

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



July 2021

News from the Diocese

Dear colleagues,

As I write, we are nearing the end of term after another extraordinary year. Whilst lots of end of term activities are taking place, we are also looking ahead to September. In line with other restrictions being lifted, from 19 July we will see the end of bubbles, the wearing of face coverings, and schools being responsible for contact tracing. Singing and the playing of brass and wind instruments will be allowed. Only those who have tested positive will be required to self isolate, not those who have been in contact. Let us hope for a more stable and less disrupted new school year. In the meantime, I hope that this newsletter provides you with some useful resources.

It was very good to see a number of Headteachers and senior leaders attend our annual wellbeing session recently. Suffolk Mind again led a very useful session on identifying and managing stress. Wendy Kelway, formerly Headteacher at Capel St Mary CEVCP also outlined a pilot coaching offer, of 12 sessions lasting 1.5-2 hours each (either face to face or virtual) over a year, costing £500. If any Headteacher or teacher is interested to find out more, they should contact wkelway@gmail.com. The Revd Canon Michael Robinson, Bishops' Chaplain also led a reflection, using the centuries old [examen](#) which I commend to you.

Meanwhile we continue to address some of the major issues of our time. Some schools have found it helpful to use the [Responding to racism toolkit](#) which we circulated last summer, based on Coventry diocese's work. If you have not already done this, you may like to do so. Auditing what we currently do has led some schools to review their library books and to add to these with a more diverse set of books. We are working with BAMEed, a network with some helpful [resources](#) for schools- Headteachers are invited to attend a session led by Allana Gay, co-founder of BAMEed and a Headteacher of a north London primary school on 14 October. Allana will focus on "How would you know that a school cherished and celebrated diversity and inclusion? What might you see, what might children and adults say about their experience?"

DARE bulletin

The summer 2021 DARE (Diocesan Adviser's RE) bulletin provides advice and information on RE resources, including a look at the Ofsted Review on RE. The bulletin is available on our [website](#) together with past issues.



Suffolk Agreed Syllabus Consultation - Summer 2021

SACRE is inviting all teaching colleagues in Suffolk schools to share their thoughts about the Suffolk Agreed Syllabus by completing [this online survey](#). Your views really do matter and will help to shape the future of RE in Suffolk. Consultation closes on Tuesday 20 July 2021.



The **Eastern Education Show 2022** takes places on Thursday 3 March at Newmarket Racecourse. For more information on this free to attend event, please click [here](#).

Climate change is all around us. The STEM network has some useful teaching resources for schools. To find out more, please click [here](#). The Diocese of Norwich has also produced a helpful resource called [Our school, Our World](#).

You may have heard of the Queen's Green Canopy. Schools are invited to get involved in planting a tree to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. Please click [here](#).

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 2021. Applications are now open for starting in November 2021 (deadline for applications 25 September 2021) or February 2022 (closing date 14 January 2022). Courses are open to all schools in Suffolk. For further information please click [here](#). For information about DfE funding please click [here](#).

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?

With all good wishes from all the team,

Jane Sheat
Diocesan Director of Education

News from Schools

Congratulations!



Congratulations to pupils at **Elveden CofE Primary Academy** for the great RE work above. We would love to see more of your RE work so please do visit and share on the [Emmanuel Project Facebook page](#) or contact [Gemma Kingston](#).

Congratulations to pupils at **Great Whelnetham CofE Primary School** who enjoyed a Break the Rules Day! This included changing their names, wearing their own clothes, bringing toys and teddies to school and eating their pudding first at lunchtime. Changing their names was the most exciting rule break with some interesting choices including – Teddy, Cheese Sandwich, Skittles, Pastry, Pudding and Sponge Bob!

Upcoming Forums

Heads' Forum

Tues 14 Sept, 1.30pm

Chairs' Forum

Mon 4 Oct, 4.00pm

Small Schools Forum

Mon 18 Oct, 4.00pm

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



Dates for your diary:

Sunday 3 October 2021, 5.30pm

We are hoping to hold our annual church schools education service at the Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds.

The theme for this year's service is I am the Resurrection and the Life. Please let [Jacqui Studd](#) know if you would like to be involved in any way.

Wednesday 3 November 2021

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

News from the Church of England

Courageous Advocacy May 2021

This guide explains the idea of courageous advocacy and supports schools, school leaders and SIAMS Inspectors to explore the concept and what that might mean in the unique context of each school. For the guide, please click [here](#).



Congratulations to pupils at **Wilby CEVCP School** who enjoyed being back in church in May for a socially distanced Trinity service led by Reverend Burrell. To mark this special occasion, children from across the school produced some wonderful Trinity art-work which is currently on display in St Mary's Church, Wilby (see opposite).

Also in May, Wilby re-invigorated links with Hartismere Place Care Home in Eye. Y4, 5 and 6 pupils enjoyed creating 'helpful hands' and connecting with the residents via Zoom. Helping hand trees have been created in school to be displayed in school and at Hartismere Place for the residents to enjoy.



The school are hoping that they will soon be able to visit and enjoy some face to face visits to read and play games with the residents again. Roisin Wiseman, Headteacher writes: "Life is starting to feel a little more normal again and it's lovely to be able to start connecting with our communities again."

Congratulations to pupils at **Kelsale CEVCP School** who have recently enjoyed a Sports Fortnight full of activities such as athletics, ice hockey, karate, football coaching by an Ipswich Town FC coach and even Quidditch. For more on this, please see the [East Anglian Daily Times](#)

Congratulations to Jacob Severn, a pupil at **Risby CEVCP School** who has had a fantastic response to his appeal for 150 trees to be planted to fight global warming. Before the appeal, Jacob had planted 72 trees - more than half with his own hands - after collecting saplings he discovered or bought as well as some he asked for as Christmas presents. He had also donated his pocket money to tree planting schemes run by charities such as The Woodland Trust to help reach his total. Well done, Jacob. For more on this story, please see [Suffolk News](#).

Congratulations to pupils at **St Gregory CEVCP School** who have been awarded the Suffolk Hero Award for their efforts to spread positivity in the community. These awards were set up this year to recognise those who have gone the extra mile during the pandemic. For more, please click [here](#).



Inter Faith Week: 14 - 21 November 2021

Inter Faith Week aims to:

- * Strengthen good inter faith relations at all levels
- * Increase awareness of the different and distinct faith communities in the UK, in particular 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

For more information, including resources and activity ideas, please click [here](#).



Church School Governors: National Virtual Conference

22 September 2021
6.00 - 8.00pm

This free event is an opportunity for CofE School Governors to begin the new school year together.

Speakers include the Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell and Revd Nigel Genders, CofE Chief Education Officer. For further details, please click [here](#).



Congratulations to pupils at **Hopton CEVCP School** who enjoyed a British Values Workshop in June.

The school writes....

"It is important to us as a school to promote the basic British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance for those of different faiths and beliefs and the workshop was a fun and interactive way for the children to deepen their knowledge and understanding of the values. During the workshop the children had the chance to explore the questions; What do we believe in? Why is it important to follow our own beliefs? What is freedom and how might it feel to have this denied? The workshop aimed to reinforce the importance of how different our individual beliefs can be. This could be a religious belief but also things like how we live our lives at school / home. In an ever changing world we believe at Hopton that the British Values are fundamental to enabling pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence and encourage pupils to accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living and working in the locality of the school and to society more widely. The children all really enjoyed the workshop and we look forward to continuing to promote the British Values across our School."

Congratulations to pupils from **St Mary's CofE Primary School, Woodbridge** for taking part in the Churches Count on Nature scheme, a national initiative to create a database of wildlife.

The children scoured the St Mary's churchyard in Woodbridge for creepy crawlies, birds, animals and plants, making a note of everything they found. For more on this story, please click [here](#).



Congratulations to Reception and Year 1 pupils at **Stoke by Nayland CofE Primary** who visited St. Mary's Church in Stoke by Nayland, and learned about how to pray using the kneelers and how the baptismal font is used, as well as finding Christian stories in the stained glass windows. Fiona Malby, School Governor writes:

"Our theme this term for Collective Worship is Creativity. The children recently listened to a song with the lyrics, 'What kind of world do you want?' This inspired ideas and discussion about the world in which we live. They wanted to keep good people, nature, kindness, love, the school, gratefulness and God, and change pollution, Covid, cruelty, weapons, endangered animals, climate change and fighting. What a wonderful world this would be!"



Virtual Training - autumn term

Aimed at heads, governors, clergy and RE subject leaders, courses include:

Leadership/Governance

- * Being a governor in a church school;
- * Leading a church school;
- * Monitoring for governors;
- * Head recruitment and performance management;

RE/CW

- * Assessment in RE;
- * Developing Confidence as a RE Subject Leader;
- * Diving Deeper in RE;
- * Spiritual Development in Primary Schools; and
- * a HLTA Forum.

To find out more, please visit the [Diocesan website](#); or contact [Jacqui Studd](#)



Spring Dance Company

is offering to schools its latest [Parable](#) and [The Christmas Story: Refugee](#) workshops; both of which are available for booking. Springs workshops are a great way to bring children back together when the schools re open, through fun, energetic and creative sessions.



The wild area at Stoke by Nayland CofE Primary has also been renovated and is looking amazing. Thanks to AONB funding, the school are excited to be the recipients of a new shed, poly tunnel and fencing. The Forest School and Eco Club will have this wonderful space to use to explore nature.

Congratulations to pupils at **Worlingworth CEVCP School** who celebrated National Schools' Football Week in May. The week provides an opportunity for children to get outside, have fun and enjoy being able to play sport with their school friends.



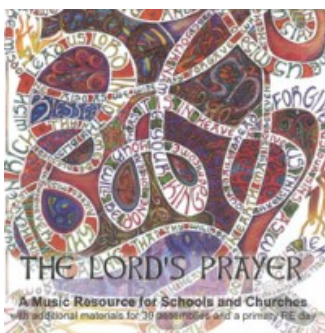
The football frenzy began with a Match of the Day themed warm up session, followed by a range of football themed learning activities and culminated in the Big Penalty Shoot Out!



With their teachers in goal, pupils competed in their House groups to see how many penalties they could score. Wonderful football skills were shown by the pupils and amazing goal keeping skills by the teachers!



Children also demonstrated many of the school's Rainbow Values and lots of co-operation, kindness, respect, honesty and responsibility.



The Lord's Prayer CD is a music resource for schools and churches professionally recorded in Ipswich Primary Schools and the Ngara Anglican Primary School, Tanzania. £15 + £1.50 p&p

For more information and how to order, please click [here](#).



Summer Reading Challenge

17 Jul - 31 August 2021

National Read A Book Day

6 September 2021

Education Sunday 2021

12 September 2021

Roald Dahl Day

13 September 2021

National TAs Day

16 September 2021

Intl Day of Peace

21 September 2021

Bike to School Week

27 Sept - 1 Oct 2021

World Animal Day

4 October 2021

Dyslexia Week

4-10 October 2021

National Pyjamas Week

4-10 October 2021

World Space Week

4-10 October 2021

World Teachers' Day

5 October 2021

National Poetry Day

7 October 2021

Thank a vicar week

17-24 October 2021



From September Picture News will be producing a weekly collective worship document, sent alongside their usual pack for all Church schools at a special joining price of £100. For a sample please click [here](#) and for more information [here](#).



News from YOUR School

What we are asking for is photos, short articles etc. that we can highlight in future issues of the newsletter so that your school's achievements can be broadcast to a wider audience. Please send items via email to Jacqui and we'll be pleased to include them.

We offer our thanks and best wishes to all those staff who are leaving their current school this summer. Including the following Headteachers who are leaving at the end of term:

- * Justine Davies who is leaving Boxford CEVCP
- * Julie O'Neill who is leaving Acton CEVCP
- * Sarah Smith who is leaving Stoke by Nayland CofE Primary.

A prayer for the end of the school year

God our Father, we praise and thank you for the gift of this school year, a time filled with grace and blessings, opportunities and challenges. With the fulfilment of our summer hopes and dreams, watch over us in the weeks of rest ahead. Guide us each day and help us to return to school with a new refreshed spirit and energy to continue in our journey of enjoyment, achievement and learning. Amen

From your Diocesan Education Team:

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