

Thu 23/02/2023 08:33

Dear Colleagues,

Coming up: our regular Staff Pulse Survey

We will be running Pulse Surveys twice yearly at the beginning of March and again at the beginning of October. The Investors in People Survey will be carried out once a year at the beginning of September. We have tried to avoid conducting surveys during peak work periods in order to maximise take up. Look out for the latest Staff Pulse Survey which should drop into your inbox on the morning of Wednesday 1st March. It will run until 7th March.

The email will also include a QR code for colleagues to share with those who do not regularly log into their emails and have access to a Smart phone. It is very short with just one question. It should take less than 1 minute to complete. Results will be published in my catch up on 15th March. Please encourage colleagues to participate as we really want to hear your views.

Wellbeing in Outdoor and Environmental Education Conference

A number of Field Studies Council staff both past and present took part in [yesterday's event at the University of Exeter](#). The conference was headed up by Dr Rachel Manning whose PhD on the subject involved working with learners and students at Slapton. Education Manager Scott Wycherley, Sustainability Manager Sam Thurston, and Senior Tutor Rosie Molton were all speaking or leading workshops along with previous colleagues that some of you will remember- Janine Maddison and Bethan Stagg.

Field Studies Council and the projects in which we have been involved were really well represented. It's good to see the growing body of scientific evidence and research that can help us develop best practice in this area. Well done to all of you.

State of the Nation

The above event was perfectly timed. Earlier this month the Department of Education published its annual [State of the nation 2022: children and young people's wellbeing](#). The report shows a mixed picture of recovery from the pandemic and while some indicators have recovered to pre-pandemic levels, some measures such as anxiousness and mental health may have worsened. The cost of living is now an emerging issue.

A third of parents/carers reported that they had struggled with school costs which has implications for us, and a quarter of secondary age pupils worried about being able to afford technology for studying. The report concluded that the data highlighted the importance of a supportive school environment, strong social relationships, an active lifestyle, and nature experiences in the daily lives of children and young people. That shouldn't really surprise anyone, but It's good to see nature established in the list of what's needed.

Welcome to Field Studies Council

Fiona Holmes, Hospitality and Catering Assistant at Castle Head.

Helen Hulett is Blencathra's new Chef.

Stacey Sewell is the new Head Chef at Millport.

Best Regards

Mark