

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

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of St Edmundsbury
and Ipswich



February 2019

News from the Diocese

Dear all,

It was good to be with several hundred others in Methodist Central Hall in Westminster recently for the third annual conference by the Church of England Foundation for Educational Leadership. A number of church school heads from this diocese attended, along with many others from around the country. Three keynote speakers, the Right Revd Sarah Mullally, Bishop of London, the Revd Rose Hudson-Wilkin, Chaplain to the House of Commons and Damian Hinds, Secretary of State for Education each spoke on the conference theme of Rethinking Resilience. Bishop Sarah spoke of the need to be confident in who we are, drawing our sense of self from God and His love. Rose inspired us with the life of Nelson Mandela to have a belief in a vision which sustains us in the lean years. Damian Hinds spoke of the importance of character education, to be developed in five ways: sport, creativity, performing, volunteering and membership and the world of work.

Please make a note of next year's conference on 6 February 2020, with curriculum design as its theme, again at Methodist Central Hall.

In our own diocese, please read on for news of how we are seeking to develop resilience for more groups of people, and how we are seeking to support small schools.

With all good wishes,

Jane Sheat
Diocesan Director of Education

For Heads and governors

Following the success of a twilight session in December for small schools we are holding a small school forum for heads and governors which we plan to hold termly. This will take place on Monday 25 March from 4pm to 5.30pm at Coddendam Community and Sports Hall, Maryday Close, off School Road, Coddendam, Ipswich IP6 9SR. Plenty of parking is available. The focus of this session will be on staffing. There is no cost. If you would like to attend, please contact [Jacqui Studd](#), tel 01473 298570.



Resilience events at Assington Hall, Sudbury

For Foundation Governors

Friday 22 March, 12-3.30pm
Revd Sharon Potter will lead a reflection on the role of governor in a church school. There will also be time to reflect, network with colleagues, pray, read and enjoy the surroundings.

For Senior Staff at church schools on Friday 24 May

For Church School Heads on Friday 5 July

Both these events will involve guest speakers leading reflections followed by time to reflect, network, pray or read and enjoy the surroundings.

To find out more about these events, please contact [Jacqui Studd](#).



The 2019 Real Easter Egg is now available for schools to order. Each Fairtrade Real Easter Egg has a new edition of the Easter story included. Read more [here](#)

For Heads only

We are also holding a twilight session for Heads on working effectively with parents. This will take place on Monday 1 April, from 4pm to 5.30pm at Coddendam Community and Sports Hall, Maryday Close, off School Road, Coddendam, Ipswich IP6 9SR. Plenty of parking is available. Gill Mitchell, Head of East Bergholt CEVCP School will share some of her experiences. There is no cost. If you would like to attend, please contact [Jacqui Studd](#), tel 01473 298570.



SACRE: RE Summer Conference for all RE teachers

Tuesday 18 June 2019 at the Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds

The keynote presentation will be given by the The Holocaust Education Trust. A full programme of short, focussed sessions will follow with a choice for both primary and secondary delegates. These may include:

- Storytelling and scrapbooking
-
- Journalling in RE
-
- The Joy of Texts (GCSE)
-
- Speed 'Faithing'!

To find out more and book, please visit CPD Online, by clicking [here](#).

Diocesan Board of Education

The Diocesan Board of Education meets four times a year. We are looking to co-opt Headteachers as members who are interested in the diocese's role in supporting church schools. The meeting dates for 2019 are:

- Wednesday 8 May 2019 at 5.30pm for 6.00pm
- Tuesday 17 September 2019 at 5.30pm for 6.00pm
- Wednesday 27 November 2019 at 1pm for 1.30pm

To find out more about what is involved, please contact Jane Sheat, jane.sheat@cofesuffolk.org, 01473 298560.

Further information on the DBE is also available on the Diocesan [website](#).

Increases in Teachers' Pensions employers' contributions

As you may be aware, there are plans to increase the employer's contribution to 23.6% from 1 September 2019 (currently 16.48%). Please see below two links, one to the consultation document produced by the Department of Education (DfE) and the second, a link to the consultation survey. The DfE plans to fund the increase but is seeking views. Funding isn't confirmed beyond 31 March 2020 and there are no details yet as to their proposed calculation method for awarding it to schools.

If this is something you feel strongly about, please take part in the consultation by 12 February but note that it is not asking whether the increase should be made or not, rather what the impact will be.

[Consultation document](#)

[Consultation survey](#)



Training for the Spring and Summer terms

- * our termly Basics of RE and Collective Worship courses;
- * a look at SIAMS and RE and CW;
- * new courses on Collective Worship - celebrating the church year, and planning CW;
- * Recording and assessing in RE.

To find out more about any of our courses, please visit the [Diocesan website](#); or contact [Jacqui Studd](#).



Dates for your diary:

Sunday 6 October 2019

An education service will again be held in the cathedral at Bury St Edmunds.

Wednesday 6 November 2019

The annual church school leaders' conference will be at the St Nicholas Centre, Ipswich.

Islam and Muslims in the UK in our modern world

A ten weekly 2-hour course for non-Muslims to learn and discuss Islam is starting on Sunday 10 March in Ipswich. Attendees will discuss Islam and Muslims in the UK through interactive and friendly sessions facilitated by an experienced and qualified tutor. Visit the [website](#) for further information.

News from Schools



A beautiful mosaic cross has been installed to the entrance of **Hartest CofE Primary School**. The tiles were made by children as part of an enrichment week activity.

The school is lucky to have a caretaker who is fantastic at turning a vision into reality. A morning of collaboration produced a beautiful addition to the school entrance and the children are delighted to see their work on display, with all staff and visitors agreeing what a lovely focal point it is.



We also received these lovely photos of pupils in Hedgehog and Squirrel classes at **Hartest C of E Primary School** giving a fantastic performance in the nativity performance of "It's a Baby!" at the end of last term. Parents and governors were highly complimentary about the singing and effort put in by the children.



Congratulations!

Christingle service 22 January 2019

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the UK Christingle service, King Edward VI School together with Bury Christian Youth and the Children's Society organised a Christingle Service at St Edmundsbury Cathedral. Over 200 young people came together to celebrate from the following schools:

King Edward's, St Edmundsbury CEVAP, Risby CEVCP and Guildhall Feoffment Community Primary. Bishop Mike made living Christingles out of two volunteers. The service raised more than £800 for the Children's Society. **Congratulations** to everyone involved.



More schools news



The cabin at **Barnham CEVCP School** used by pupils and staff. Also ideal for the termly West Suffolk Headteachers' Breakfast meetings.

As part of Safer Internet Day, **Charsfield CofE Primary School** hosted a series of sessions to teach pupils and parents about the dangers children face online, as well as steps they should take to stay safe in a digital world. Part of a wider initiative, the 'Learning Together' scheme aims to highlight modern, real-world issues into the classroom throughout the year, with previous sessions being run on relationships, stranger danger, drugs. For more, please click [here](#).

Pupils at **Ixworth CofE Primary School** held an exciting event to kick-off the start of term as the school hall was transformed into an airport. For more, please click [here](#).

The Lego Club at **All Saints CofE Primary School, Laxfield** recently received a generous gift of lego from singer Ed Sheeran. The lego will be used to start up a lego club for younger children. For more, please click [here](#).

Thurlow CEVCP School has been presented with a defibrillator after a pupil, supported by his father, saved a man's life. Both father and son received a St John Ambulance award for their actions. For more, please click [here](#).

Congratulations to pupils from **St Gregory CEVCP School, Sudbury** who have joined forces with comedian Mark Watson to raise money for dementia charities. The "goodwill marathon" will see pupils carrying out '26.2' acts of kindness for people with dementia, as well as supporting Mark during his Comedy Marathon on 27 and 28 February. For more on this great story, please click [here](#).

Congratulations to the choir at **St Christopher's CofE Primary School, Red Lodge** on the production of a CD to accompany a new book by Kevin Bullock called The Phenomenal Snowman. Aimed at reception, KS1 and LKS2 pupils, copies are available to buy from the school, with half of all profits going to the school. For more on this, please see the [EADT](#) article.

Ofsted Inspections

Bentley CEVCP	Good
St Margaret's CEVAP, Ipswich	Good
St Mary's CofE Primary, Hadleigh	Good
Wilby CEVCP	Good

Outcomes

SIAMS Inspections

King Edward VI School	Good
Sir Robert Hitcham's CEVAP, Framlingham	Good

Outcomes

Headteacher resignations/retirements

We will be saying goodbye to the following Headteachers who are leaving church schools at the end of the summer term:

- Jane Le Grice who is leaving Stoke by Nayland CofE Primary School
- Carolyn Taylor who is leaving Kelsale CEVCP School
- Sue Todd who is leaving St Matthew's CEVAP School, Ipswich.

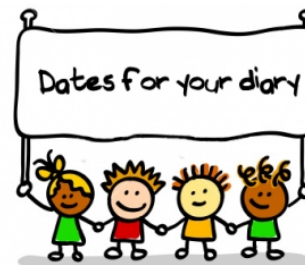
For the Attention of Headteachers

If you are retiring or resigning as Headteacher, please do let us know. Jane, Karen 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.



The Big Pancake Party are calling on churches, schools, families, and individuals throughout England to join the Big Pancake Party on Tuesday 5 March and stand up to food poverty. For more information, please click [here](#).

Pupils from **Norton CEVCP School** sang Christmas carols and hymns to residents at a nursing home. For more, please click [here](#).



St David's Day

1 March 2019

World Book Day

7 March 2019

Commonwealth Day

12 March 2019

Comic Relief

15 March 2019

St Patrick's Day

17 March 2019

World Poetry Day

21 March 2019

World Water Day

22 March 2019

Mothering Sunday

31 March 2019

Family Safety Week

1 - 5 April 2019

Big Pedal 2019

25 March - 5 April 2019

International Children's Book Day

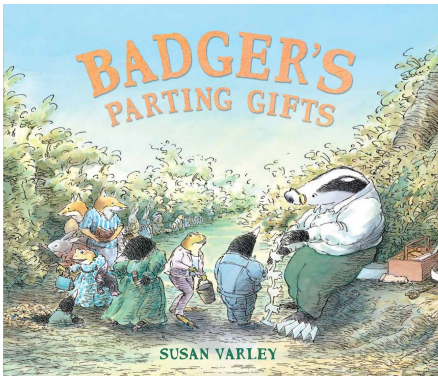
2 April 2019

News from Ofsted

Ofsted has launched a consultation on proposed changes to the school inspection framework from September 2019- please click [here](#) for the consultation.

Please do respond to the consultation, which closes on 5 April 2019.

Bereavement resources



The Diocesan Education team has two packs of resources on bereavement for specific support for pupils and staff alike. Along with twenty books, each pack includes a soft toy Badger to use alongside one of the books.

For further information on the resources and how to borrow them, please see our [website](#).

We are pleased to advise you that the **Raising the Bar Awards 2019** will be taking place:

Wednesday 10th July 2019
Wherstead Park, The Street, Wherstead, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP9 2BJ
From 16.30pm

Further details about when the nomination process opens, and how to make a nomination will be shared shortly.

Are you signed up to the **200 Million Minutes Reading Challenge?**

CLICK TO REGISTER TODAY
200MILLIONMINUTES.ORG

200 MILLION MINUTES READING CHALLENGE **ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL**

On Thursday 7 March 2019, Achievement for All will be launching their biggest challenge yet as they take their million minutes reading challenge across the globe to attempt to read 200 MILLION MINUTES! For more information and how to join in, please click [here](#).

Easter Alive is a FREE download pack with all you need to bring the Easter story to life for the children and young people in your community. Please click here for [more](#).



News from the Church of England

The CofE Education Office has published a slightly updated version of the SIAMS SEF. This is the version that should now be used and is available on the CofE website or by clicking [here](#).

News from the Department of Education

The DfE has published its recruitment and retention strategy. Please see [here](#) for details.



Out of the Ark Music has a new series of Spring Songs and Spring Songbooks which explore the themes of new life, Mother's Day, pancakes, Spring Chickens, Easter and many more subjects that children love to sing about in the Spring Term. For more information, please click [here](#).

News from YOUR School

What we are asking for is photos, short articles, web-page references, etc that we can highlight in the next and subsequent editions of this newsletter so that your school's achievements can be broadcast to a wider audience. Please send items electronically to [Jacqui](#) and we'll be pleased to include them.

From the Diocesan Education Team



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