

This newsletter, from the Diocesan Education Team, is sent to Church school Headteachers, foundation governors, chairs of governors and clergy.

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Education newsletter



July 2022

News from the Diocese

Dear colleagues,

As I write, we are nearing the end of term after another challenging year. I am so grateful to Headteachers and their staff for keeping going in the face of continuing Covid absences. As this newsletter shows, this term has seen an incredible number of joyful Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations in local communities, which have been much enjoyed. As we reach the end of term with all its sports days, leavers' services and special events, I hope that this newsletter provides you with some useful information and resources, as well as our best wishes for the summer.

It was very good to see a number of Headteachers attend our annual wellbeing session recently. Suffolk Mind again led a very useful session. Please see their [website](#) for more information. May I also commend again the [Examen](#) as a centuries-old discipline? I also learnt a useful tip from Suffolk Mind for those who like to journal. Using the acronym GLAD, write down at the end of each day three things (or just one!) for which you are **G**rateful, three things which you have **A**ccomplished, three things which you have **L**earnt and three things in which you have taken **D**elight. I believe that developing the habit of gratitude and thanksgiving is so important and these practices may help.

The Church of England is delighted to be working in partnership with the Catholic Education Service to deliver the full suite of NPQs from September 2022. Applications are now open for cohort 3 starting in November 2022 (deadline for applications 16 October 2022). Cohort 4 will begin in February 2023. Courses are open to all schools in Suffolk. The DfE funds all Church of England NPQs for teachers and leaders employed in state funded schools. For schools with 600 pupils or fewer, the DfE will pay £200 for every NPQ participant enrolled onto a NPQ. May I especially commend the NPQLT led by Heather Hann, Head of School Improvement in the Diocesan MAT and NPQSL led by Clare Lamb, Headteacher at All Saints' CEVCP, Lawshall? For further information on all the NPQs please click [here](#).

Over the past 7 years, I have combined both roles as



Training 2022-2023

Details of our training programme for the next academic year are available on the Diocesan website, please click [here](#) for more.

Those running in the autumn term include:

Governance

- * Assessment for governors
- * Being a foundation governor
- * Leading a church school
- * Monitoring for governors
- * SEND for Governors

RE/CW

- * Assessment in RE
- * CW/RE for foundation governors
- * Diving Deeper in RE
- * Inspirational CW
- * New to Teaching RE
- * Spiritual Development in Primary Schools
- * Courageous Advocacy

SIAMS

- * Are you SIAM ready?

Diocesan Director of Education (DDE) and Diocesan MAT CEO, with the MAT paying the DBE for 2 days a week of my time. Now that the MAT has grown to 21 schools, this is not really sustainable and I plan to return to my substantive role as full-time DDE. Whilst DDEs have often been the initial CEO of their Diocesan MAT, few have done so for as long as I have and it feels like the right time. I wanted to let you know that the Diocesan MAT will be seeking to recruit a full-time CEO from 1 January 2023, advertising and holding interviews in September. We will be looking for an experienced school leader who will spend much of their time supporting schools, in schools. I will revert to my full-time role as DDE. Although I will no longer be the CEO of the MAT, I will remain a MAT director and will work closely with the CEO.

As we reach the end of term, may I take this opportunity to thank you for your leadership in schools this year and to wish you a restful and relaxing summer? Let me share with you a prayer used at the Platinum Jubilee service:

Delighting in the gifts of life, wisdom and understanding let us commit ourselves afresh to caring for our world and all for whom it is home.

Rejoicing in the life and reign of Elizabeth our Queen will you hallow life in all its richness and diversity?
We will.

Inspired by her dedication to her people will you serve those alongside whom you live?
We will.

Rejoicing in the joy and happiness of this gathering will you foster community amongst all people?
We will.

Inspired by all that unites and strengthens us will you work for peace and justice throughout our world?
We will.

Rejoicing in the beauty of this earth will you protect and care for our environment?
We will.

Inspired by creativity and endeavour will you seek out and nurture all that is good?
We will.

Renewed and invigorated by the life we share and by all that we have celebrated this day, may we be faithful to all that we have pledged and promised. **Amen**

With all good wishes from all the team,



Jane Sheat
Diocesan Director of Education

Wellbeing

- * for administrators
- * for governors

For any queries or to book, please contact [Jacqui Studd](#).

Autumn Forums

Headteachers

Wed 21 September,
1.30pm via Zoom

Small Schools

Mon 10 October,
4pm via Zoom

The Forums are free. For any queries or to book, please contact [Jacqui Studd](#)

Meeting on Academisation

Wed 30 November,
4.00pm via Zoom

A session for Heads and Governors to discuss the implications of the DfE's White Paper in relation to full academisation by 2030.

For any queries or to book, please contact [Jacqui Studd](#)



Wednesday 9 November

This is the date scheduled for our annual church school leaders' conference this year.

Monday 19 June 2023, 1.30pm

We will be holding our annual service of celebration for church schools at the Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds.

News from Schools

Congratulations!



Congratulations to **Orford CEVAP School** on the grand opening of the School's Prayer Garden. Gemma Cannon, Senior Leader, Orford CEVA Primary School said:

"We decided to go ahead and redevelop our old 'secret garden' to make a brand new prayer garden, with a prayer shed, with the hope that the space will be used frequently by all. With the impact of COVID still affecting our community, creating the prayer garden gives our families and other members of the community an opportunity to reconnect." For more, please click [here](#).

Congratulations to **Orford CEVAP School** and **Rattlesden CofE Primary Academy** which have both recently celebrated 150 years. We hope to feature more on the celebrations in our next newsletter.



Congratulations to **Bramfield CofE Primary School** which celebrated 150 years in June with a week of celebrations.

This included a fabulous afternoon which saw ex-pupils and staff returning to the school to tell current pupils some tales and share fond memories of their past.

The school travelled back in time to the Victorian era to experience what school would have been like for those children who first walked through the doors of Bramfield Primary School.



Pupils also spent a day learning about a decade of the Queen's reign from the 1960s to the 1990s. Reverend Linda came and blessed the Jubilee trees which had been planted. Finally, there was a jubilee street party for parents and carers

which also involved a royal scavenger hunt, playing traditional games, visiting the mini museum and painting pebbles for the school's river of hope. Vicky Allen, Head said: "Lots of great memories have been made and captured to look back on perhaps at the 200th birthday celebrations!"

News from Schools - more **congratulations**

Congratulations to pupils at **Elveden CofE Primary Academy** who celebrated diversity during School Diversity Week. Each class received a new book about diversity to read as their class story. They also created some art work based on 'embracing differences'.
[#SchoolDiversityWeek](#)

Congratulations, too, to pupils at **Eyke CofE Primary** who performed in a summer recital at Snape Maltings on 6 July.

Congratulations to pupils at **St Gregory CEVCP School, Sudbury** who strode to success and were winners in the Keep Moving Suffolk Walk to School challenge and won £1,000 of play equipment for their school. For more, please click [here](#).

Congratulations to **St Margaret's CEVAP School, Ipswich** on achieving the IQM Inclusive School Award. Canon Jo Gunn, Headteacher writes: "I am thrilled to say that not only did we meet all the criteria to achieve the award, but we have also been awarded 'Centre of Excellence' status! This means that our practice is of very high quality and we will be able to network with other schools nationally, sharing our practice. There are only about 250 schools nationally with this status, and is such a huge achievement, Well done everyone!"

fischy music

If your children would like to catch up on all things Fischy over the summer holidays, please [stream our songs](#) or check out our children's website www.fischytunes.com



Congratulations to Y5 pupils at **Barnham CEVC Primary School** who were awarded a Gold medal at the Suffolk Show School Garden Competition. Amy Arnold, Headteacher writes: "Year 5 pupils embraced the theme of 'A garden for all seasons'. They worked hard to design, research, plan and construct the garden, which of course featured a union jack design - acknowledging the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Each season was represented with carefully chosen ground coverings, plants and child made accessories. The garden linked to children's prior learning with the tilt of the axis of the earth in relation to the sun, displayed in the summer and winter sections.

Judging took place on Day one of the two day show with the children explaining the design and construction of their garden to the judges. We were just delighted to be awarded a 'Gold' for our garden.

Children took turns manning the garden over the two show days and were incredible at confidently and enthusiastically talking to visitors about the garden design and build process, along with answering a myriad of questions and sharing booklet showing each phase of the project!

Perhaps the next stop will be the Chelsea Flower Show!"



Congratulations to UKS2 pupils at **Brampton CofE Primary School** who took part in a six week outdoor learning sequence that allowed them to learn curriculum skills and knowledge based around the theme of 'The Big Bird Project'. The children's main aim was to design, make and evaluate a bird box for birds to nest in(DT).

The box had to be based upon a wooden frame and needed to be sold for a profit (PSHE- enterprise). The children learnt about aspiring individuals and debated upon skills and qualities of an entrepreneur. The children also worked with the Outdoor Coordinator to: develop knowledge about different types of birds, create bird feeders and set up their own hives. The children then used this knowledge to take part in the 'Big Garden Bird Watch'. At the end of the project the children entered their data to the 'Big Garden Bird Watch' and developed a bird box ready to sell for a profit. The children said:

- We enjoyed learning outdoors the lessons felt calmer.
- I liked making my bird box and can't wait to see if a bird nests in it.
- Since the lesson I think others have been kinder to nature.



Collective worship resources

CW planning based on Christian values for Love, Service, Truthfulness and Wisdom have recently been added to the Diocesan website. To see these and other planning ideas, please click [here](#)

For CW resources for schools, including on religious festivals and our working on worship papers, please click [here](#).

RE resources

For links to resources on world faiths, please click [here](#)

Schools and the Environment

For resources for schools on the environment, please click [here](#).

The Growing Faith Foundation Research Opportunities!

Growing Faith is about **schools, churches and homes** working together to give young people and children the best possible chance to have life in all its fullness. The Growing Faith Foundation has been created to support dioceses and parishes to do this even more effectively than they do at present. The Foundation is keen to commission research into aspects of the intersections between churches, households and schools. Please click [here](#) for more information.



Congratulations to Oak Class at **Stoke by Nayland CofE Primary** crowned as Suffolk Farming School of the Year. The competition focused on pollination, with learning opportunities for habitats, food chains, plant life cycles and the environment.

The school writes: "Our children were absolutely amazing. Their behaviour was exemplary and we received several comments about how polite they were. We are really proud of the children and delighted to be the Suffolk Farming School of the Year!"

Congratulations to **Hartest CofE Primary School** who are working alongside local residents on a community project to develop a range of learning opportunities using the Church building.



Vicky Gentry, Head of School writes: "The children had some wonderful ideas and also thought carefully about the building itself, the people that have used it, the village around it as well as the skills and materials that were used to build it....We are looking forward to the next phase of the project whereby the learning opportunities will be mapped out, carefully aligned to our curriculum and shared with school staff during the Summer Term. A huge 'well done' to the School and Eco Council – you were indeed amazing and a credit to Hartest CE Primary School."

Congratulations to pupils at **Norton CEVC Primary School** who have been fundraising. Lisa Sparks, Headteacher writes: "One of our Christian Values is Community so we have challenged each class to organise a community fundraiser or event to support others. In Year 3 the children raised £430 for St Nicholas Hospice by having a cake sale. This event was suggested by a pupil who wanted to raise funds and say thank you to the charity that cared so lovingly for her mum and supported her family. In Year 4, the children raised £514.70 for the National Deaf Children's Society by completing a "Fingerspellathon" fundraising event. The children decided upon this charity as it linked to their science topic on Sound. In Year One, as part of their topic on Africa; the children were lucky enough to have one of our parents come into school to share her experiences in Malawi, in particular how she helped build and set up the nursery school in Malawi. As a class, the children asked the school community for donations to send to the Nursery School. Donations included: clothing and shoes (both for children and adults), toys and games. The school community gave generously and certainly helped fill the 4 empty blue drums which will be sent to Malawi soon."



Dates of interest....

Summer Reading Challenge

July - August 2022

National Read A Book Day

6 September 2022

Education Sunday 2022

11 September 2022

Roald Dahl Day

13 September 2022

National TAs Day

16 September 2022

Back to Church Sunday

18 September 2022

Intl Day of Peace

21 September 2022

Bike to School Week

27 Sept - 1 Oct 2022

World Animal Day

4 October 2022

Dyslexia Week

5-11 October 2022

National Pyjamas Week

4-10 October 2022

World Space Week

4-10 October 2022

World Teachers' Day

5 October 2022

National Poetry Day

6 October 2022

Thank a vicar week

17-24 October 2022

Ofsted inspections

Great Waldingfield CEVCP

Ixworth CofE Primary

Outcomes

Good

Good

Headteacher resignations/retirements

We offer our thanks and best wishes to the following Headteachers who are leaving at the end of this term:

- Julia Bowles who is leaving St Mary's CEVCP School, Benhall
- Elaine Burdiss who is retiring from Elmsett CofE Primary School
- Rob Francksen who is leaving Bardwell CofE Primary School
- Lynne Golding who is retiring from Bedfield and Wetheringsett CofE Primary Schools
- Julie Welham who is retiring from Gislingham CofE Primary School

For the Attention of Headteachers

If you are retiring or resigning as Headteacher, please do let us know. Jane, Sue or Phil will attend meetings with your Governors to advise on the headship appointment, alongside the Local Authority. We can be in contact with your Chair of Governors and make sure that we are available for dates for shortlisting and interviews. Many thanks.

Do contact Sue or Phil if you would like them to be your external adviser for Headteacher performance management reviews.



Inter Faith Week

13 - 22 November

Provides an opportunity to:

* Strengthen good inter faith relations at all levels

* Increase awareness of the different and distinct faith communities in the UK, celebrating and building on the contribution which their members make to their neighbourhoods and to wider society

* Increase understanding between people of religious and non-religious beliefs

To find out more, please click [here](#).

Congratulations to the following schools (below and opposite) on their Jubilee celebrations:



Acton CEVCP School - took part in a nationwide celebration for the Queen's Jubilee by taking part in their own 'Superbloom'.

The initiative led by Historic Royal Palaces (HRP), involved schools around the country being provided with individual seed packets containing some of the flowers used at the Tower of London. Jonathan Gray, Headteacher said: "Our jubilee garden is really a labour of love. The children have all really enjoyed rolling up their sleeves and helping with planting, painting and seed sowing. It's taken an area of our grounds that was previously under-utilised and has created somewhere everyone can really enjoy."



Rise Theatre presents God's Planet

An interactive day of performance and workshops for the whole school exploring themes around the environment, God's love for each of us and how we can care for God's planet! **£600 if booked before 15 July 2022** (*usually £650) For more please click [here](#).

All Saints' CofE Primary, Newmarket - celebrations included: a performance by Y3 and 4 which went on a journey through the decades of the last 70 years; pupils decorated a plate or tile at a local pottery painting studio;

Bentley CEVCP School - Joanne Austin, Headteacher writes: "Children, parents, Governors and the local community gathered at Copdock Village Hall for a day to remember, Platinum Jubilee! All year groups had been exploring the life of our Queen through History, Art, Music, PE and a prayer space reflection day. Photos available on our [facebook](#) page.



Our very special celebration involved 7 Coronations, one from each class, with an anointing ceremony by our very own Archbishop Mrs Mehen. We even had Radio Suffolk join us to share the day. Queen Maisie gave her Commonwealth message to the cheers of the crowd and then children opened our very own games with an Olympic Torch relay.



Pupils at Bentley also took part in a prayer space where they explored the value of service through Bible quotes: Galatians 6:9, 1 Peter 4:10. "It linked to the Queen's promise to serve our country and the Commonwealth through her reign. Children wrote their own promises to each other, their community, and the wider world."



Elveden CofE Primary Academy - were honoured to receive a visit from Lord Iveagh. Lorna Rourke, Headteacher writes: Lord Iveagh "opened our Jubilee street party by planting an apple tree donated by the Elveden Estate followed by Rev. Paul Tams reading of the Suffolk Jubilee Prayer.

Children tied ribbons to the tree throughout the afternoon after sitting down to a glorious afternoon tea and an OPAL play event shared with parents.



The event also marked Ascension day, which the children learnt about in collective worship. A memorable day for all involved."

Morland CofE Primary, Ipswich - children arrived dressed in red, white and blue and enjoyed a variety of Jubilee inspired activities. The school writes that pupils

each class also created some artwork relating to the Jubilee which was displayed at a Jubilee picnic party.

Chelmondiston CofE

Primary were visited by the Chairperson of the Parish Council who presented children with special commemorative mugs. Each class also created portraits of Queen Elizabeth II at a different time of her reign. These were all displayed in class galleries. While visiting the galleries, families enjoyed a Jubilee treasure hunt – which included clues that moved around! The school's PTA provided refreshments for all, which included a cream tea!!



Hartest CofE Primary

School - welcomed families to a Jubilee event on the school field. Vicky Gentry, Head of School writes: "Each class planned and created stalls, activities or games with a royal theme. There was all sorts of fun to be had ... from Splat the Royal Rat, Where is the Queen hiding? to Guess the Name of the Corgi! It was great to see everyone enjoying themselves! Friends of Hartest decorated the grounds so patriotically – even the flower beds had a red, white and blue theme!"

Nacton CofE Primary

School - Platinum Jubilee Celebrations included pupils creating their own bunting, decorating their own crowns, painting a portrait of the Queen, dancing through the decades and decorating biscuits. Ginny Ryan, Headteacher writes: "The whole school split into four groups, of mixed ages, and

"designed a new crown for Her Majesty and followed a treasure hunt around the field to decode a jubilee code.



Courtyard windows were transformed into an art gallery with the best examples of the Queen's portrait or jubilee inspired art for all to share and enjoy.

Mixed amongst the artwork were facts about the queen with maths related questions to answer. The whole school also came together for a celebration assembly to honour the Queen. Year 2 to 6 stood to sing the National Anthem. The close of celebrations were Street Parties. Bunting, music and plenty of cakes ensured a good time was had by one and all!"

Sir Robert Hitcham's CEVAP, Framlingham created this amazing photo to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee.



All 340 pupils created the number 70 on the school's playing field, with KS1 creating the number seven, and KS2 the zero. Other activities to celebrate the Jubilee included visitors sharing their memories of the Queen's coronation and life in the 1950s; pupils also created Union Jack patterned kites, looked at the Queen and her pets and learned more about the Commonwealth; and took part in a parade around Framlingham's Market Hill dressed in blue, white and red. Please see the EADT for [more](#).



Stoke by Nayland CofE Primary write: "the whole school were involved in tree and wild flower garden planting for the village. The wild flowers had been grown from seeds by the Eco Club, so it will be amazing to watch these grow into a beautiful garden! The Suffolk Jubilee Torch Relay came through the school playground. This was a really special event for us..."

because the torch-bearer was Joan Sheppard, a former teacher at the school, who has just celebrated her 100th birthday!



had fun trying the four different activities we'd planned for them. It was brilliant to see the older and younger children interacting and engaging together while celebrating this momentous time in British history."

Norton CEVCP School - decided to celebrate the occasion by creating their own Jubilee Song. Lisa Sparks, Head writes: "Mr Cole, our music teacher, using the school's Christian Values and ideas from the children, composed a wonderful song for the children to learn. We had the opportunity to sing it together on Friday 27 May as part of our Jubilee Celebrations, which we were fortunate to record. We have also been asked to sing the song to open Norton's Jubilee Fayre on Saturday 4 June and at the Church Service on the Playing Field on Sunday 5 June." To listen to the song, please click [here](#).

St Edmundsbury CEVAP contributed to the special county Service of Celebration to mark the Jubilee at the Cathedral on 12 June.

St Gregory CEVCP School, Sudbury took part in the [#ChoirForTheQueen](#). The school received a lovely letter from Tom Daggett, St Paul's Cathedral thanking them for taking part.

Mikolaj in 1W won the Portrait of the Queen competition and the Deputy Mayor came along to present his prize.

The school choir took part in a special Jubilee Concert at the Corn Exchange, in conjunction with other local schools. The school also held a street party on the playground.

A huge Well done to three Year 6 children, who presented a card to her for her special day. Whilst they were there, they sang a beautiful rendition of Happy Birthday in front of Joan's friends and family. Well done, girls, you were amazing!"



St Mary's CofE Primary, Woodbridge - Karen Read, Headteacher writes: "We had a lovely time celebrating the Platinum Jubilee. We raised the Union Jack above the school. We enjoyed a delicious picnic followed by games and races. We made a 'Queen's Posies' display for the St Mary's Church Jubilee Flower Festival. We watched the soldiers from Rock Barracks parade. We painted portraits of Queen Elizabeth in the style of Picasso, Frida Kahlo and Chris Ofili. They are exhibited on our windows and look fantastic!"

St Matthew's CofE Primary, Ipswich - organised a competition to paint a portrait of the Queen. They held an exhibition in the church. They had some amazing entries.




And finally, can you help?

St Mary's CofE Academy, Mildenhall would like to find homes for 40 Bibles (Good News and NIV). If you can help, please contact the school office via [email](#) marked for the attention of Vicki Birch.

News from YOUR School

If you celebrated the Queen's Jubilee or of if you have any stories you would like highlighted, please do send us details and we will include in our next newsletter. Please send photos, short articles, web-page references, etc. electronically to [Jacqui](#) and we'll be pleased to include them.

From the Diocesan Education Team

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News from the Church of England

National Conference 2023: Flourishing Together

Friday 27 January 2023
Union Chapel and St. Mary Magdalene Academy, Islington. For more information, please click [here](#).

News from Ofsted

Education inspection framework

Ofsted has published an updated set of handbooks for use from September. Please click [here](#) for more.

News from the DfE

National professional qualifications (NPQs)

As well as funding NPQs, the DfE has announced that from Autumn 2022, state-funded schools and 16-19 settings with between 1 and 600 pupils will be paid **£200 for each teacher or leader** they employ who takes an NPQ. Please click here for [more](#).

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