some people say that as much serious work gets done between September and Christmas as in the remaining two thirds of the year. That might be an exaggeration, but there is certainly a freshness and a rush of new energy that needs to be harnessed. Surfers might compare it to catching a wave. There is an impetus and enthusiasm in the autumn. Grab it! Of course, time off can be a real gift, giving time to recuperate and to reflect, and I am grateful to have had that opportunity, but the frustration of being absent at such a time is that you don't want to miss that wave.

One benefit of an enforced absence is that others get the opportunity to show what they can do. We were fortunate to have a Vice Principal in Aegir Morgan with the experience and calm head to step into the breach as Acting Principal, and also to welcome Paul Hougham back to the school, covering Aegir's teaching and his VP work. I know that Aegir's commitment to the parent forums has been unwavering and that his natural warmth and patience have not been diminished by being thrown in at the deep end. I also hope that Paul's contribution will continue in a variety of projects, not least in driving an organisational review and helping to strengthen the School Improvement Plan and our readiness for the next Ofsted inspection.

In a school like ours, constantly growing and breaking new ground, cover means far more than in an established school. It is a window of opportunity for innovation. As I return from Monday onwards I look forward to seeing how different colleagues have developed different aspects of my work. I know they will have come up with new solutions and fresh approaches that I may not have thought of myself. I also look forward to seeing our new chair of Governors, Andrew Quayle, grow and develop the work of the governing body. Having worked with Andrew over the last three years I know that he will bring a very calm presence and shrewd perspective to things. We will also be welcoming Martin Whitlock back onto the board. He was its original Chair back in 2013, having been the 'lead proposer' and driving force behind the school. It is true to say that without Martin this school would not exist. Welcome back for round two, Martin.

What I look forward to most of all, however, is connecting once again with your children. I have a lot of catching up to do and almost sixty new names to learn. I might need a bit of help with that....**Alan Swindell Principal**

## Welcome to Sara (no 6?)

The momentum of our autumn's work is gathering pace in a number of areas, none more so than safeguarding. Safeguarding is the bedrock of our school, the foundation of all the other work we do, and I am delighted to introduce Sara Stone, our newly appointed **Designated Safeguarding Lead**. Such foundations, boundaries and non-negotiables also featured as part of the Upper School assembly I presented this morning. I'd begun by sharing with the upper classes some stories of last year's Class 10, and perspectives on finding their own place within the world. This included a dialogue on social progress and movements for social change, and of the need at times to acknowledge hard truths, but how we are stronger when facing them together, of knowing our boundaries, what we stand for, and the lines we hold. Admittedly, I did also talk in the context of Michaelmas, and Gandalf at the Bridge of Khazad Dum, and it was probably a good thing that I didn't stray too far into Gandalf wielding the flame of Anor! I did, however, share the line in our teachers' verse of having 'courage for the truth,' and that penny dropped, I think.



So to Sara: It is not our policy to only recruit people called Sarah but this week we are very happy to welcome our sixth!

All about Sara Stone:

Sara Stone is our newly appointed **Delegated Safeguarding Lead**. Sara has worked in education for more than 25 years, starting as a primary teacher, first in Plymouth and then moving to Tiverton, and she has taught every subject to every age group. Sara has also been a Special Education Needs Coordinator and Designated Safeguarding Lead. Safeguarding is Sara's passion. She is looking forwards to meeting all the children and she will be delivering a series of age appropriate safeguarding assemblies where the theme will be **keeping our school a safe place to be**.

Photographs of Sara are now going up all over the school so that all parents and carers will be able to recognise her. Sara will also be joining in with our

different teams, to meet and greet our children and their families as they arrive at school. Please feel free to give her a big hello back. When not at school, Sara is a big sci-fi fan and recently learned how to milk a goat. **Paul Hougham, Acting Vice Principal**

## Art work

