

8 April 2022

Dear parent / carer

We have finally reached the end of a longer than normal Spring Term and now break for the Easter holiday. From Pagan times, Easter was a holiday to celebrate "the season of the growing sun" or "the season of new birth." As such, I hope that when we return to the Summer Term on Monday 25th April we are able to do so without the associated turmoil of COVID; rather a fresh start to a new term.

As part of our collective journey of 'learning to live' with COVID I think we will begin to talk and think less of COVID in a specific sense but more generally as an Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI) in a similar fashion as we would with the 'flu'.

Before moving further forwards, I must recognise here the extensive efforts of everyone in our communities in pulling together to keep our schools open wherever possible. We have done our very utmost to try and provide as near normal experience as possible for our children. Thank you for your continued support.

Ermington Primary School, Manor Primary School and Ugborough Primary School have now completed their first term in the WeST family and it has been fantastic to see their staff engage in our collaborative work.

I turn now to the topic of governance and WeST's recent consultation regarding potential future governance arrangements in the trust. Thank you to those who have responded formally and shared your views through the appropriate channel. Each and every response is important and all returns are now being considered and a summary produced. I will take the opportunity here, on the back of the recently published government White Paper, to reassure all stakeholders that WeST continues to seek local representation and community engagement.

I close this end of term letter by again thanking you for your support, and wishing you a safe, peaceful and happy Easter break.

Best wishes



Rob Haring
Chief Executive Officer