

Diocesan Schools' Newsletter

Summer Term 1 2018

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Dear Colleagues,

As we return for the summer term, can I on behalf of the Education team offer our belated best wishes for Easter. The season of Easter brings new opportunities, for some a fresh start but most importantly a living and renewed hope through the resurrection of Jesus. During the increasing pressures and challenges our schools are facing, particularly with continued uncertainties relating to school budgets and increasing expenditure, the Education team are continually looking at how we can best provide schools, and their staff teams, with the support that they need. This is something we have been able to address in practical terms with an expansion of the 'Family of Schools' partnership and the introduction of the 'enhanced offer.'

Schools should now have received a copy of the Family of Schools offer for 2018-19 in electronic and hard copy, with the range of options and prices. Please contact either myself or Sue Noakes with any queries or for more information. It is planned to have our programme of professional development opportunities and training available by the start of June to enable schools to begin to plan for the new academic year. This will be further extended to incorporate a wider range of courses, following feedback from headteachers.

One highlight on next year's programme will be our Heads' and Senior Leaders' Conference in November. Following feedback from headteacher colleagues and the working party led by Sue Noakes, the 2018/19 Conference has been revamped and will be held at a new, more central venue and will offer a residential option. The theme will be 'Brave Leadership' and will incorporate a mix of keynote speakers and seminars.

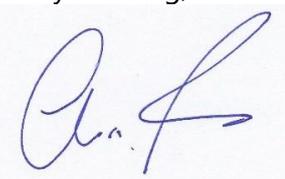
Another aspect of our support for schools has been through the geographical headteacher cluster meetings, including the creation of three new groups. I am delighted that we are now able to offer this across the Diocese, enabling all 116 of our schools to be involved and to receive the support this important network provides. Details of this term's meetings can be found later in this newsletter.

For schools considering academy conversion, the Board of Education recently confirmed and published its policy and the process for Anglican schools in the Diocese wishing to become an academy. Details of this can be found in the schools' section of the Diocesan website and is also referenced later in this newsletter.

Finally, can I wish all of our students who are preparing to take tests and exams in the coming months the very best of luck and my hope is that they are able to do their best, achieving the outcomes they deserve. May I offer these words of encouragement from Philippians 4:6-7;

⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Every Blessing,



Chris Penn
Director of Education

Staff News



It is with a degree of sadness that we will be saying good-bye to Adele Holt, who will be leaving the department at the end of May to return to accountancy. Adele has worked as part of the Education team since September 2015 as Schools' Asset Manager. During this time, schools have benefited greatly from Adele's professional support and guidance relating to a wide range of matters, including buildings, capital projects, finance and legal work. We wish to offer our sincere thanks to Adele for her contribution to our schools and as a valued member of the team. We send her our very best wishes for the future.

Anglican Heads' Cluster Meetings

The summer term Anglican Heads' Cluster Meetings are detailed below.

Thursday 19 th April	Northwich Heads	8am at Wharton CE Primary School
Friday 20 th April	Wirral Heads	9am at Thornton Hall Hotel
Tuesday 24 th April	Chester Rural Heads (new)	1.30pm at Shocklach Oviatt CE Primary
Wednesday 16 th May	Secondary Heads	8am at University Church of England Academy
TBC	Congleton Heads	
Wednesday 13 th June	Chester Heads	1.30pm at Bishops' Blue Coat CE High School
Thursday 14 th June	Stockport & Tameside HTs	1pm at All Saints CE Primary, Marple
Monday 18 th June	Warrington Heads	1.30pm at Church House, Daresbury Park
Thursday 21 st June	Macclesfield Heads	1.30pm at St Anne's CE Primary, Fulshaw
Friday 22 nd June	Wirral Heads	9am at Thornton Hall Hotel
Monday 25 th June	SCRUNCH – Runcorn Heads	1.30pm at All Saints CE Primary, Runcorn
Tuesday 26 th June	Trafford Heads	10am at Altrincham CE Primary

New SIAMS Framework

The new SIAMS Framework has recently been finalised and has now been published on the Church of England Education website (the link is below). The framework comes into effect from September 2018 and we will be running a series of briefing sessions over the next three terms. Schools that are expecting an inspection during 2018-19 should already have been contacted to invite them to attend one of our early sessions scheduled for May and June.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/education-and-schools/church-schools-and-academies/siams-school-inspections/new-siams>

Headteacher & Senior Leaders Conference 2018/19

We are pleased to confirm our Conference for 2018-19, which this will offer a twilight session and residential option the day before. The conference entitled 'Brave Leadership' will take place over the 22nd and 23rd November at The Park Royal Hotel, Stretton, Warrington.

This year's conference is an opportunity for our church school leaders to explore Brave Leadership in all its contexts. With our church schools surrounded by an ever changing educational landscape and pressures from differing views of society there has never been a more important time for brave leaders within our schools. The main conference day (**23rd November** starting at **9.30am**) is designed to support church school leaders as they consider this within their own context and that of the wider church school family.

Further details and the booking form will be sent to schools separately and can be found in the Schools section (CPD & Training) of the Diocesan website.

Governor Training Programme

We are reviewing our governor training programme and would appreciate your comments and suggestions. Currently we offer training on aspects specific to church schools as part of the family of schools offer and we are interested to know if there would be any interest in us providing a wider training programme on more general aspects (this would come at an additional cost and not as part of the family of schools). If you could ask governors to fill in a survey it would be appreciated. To access the survey please click here https://www.surveymonkey.com/summary/vRPJ1zkbD_2Bhg5IXEWNIPoiU4fh6CFUAeusIMrTwFmmzD0ew03X7xeGLwioX71U3w

DBE policy on Academy Conversion

Schools considering becoming an academy should be aware that the Diocesan Board of Education recently published its policy on academy conversion. The policy outlines the framework in which the DBE will give its consent to an Anglican school within the Diocese becoming an academy. The policy also details the application process that includes an application form and supporting evidence being presented to a committee of the DBE. The committee will meet half-termly to hear and consider applications. The policy can be found in the Academy section of the Schools' area on the Diocesan website or by clicking on the link below. Schools wishing to submit an application should contact Sue Noakes for more details and an application form.

<http://www.chester.anglican.org/schools/academies/>

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Middle Leader Course

Dear Colleagues

As many of you are aware, Chester Diocese, in conjunction with colleagues from our neighbouring North West Anglican dioceses run the extremely popular Christian Leadership Course.

In response to the ever-increasing demand for courses on church school leadership, the North West dioceses, in conjunction with Liverpool Hope University, are pleased to offer a bespoke Middle Leaders' Course for colleagues in church schools.

As with the Christian Leadership Course, places will be limited.

Please click [here](#) for further details.

Vote 100

2018 marks 100 years since Parliament passed a law which allowed women to vote for the first time: the 1918 Representation of the People Act. Throughout the year the Diocese will be celebrating this important milestone in the UK's democratic history, further details of events will follow. We would like to encourage our schools to get involved and ask you to share any work with us relating to this important anniversary. Please send any contributions to Sandra Reynolds.

Thy Kingdom Come 2018

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York are inviting Christians to join another amazing wave of prayer across the UK and around the world – praying that people you know might come to know Jesus. It's happening between Ascension and Pentecost from 10 May – 20 May and is an opportunity for schools to join in with it. Again, we would love to hear about how you plan to get involved.

There is a Diocese of Chester Beacon Celebration event arranged in Chester Cathedral on Sunday 20th May 2018 at 6.30pm as our whole Diocese and region comes together to pray 'Thy Kingdom Come'. This will be an ecumenical service filled with joy, celebration, worship and prayer as we especially pray for and with young generations in an all-age service, asking God for more and more young people to come to know the love of Jesus. 'You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colours in the world' Matthew 5: 14-16 (MSG).

Building Matters for VA Schools

CDBE/FC

Please be reminded that for all projects, including DFC, DFC ICT and Off Programme, which have been submitted by the school/governors for approval, a form CDBE/FC is required.



This form will advise us that a project has been completed, as well as confirming the final project cost.

This form can be located on our website: Please click [here](#)

School Job Vacancy Form

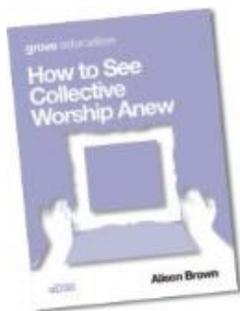
There is a form that needs to be completed for any school vacancies.

If you would like to advertise any job vacancies please email [Sandra Reynolds](#) for a form.

Please be aware that we need plenty of notice before the closing dates of the vacancies



Useful Booklets



Grove Books have an education series produced in partnership with the Association of Anglican Directors of Education that offer and promote Christian thinking rooted in practice for everyone involved in schools, colleges and churches. The latest publication is entitled 'How to See Collective Worship Anew'. Collective Worship is a core practice of any church school community. As such it carries a particular power which is often overlooked. Collective worship all too easily can be little more than moral education: 'Be good...because Jesus says so.' 'Seeing Anew' helps schools to explore how effective they are at painting a picture of what life looks like if lived as God intended.

You can see a copy of the publication in the resource library at Church House. It, and others in the series, can be purchased (or downloaded) from [Grove's website](#) for £3.95.

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CPD & Training Programme 2017/18



This year's training programme has been structured to offer CPD opportunities for each level of teaching, from NQT to Senior Leaders and governor support. This is in addition to our usual standing courses.

SIAMS Training for Headteachers'		Click here for a booking form
<p>Wednesday 13th June either:</p> <p>9.30 am -12 noon or 1.30pm-4pm</p> <p>Alternate date</p> <p>Monday 18th June from</p> <p>9.30am -12 noon</p>	<p>This session is to inform headteachers on what to expect from the new SIAMs Framework which comes into effect on 01/09/2018</p>	<p>FREE Event</p>

Growing spirituality in a church school		Click here for a booking form
<p>Friday 15th June</p> <p>9.15am -3.30pm</p> <p>Foxhill Conference Centre</p>	<p>"but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not be faint" (Isaiah 40:31)</p> <p>One day at Foxhill will provide the opportunity to reflect and explore ways to further develop spirituality when leading a Church School community</p>	<p>£100 for Family of Schools members</p> <p>£150 for non-members</p>

Christian leadership course
<p>The Christian Leadership Course is an innovative and exciting programme for aspiring leaders in Church of England schools. It was designed and is led by officers, advisers and professional colleagues from the five North West dioceses. We aim to develop a clear, coherent vision for the leadership of church schools and explore ways in which church schools can provide 'Life in all its fullness'. We also look to affirm the role of spiritual leadership in the school community and beyond. Due to the popularity of the course, the 2017-2018 course is full. We have opened a waiting list for the 2018-2019 course and beyond.</p> <p>Please email your name, school name and contact details to Sandra Reynolds as soon as possible.</p> <p>sandra.reynolds@chester.anglican.org</p>

Middle Leaders

New North west dioceses middle leader course

Click [here](#) for more information

The Professional Qualification for Middle Leaders in Church Schools is a 5-day programme that has been specifically designed in collaboration with the five north west dioceses and Liverpool Hope University to support aspiring, and newly appointed, middle leaders working within a Christian school context. The programme will enable participants to explore and articulate their personal values and mission to have a better understanding of the distinctive mission and vision of Church of England schools and the role of middle leaders in these settings. It will provide participants with the opportunity to critically engage with leadership and management theories/research and how these relate to, and support, the understanding and development of personal leadership capabilities and practices.

Religious Education

Assessment and the diocesan syllabus

Click [here](#) for a booking form

<p>Friday 8th June 9.30am -12.30pm Church House, Daresbury</p>	<p>This half day session is for any primary school teacher interested in improving their RE curriculum practice. The session will involve an introduction to good practice in 'RE and Assessment' based on a popular aspect of the RE syllabus. The activities will be based on the diocesan guidance for assessment written in summer 2017 but added to over the course of this academic year. Teachers will discuss how to put guidance into practice and develop their own ideas and there will be opportunity to share good practice and raise areas of concern.</p>	<p>£75 for Family of Schools members £100 for non-members</p>
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Governance

Admissions for Voluntary Aided Schools and Academies

Click [here](#) for a booking form

<p>Thursday 27th September 10am -12noon Church House, Daresbury</p> 	<p>This is a training session for both governors and headteachers of voluntary aided schools and academies. The session will provide you with the most up to date information with regards to the admission process. It will ensure that schools are following the statutory requirements and help guide governors and headteachers through the process. As school places are being filled it is particularly important that the correct procedures are followed and if you haven't been oversubscribed before it would be a good idea to attend.</p>	<p>FREE to members of the family of schools/£50 for non-members</p>
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SIAMS New Framework		Click here for a booking form
Wednesday 3rd October 9.30am -12noon or 1.30pm-4pm	This session is to inform governors on what to expect from the new SIAMs Framework which comes into effect on 01/09/2018.	FREE
Being a Governor of a Church School		Click here for a booking form
Thursday 8th November 10am -12noon Church House, Daresbury	 This is for new governors and experienced governors who would like to explore their role specifically in a church school. The session will look at the responsibilities of governors in a church school, how a church school should be distinctive and what can be done to ensure your school is an outstanding church school.	FREE to members of the family of schools/£50 for non-members

For Children

3rd July 11am or 1.45pm Both Services are now fully booked	Leavers' Service Click here for a booking form 	An opportunity for children to celebrate their time in a Church school in the Diocese. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to gather together with hundreds of others in the church school family to give thanks to God for their time in primary school and look forward to moving into high school. Participating schools receive a CD with the music that will be sung to ensure everyone knows the tunes.	Chester Cathedral 11am or 1.45 pm FREE Event
5th July	Leavers' Service Click here for a booking form	As above	Astbury St Mary's Church 11am FREE Event

2019

Staffing and appointments for voluntary aided schools and academies Click here for a booking form		
Thursday 7th March 2019 10am -12noon Church House, Daresbury		A session for headteachers and governors about staffing and appointments in voluntary aided schools and academies. The session will look at the difference in the legal status of governors in voluntary aided schools and

	academies as employers and also how to ensure the best appointments can be made.	
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Prayers

Please pray for:

Mrs Sharon Martin at Bowdon C of E Primary School

Pupils and staff at Woodchurch CE High School following the sad and sudden death of one of their pupils.



Inspections

Congratulations to the following schools

Section 48 outstanding/good

Barrow C of E Primary School

Bollinbrook C of E Primary School

Clutton C of E Primary School

Davenham C of E Primary School

Elworth C of E Primary School

Latchford St James' C of E Primary School

Millfields C of E Primary School

St Berteline's C of E Primary School

St Bridget's C of E Primary School

St George's C of E Primary School

Wincle C of E Primary School

Section S5 / S8 outstanding/good

All Saints C of E Primary School

Bidston Village C of E Primary School

Christ Church C of E Primary School, Moreton

Grappenhall St Wilfrid's C of E Primary School

Hartford C of E High School

Holy Spirit RC CE Primary School

Over St John's C of E Primary School

Wincle C of E Primary School

News from schools



Bickerton Holy Trinity C of E Primary School

Half term began with the Christingle service shared with Holy Trinity Church. This lovely annual service was led by Canon Davenport, with staff and children participating in the readings and prayers. The children also sang one of their favourite seasonal songs, Hallelujah (the Christmas version) which was enjoyed by all in the congregation.

Two Year 6 worship leaders, Beth and Daisy, have been busy finding out the types of things the children like, or would change about our times of worship. Interactive Bible stories with drama seemed to be very popular, so some children requested more of these, and everyone was really pleased when the very next day they dramatized Daniel in the Lion's Den.

The children have also really enjoyed learning some new, modern hymns, they have since learnt, I the Lord of Sea and Sky and Here I am to Worship, with more in the pipeline. The worship leaders also decided they wanted to read a Bible story in worship once a week and they have created a prayer box which will be opened weekly to aid prayers.

During the recent Governors Day, the Governors spoke to the worship leaders about their own observations and the worship leaders' plans for worship. It was suggested that the class worship corners reflected the church seasons; they are now focusing on Lent, with many children looking at acts of kindness or promises they can try and keep throughout Lent.

The children have been busy with many exciting events; many of the juniors represented the school at Young Voices in Manchester. Class 2 took part in a concert with Love Music Trust and Barnaby Bear. Classes 4 and 5 had a Victorian Day. Years 5 and 6 had a super informative and fun visit to Safety Central.

Half term ended with the first Ash Wednesday Service where the children learnt about the traditions shared by many Christians on this day, everyone reflected on Lent and the promises made as we begin this special season.

Bishop Wilson C of E Primary School

The children in Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 have started a 10-week sign language course developed by Deaf Active. The aim of the training is to break down the communication barriers that still exist within society through the medium of play and song. The program is delivered by hearing and deaf coaches and at the end of the ten weeks the children will present a signed performance that will include three songs.



GB Paralympic Footballer

Recently we welcomed GB Paralympic Footballer Roy Turnham. Roy was, part of the Football 5-a-side team, made his Paralympic debut in London 2012 and was part of the team that finished 7th place. Roy led a sponsored fitness circuit with all the children and followed this was a talk and question and answer session. The aim of the afternoon was to inspire the pupils to take up sport generally and to encourage them to discover and pursue their passion in life.



Bollington St John's C of E Primary School

The deputy Mayor of Bollington, Jon Weston, and other town councillors visited St John's Primary School on Monday 12th February. After a lengthy tour of the school conducted by the Head Boy and Girl, they met the school council chaired by the Head of the School Council. School councillors asked many questions of the town councillors and discovered their way of being elected was extremely similar to schools. It was a wonderful visit and a pleasure to welcome the visitors, who are now busily preparing for the 2019 Bollington Festival.



Ash Wednesday

Pupils joined with friends to attend an Ash Wednesday service at St Oswald's on the 14th February. The service was led by Canon Rev Veronica Hydon, who placed an ash cross on the foreheads of the children who elected to receive it. The children then proudly sang Shalom together.

It was a wonderful service of collaboration, remembrance and prepared the children for the season of Lent.



Bosley St Mary's C of E Primary School

In between the disruption of wintry weather, including recent snow days, staff have continued to welcome visitors to school, including Jeremy Michelson of Judaism with Jeremy' who shared his beliefs and knowledge in R.E. lessons, and Bishop William of Gawsorth parish, who spoke about Jesus's healing miracles in our Collective Worship.

Curate Kim has started a values-themed Bible Buddies after-school club which is lots of fun and very popular, and this group, along with the Ethos Group, has been instrumental in helping us choose 3 core values for our school: they are the first three fruits of the Holy Spirit - love, joy and peace - which the children decided are fundamental to living out every other value in our Christian community.

Vicar John helped begin the journey of Lent on Ash Wednesday which will continue through the 40acts Stewardship project ninja kindness. Each day, a random act of kindness and generosity helps everyone to give something out, instead of giving something up.

World Book Day has been the latest whole-school fun at Bosley, as every pupil and staff member dressed up in favourite book characters, paraded and talked in role about them.



Eccleston C of E Primary School

Celebrated World Religions Day in January. The day started off with an assembly, written and delivered by the wonderful Year 6 pupils, they then embarked on a fantastic carousel of events around school, where they explored different religions and beliefs.



Ellesmere Port Christ Church C of E Primary School

Everyone at school was proud to be awarded both KS1 and KS2 prizes for the Canon Chancellor Awards, the theme this year was creation. The children really enjoyed taking part and a small group attended the awards ceremony in Chester Cathedral. The children were even treated to a Falconry display.



Frodsham C of E Primary School

The School's Sports Ambassadors were delighted to be awarded the School Games Gold Award at a ceremony at Helsby High School.

This is the third year in succession that they have achieved this prestigious award and is recognition of the hard work and dedication that all the children and adults show towards Physical Education.



Latchford St James' C of E Primary School

Each week a group of 10 Reception children visit Westy Hall Care Home. This initiative started in September 2017 and has been warmly received by parents, children and the residents and staff at Westy. Together the children and residents sing, enjoy craft activities, play games and do jigsaws. At Christmas some of the residents came to see our Nativity play and they really enjoyed watching it and visiting our school.

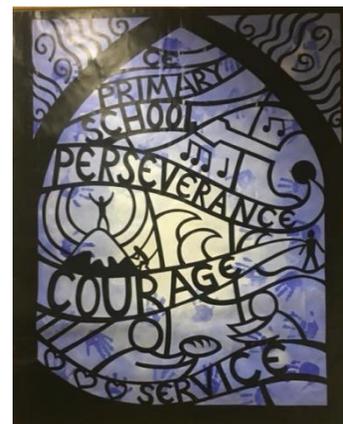
The visits help children to develop mutual respect for others and enhances their social and emotional development as well. It helps to nurture the School's Christian values of respect, friendship, compassion and love. Some very special friends have been made, and everyone looks forward to the partnership continuing.

Increased social interaction is [linked to a reduced risk of disease](#) in elderly people, which was recently highlighted in Channel 4's [Old People's Homes for 4 Year Olds](#) documentary. Eleven residents of Bristol-based [St Monica Trust](#) were found to have improved moods, mobility and memory after spending six weeks with children.



Lower Peover C of E Primary School

During the middle of November 2017, the school had a visit from the artist Chris Gilbert. Chris was invited to the school to create three art installations that were a reflection of what the school stands for in the community, its mission statement and Christian values. Chris was very keen to get his inspiration from the children of the school, spending a whole day going into each class and generating different designs and ideas. Once the designs were finalised, Chris started the process of completing the pieces. Again, Chris was keen to get the children involved in every stage of the process. Children from every class assisted Chris in completing each of the pieces, from placing and gluing the mosaic tiles, to placing their painted hand prints.



In January 2018 the final pieces were unveiled and are now displayed in the school hall. The mosaic tiled piece reflects on the school and its mission statement. The paper cut and hand print pieces represent the schools' Christian values (Respect, Service, Forgiveness, Courage, Perseverance, and Compassion). The pieces now act as a great discussion feature for children, staff and school visitors.

Saighton C of E Primary School

Everyone was very proud to receive its fourth Eco Green Flag Accreditation. The award, presented by Eco-Schools, is an international programme that promotes environmental awareness.

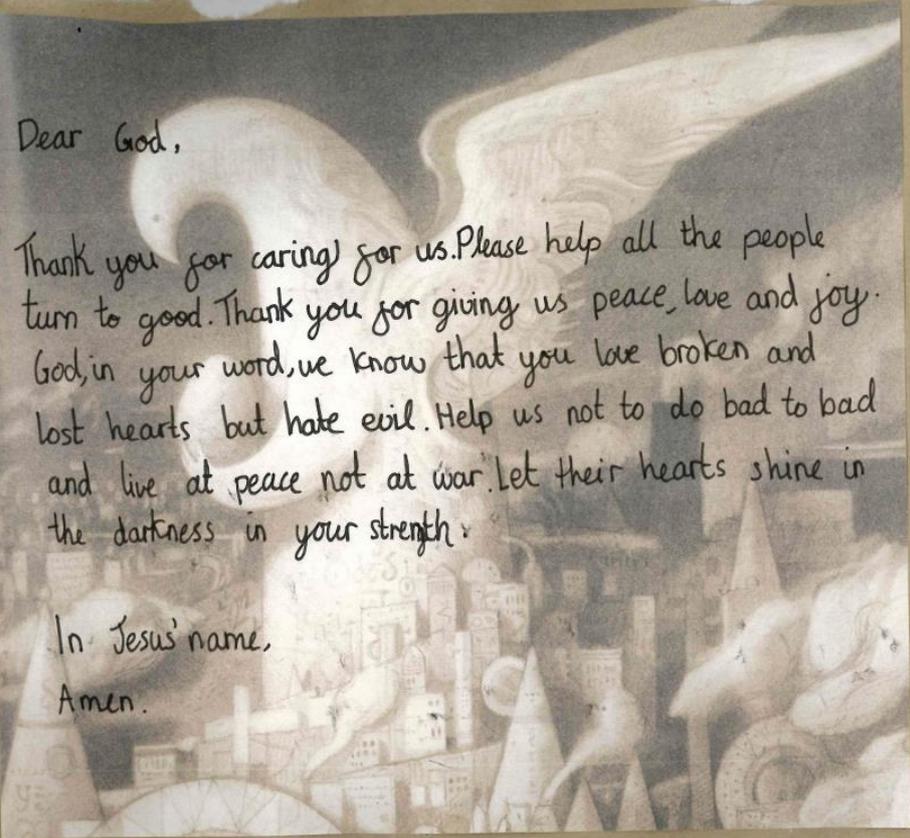
All children work hard throughout the school to develop a greater knowledge of ecological issues and gain an understanding of the influence they can have by making the right choices for a more sustainable future.



In addition to an active Eco Committee, pupils enjoy making good use of the school's allotment garden and are passionate about caring for 10 ex-battery hens that live within the school grounds.

Overleigh St Mary's C of E Primary School

Year 5 children have been working on the book 'The Arrival' by Shaun Tan during this half term. This silent graphic novel is the story of every migrant, every refugee, every displaced person, and a tribute to all those who have made the journey. The children wrote a selection of prayers in response to their learning on the refugee crisis. The children have really embraced the topic, as you can see from their caring and empathetic writing.

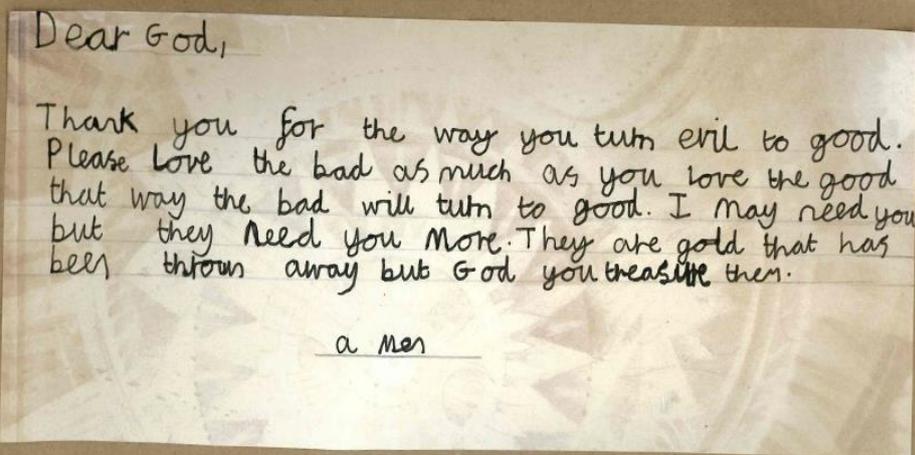


Dear God,

Thank you for caring for us. Please help all the people turn to good. Thank you for giving us peace, love and joy. God, in your word, we know that you love broken and lost hearts but hate evil. Help us not to do bad to bad and live at peace not at war. Let their hearts shine in the darkness in your strength.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.



Dear God,

Thank you for the way you turn evil to good. Please love the bad as much as you love the good that way the bad will turn to good. I may need you but they need you more. They are gold that has been thrown away but God you treasure them.

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Shocklach Oviatt C of E Primary School

The school has enjoyed a busy spring term and is proud of the rich learning opportunities provided to children so deeply rooted in Christian faith.

KS2 travelled to Liverpool on Wednesday 14th February to visit three places of Worship; The Liverpool Anglican Cathedral, The Princes Road Synagogue and The Al Rahma Mosque. The main aim was to celebrate diversity, our similarities and strength of personal faith.



Being Ash Wednesday made the visit to the Anglican Cathedral all the more special. A candle was lit in the Cathedral and all of the children chose to say a prayer for a loved one and recite the Lord's Prayer. It was a very moving and beautiful experience.

At the mosque, Abu the Imam (who has recently moved to Liverpool from Brooklyn, New York) encouraged the children to consider some challenging concepts. They discussed the recent terror attacks and how both the event and reporting of these atrocities have affected the Muslim community.

Everyone was made equally welcome at the Synagogue and it was wonderful to be shown a rich collection of artefacts and for the children to touch and ask questions about these. The children were complimented on their superb behaviour and their impressive RE knowledge. Back at school, they have been inspired to design their own synagogues and make dreidels, a popular new addition to the wet play equipment.



A highlight of the term was a visit from Chris Penn, the new Director of Education for The Diocese of Chester. The children responded well to his genuine warmth, enthusiasm and sense of humour and they thank him for taking the time to visit Shocklach, which is one of the smallest church



schools in his diocese.

To tie in with the Big Cats' topic, the whole school braved the snow showers and visited Chester Zoo on 9th February. It was a fantastic trip and has led to many rich cross curricular writing opportunities for the children.

Year 6 enjoyed a Lego Robotics Workshop hosted by Chester University on 8th February. They successfully designed a Lego NX robot to survive on Planet Mars and that the Shocklach boys' team won. Engineering and design skills in abundance.



Reverend Jane continues to lead a fun and inspirational weekly Worship in school. She delighted the children with her pancake stories and even invited the local community to her home to sample some delicious creations. Reverend Jane has challenged the children to undertake a daily positive action during Lent and we are looking forward to hearing about how the children have responded to this.

Sir Thomas Boteler C of E High School

We would congratulate the school, and in particular the young people, who performed so exceptionally well in the recent regional finals of the Ryman National Enterprise challenge. What a fantastic achievement to have the two teams do so well and a wonderful accolade for Sir Thomas Boteler.

St Mary's Halton C of E Primary School

Eco Committee Nest Boxes

What a wonderful competition this was. The Eco Committee decided to run a project to build 30 nest boxes. They provided the packs of wood, screws and a hinge and the rest was down to creativity and imagination!



The purpose was to help families think about our garden birds and how to help them with spring approaching. Each box was absolutely beautiful.

The winner, Luke Shaw, was announced at an assembly but the entries were so good we decided to give a prize to everyone who decorated a box.



Tilston Parochial C of E Primary School

Education Sunday Service at St Mary's Church, Tilston

On Sunday 5th February the new Headteacher, Mrs Kelsey Mort, had the pleasure of joining staff, parents and children at the Education Sunday Service, Led by Reverend Jane Stephenson. The theme of the service was Light in the Darkness. Pupils from Tilston Parochial Primary School and Shocklach Oviatt C of E Primary School sang a song together, bringing both schools and parishes together. Tilston pupils were accompanied by the school choir to sing a song which was followed by a selection of readings and prayers.



We were also delighted to welcome Mr Chris Penn to Tilston Primary School on Tuesday 6th February. Our Worship leaders enjoyed showing Mr Penn around our very special school and talking about the importance Christian Values have within our school.

Mrs Mort would like to express her sincere thanks to the Diocese for the support received since taking up her new role at Tilston Primary School.

Tushingam-with-Grindley C of E Primary School

Staff, governors and children were thrilled to have gained the status of outstanding school following an Ofsted inspection recently. Huge congratulations to staff, children and governors on receiving an OUTSTANDING report reflecting their hard-work, commitment, dedication and enjoyment of learning within the caring Christian ethos of Tushingam School. Pupils' excellent progress and love of learning shines through the report, which is published on Ofsted - GOV.UK <http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report>



Woodchurch High School

On Thursday 2nd February 2018, Harry Natton and Ellie Lewis gave a presentation to hundreds of people at New Brighton's Floral Pavilion, in memorial of the Holocaust. Their presentation focused on their experience of Auschwitz last year and the lessons that must be learned from these human atrocities that are still continuing today.



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Adverts

Springs Dance Company Projects

The project can run for a day or be delivered over six workshop sessions which culminate in a performance by the children.

Get Fit Go Green can cover:

- **Learning and creating** fun, high energy movement to get fit.
- **Exploring green issues** such as consumerism, energy and transport and how our actions can affect people globally, as part of Jesus' call to love our neighbour.
- **Go green** – what we can all do to make a difference.
- **Respecting God's world** – how the Bible encourages care for creation.

The project can be adapted to suit your school.

Other popular workshops include: The Easter Project, Refuge (links to The Nativity and Refugees), The Magic Paintbrush, Exploring Values, Stepping Out (for big changes), You Are Special and Light of the World.

Springs can also bring magical dance theatre to you, saving you a coach trip and transforming your school into a theatre. To find out more about our literature linked, professional productions, please contact the office.

'PROBABLY THE BEST DANCE I'VE SEEN IN ANY SCHOOL, EVER!'

School Inspector talking about a children's performance as part of a six week project by Springs Dance Company

www.springsdancecompany.org.uk



Springs is flexible as to how workshops fit into the school timetable.

To book or for a friendly chat about what we can do for you call us on

07775 628 442 or email

touring@springsdancecompany.org.uk

Get Fit Go Green can include a short professional dance presentation of **'The Green Project'** that can help your whole school engage with the themes of the project.





SCHOOLS WORKSHOPS

These dynamic workshops will give pupils the chance to explore the story of *The Magic Paintbrush* and its themes of respect, community, greed, democracy, finding our voice, standing up to injustice and creating a brighter world. The learning objectives include British Values and link to the PE/ Dance/ Literacy/ Drama and PSHE curriculum.

ABOUT SPRINGS

Springs is a vibrant contemporary dance organisation which runs a bespoke, tailor-made education programme for schools. We create work with a voice and deliver engaging, imaginative education projects under the expert tuition of Springs' professional team.

ABOUT THE WORKSHOPS

Young people will discuss the story and its themes, with the option of exploring British Values. Pupils will learn and create movement, experiencing the art of storytelling and communication through dance in these engaging, captivating sessions. The workshops can culminate in a sharing or performance by the pupils to the school and parents.

A curriculum linked resource pack is available to accompany the workshops, providing lesson ideas, schemes of work and activities to do with your class based on *The Magic Paintbrush*.

'This was a fantastic workshop - well guided for the age of the children and engaging. The kids loved it, the staff loved it!' *The Magic Paintbrush* workshops at St Mary's Primary School

The Magic Paintbrush appears on the Oxford Reading Tree: Primary School Literacy Resource, listed in the Traditional Tales, making it the perfect work to explore with your school.

Springs can tailor its visit to meet your focus and timetable and the workshops are a great way to utilise Sports Premium Funding.

To book and for a friendly chat please email touring@springsdancecompany.org.uk or call us on 07876 752 910

To see the range of popular workshops Springs has to offer, please visit our new website www.springsdancecompany.org.uk

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Who's who in the education department

Telephone number: 01928 718834

Mr Chris Penn - Director of Education

Ext 222

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General advice, governor support, academies, admissions and incidents

Sue Noakes – Deputy Director of Education

Ext 230 (In the school holidays mobile 07540722668)

sue.noakes@chester.anglican.org

General advice particularly in connection with teaching and related school issues

Jill Kelly – Deputy Director of Education - School effectiveness

Ext 245 or 07540722669

jill.kelly@chester.anglican.org

For governor appointments, newsletters, events

Sandra Reynolds – School Administrative Assistant/Receptionist

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Property and Finance

Aided school and academy building work, legal, school site and trustee issues

Adele Holt - School Assets Manager

Ext 228

adele.holt@chester.anglican.org

DFC and aided school building project administration and queries, Gift Aid

Sandra Jones - School Assets Administrator

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Charlotte Somers

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