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Dear Colleagues,

### **Storm Damage at Slapton Ley**

Relentless storms in recent days have now washed away part of the road as [this footage shows](#). Homes, businesses and transport links have been very badly impacted and there are obvious concerns about the nature reserve itself. I'd like to thank all the staff at Slapton who are still dealing with the practicalities. In particular thanks to Chloë who has stepped up in Kate's absence to also deal with media enquiries which, given the local distress, needed some very sensitive handling. You can hear her interview [here](#) 35 minutes in and she's also been juggling TV interviews with looking after our visitors.

The road and its long-term survival has been a concern for many years which is why we purchased a field to future-proof alternative access if the need arises.

### **Mental Health First Aiders**

We now have an impressive total of fifteen Mental Health First Aiders. I want to thank them for stepping up and pay tribute to the way in which they carry out such an important role. They can offer a listening ear as well as signpost staff to other resources or advice. Subject to safeguarding and safety concerns, any conversation will be treated in complete confidence. As you can see from their profiles, our Mental Health First Aiders come from across the charity both geographically and in terms of the wide range of different day jobs that they hold.

The [dedicated section of the Employee Hub](#) introduces them and it's worth clicking on the page as there's a link to the very popular [Action for Happiness Calendar](#). You can also find a [Wellbeing and Support Padlet](#) which has carefully pulled together lots of information on support organisations, activities, self help tools and courses.

### **Signs of Spring Radio Clips**

Following on from the TV coverage, Dan Asaw took to the airwaves to talk about [Sign of Spring](#). You can hear his [Hereford and Worcester](#) interview (which at that time of day broadcasts to a much wider region) 24 minutes in and also quite a long chat on [Radio Guernsey](#) 35 minutes in. Thanks to last year's survey, Dan was able to announce that the Island had the earliest recording of a first lawn mow. Something that seems difficult to imagine looking at the weather outside the window.

### **Education Business Magazine**

We secured a 4 page spread in the latest edition of Education Business, where Education Manager Jo set out how outdoor learning is key to the government's new enrichment goals. You can [read the article here](#) starting at page 65. Enrichment featured strongly in the Curriculum Review where activities beyond curriculum subjects will need to be offered by schools, and it also forms a large strand in the new Youth Strategy which aims for additional enrichment activities beyond school.

## **Welcome to Field Studies Council**

New starters this week:

At Juniper, Bridget Scoular has joined the team as Seasonal Tutor and Emilia Paraschou as Tutor.

New Tutors Ellie Webb and Kahir Abdul have joined us at Margam and Epping Forest respectively.

Samuel Reed has joined the team at Flatford Mill as Seasonal Tutor.

Also this week:

At Nettlecombe Seasonal Tutor Bethan Davies has returned and is joined by Kelsie Cooling who has moved from Epping.

Rachel Lewis has returned to Margam as General Assistant.

Jess Coldwell has been promoted to the role of Lead Chef at Blencathra.

Andy Ayshford has been promoted to the role of Seasonal Tutor at Rhyd-y-creuau.

Nicola Keightley has started a secondment opportunity as Education Team Leader at Juniper Hall.

Previous Catch Up are on the [Staff News Page](#).

Best regards

Mark