

# **Diocesan Schools' Newsletter November 2017**

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## Director's Briefing

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you managed to undertake some 'rest and relaxation' over the half term break as the school year continues to move forward at a pace! I am now two months in post and am slowly working my way around our Diocese schools. It has been a great privilege to see first-hand the wonderful work that is taking place across the Diocese and the strength of Christian leadership that exists within our Church schools. I have really enjoyed meeting many of you, both through my school visits and the Headteacher Cluster meetings and have greatly appreciated the warm welcome that I've received.

It has been an equally busy time for the Education team, as we respond to the needs of our schools, whilst also looking to provide shape and clarity around the wider and significant educational issues impacting our schools. One key area has been around Academisation. At the start of this month, the Board of Education (DBE) met to look to provide clarification around the framework for academy conversion for the Church schools in our Diocese. This will be further discussed at Diocesan Synod on the 11th November. Following this, the DBE intends to write to schools to explain its policy and procedure for academy conversion.

This month, we also have the annual Headteacher's Conference taking place on the 17<sup>th</sup> November at Cranage Hall, Crewe. It is not too late to book a place on the conference on what we expect to be a thought-provoking and insightful day. This year's theme is 'Thriving, not surviving: the church school of the future' and will have a focus on emotionally and spiritually healthy schools. It will include presentations from three of our schools, with a keynote in the afternoon from Keith Simpson, Head teacher of Middlewich High School and Chair of Cheshire East Emotionally healthy schools project. Keith's work has been acknowledged by the National College and he will be sharing his experiences along with providing some practical resources to use and develop within your own school.

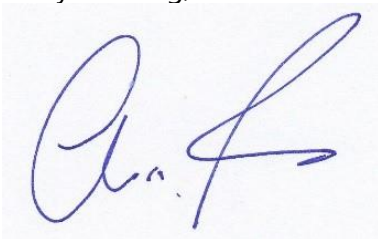
The Conference focus recognises, and looks to address, some of the current challenges facing our school leaders and your schools. However, we know that we do not face these alone, the expanding development of support through our church school network and clusters, along with our faith in the Lord, provides real hope, strength and encouragement for all that lies ahead.

**Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.**

**[Isaiah 43 1-3]**

I hope you are able to join us at the Conference; I look forward to meeting you there and continuing the conversation.

Every Blessing,



Chris Penn

**Director of Education**

## General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

Schools need to be aware of the GDPR which are due to come into force on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018. It will have far reaching effects for schools and how data is processed. We would recommend that schools familiarise themselves with the updates and ensure that processes are changed in readiness.

A summary from the ICO website regarding personal data and the principles of the GDPR states:

*Article 5 of the GDPR requires that personal data shall be:*

- (a) processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to individuals;
- (b) collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes; further processing for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes shall not be considered to be incompatible with the initial purposes;
- (c) adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed;
- (d) accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date; every reasonable step must be taken to ensure that personal data that are inaccurate, having regard to the purposes for which they are processed, are erased or rectified without delay;
- (e) kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the personal data are processed; personal data may be stored for longer periods insofar as the personal data will be processed solely for archiving purposes in the public interest, scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes subject to implementation of the appropriate technical and organisational measures required by the GDPR in order to safeguard the rights and freedoms of individuals;
- (f) processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data, including protection against unauthorised or unlawful processing and against accidental loss, destruction or damage, using appropriate technical or organisational measures.

Article 5(2) requires that

“the controller shall be responsible for, and be able to demonstrate, compliance with the principles.”

## Middle Leader Course

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.

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## Church School Governance Training Programme (CSGTP)

Liverpool Hope University is pleased to offer your school **2 free places** on the Church School Governance Training Programme (CSGTP)

The Hope Church School Governance Training Programme (CSGTP) is aimed at Governors and Trustees (Directors) in both church schools and schools with a distinctively Christian ethos, providing support for Governors and Trustees (Directors) committed to working on school improvement. The programme has been very specifically designed to raise awareness of the changing expectations of Governing Boards and meeting today's challenges in the education sector, whilst still holding on to the mission and vision of a church school. The programme has been developed by experts and professionals with a background in church school leadership, governance and inspection.

The programme provides a foundation level, which includes an online module and access to a full day conference. Further options are available in an advanced level but are not compulsory.

### **Audience:**

- Governors and trustees (directors) working in church schools
- Governors working in other designated schools

The full CSGTP programme includes:

- **Level 1 (Foundation):** Completion of an online module (January to April 2018) and access to a one day conference (Saturday 9th June 2018, optional).
- **Level 2 (Advanced):** Completion of a 'Leading in Church Schools' module, to include a Train the Trainer workshop (September - December 2018).

**Cost:** FREE: This programme is subsidised\*

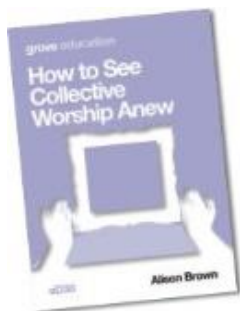
\*Please note that places are limited. Maximum of 2 places per school can be booked.

For further information and/or to register please contact:

The CPD Team  
Faculty of Education  
Liverpool Hope University  
Hope Park  
Liverpool, L16 9JD.  
T: 0151 291 3061/3093  
E: [cpd@hope.ac.uk](mailto:cpd@hope.ac.uk)

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## 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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## School Job Vacancy Form

There is now a new 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**



## RE Quality Mark



When schools achieve the REQM, please notify [Sandra Reynolds](#).

Congratulations to:

**Acton C of E Primary School** who received Gold

**Antrobus St Mark's C of E Primary School** who received Silver

**Hartford C of E High School** who received Gold





## 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.

### Head teachers and Senior Leaders

<b>Diocesan Headteacher conference 2017/18</b>		Click <a href="#">here</a> for a booking form
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November</b>  9:15am -3:30pm  Cranage Hall, Crewe	<p>'Thriving, not surviving: the church school of the future'. The focus of this year's conference is emotionally and spiritually healthy schools.</p> <p>Keynote speakers: Chris Penn, newly appointed DDE of the Diocese of Chester. Chris will explore the leadership vision set out in the 'Deeply Christian, Serving the Common Good' report, alongside featuring the work developing Spirituality from two Chester diocesan schools: one Primary and one Secondary.</p> <p>Keith Simpson, Head teacher of Middlewich High School and Chair of Cheshire East Emotionally healthy schools project, will share the ground breaking multi-disciplinary work of the Emotionally Healthy schools project</p>	£100 for Family of Schools members  £150 for non-members
<b>Diocesan Deputy Headteacher / Senior Leader conference</b>		Click <a href="#">here</a> for a booking form
<b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January</b> 9:15am -3:30pm Cranage Hall, Crewe	<p>'The key to success is to keep growing in all areas of life – mental, emotional , spiritual as well as physical '</p> <p>In response to the 2016 report: 'Deeply Christian, Serving the Common Good', we will be exploring how we can 'sustain, renew and improve' our vision for leadership and develop Spirituality alongside emotional well-being in Church of England schools. The conference will provide practical examples of how this can be implemented in church schools.</p>	£100 for Family of Schools members  £150 for non-members
<b>Preparing the SEF for a church school</b>		Click <a href="#">here</a> for a booking form
<b>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January</b> Both events from 9am -3.30pm  Church House, Daresbury	<p>Practical advice and support in writing a SEF for a church of England school. The course will be led by our diocesan consultant and retired former HMI, Brian Padgett.</p> <p>Please be advised that numbers are limited for this course.</p>	£100 for Family of Schools members  £150 for non-members
<b>Aspiring to lead in a church school</b>		Click <a href="#">here</a> for a booking form
<b>Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February</b>		

<p>9am -3.30pm Wrightington Hotel and Country Club <b>Or</b> <b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March</b> 9am -3.30pm at Cranage Hall</p>	<p>Explore and reflect upon distinctive Christian leadership. Listen to a church of England head teacher share their leadership journey. Gain some practical ideas for RE and worship within a leadership role and practical advice in applying for posts.</p> <p>This is a one day course with the offer of two venues across the diocese.</p>	<p>£100 for Family of Schools members</p> <p>£150 for non-members</p>
<p><b>Growing spirituality in a church school</b> Click <a href="#">here</a> for a booking form</p>		
<p><b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March</b> 9.15am -3.30pm Foxhill Conference Centre <b>Or</b> <b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June</b> 9.15am -3.30pm 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>
<p><b>Christian leadership course</b></p> <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><b>Please email your name, school name and contact details to Sandra Reynolds as soon as possible.</b> (<a href="mailto:sandra.reynolds@chester.anglican.org">sandra.reynolds@chester.anglican.org</a>)</p>		

## Middle Leaders

<p><b>New North west dioceses middle leader course</b></p>	Click <a href="#">here</a> for more information
<p>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.</p>	

## Recently Qualified Teachers

<p><b>RQT reflect and review on life in a church school</b></p>	Click <a href="#">here</a> for a booking form
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<b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January</b> 8.30am -12.30pm Church House, Daresbury	An opportunity to meet together for an afternoon with colleagues from other diocesan church schools to discuss and share good practice, to explore the place of Christian values in a church school and the importance of teaching RE.  Please note: a buffet lunch will be provided	£25 for Family of Schools members  £50 for non-members
<b>Developing more effective practice in teaching Religious Education</b>		
<b>17/11/17, 09/03/18, 15/06/18</b>	<b>3 Day Course - Please see below for all the details</b>	Click <a href="#">here</a> for a booking form

## Newly Qualified Teachers

<b>Primary NQT welcome</b>		Click <a href="#">here</a> for a booking form
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2017</b>  9am -3.30pm at Church House, Daresbury  AND  <b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017</b>  8.30am -3pm at Tarporley C of E Primary School	We look forward to welcoming our NQT colleagues to the Diocese of Chester and will explore: Christian values, quality RE and what working in a church school means.  The two days are an integral part of the NQT course. As places are limited for the school-based day, it may be necessary to offer an alternative date. Early booking is recommended.	£100 for Family of Schools members  £150 for non-members

## Religious Education

<b>Using the diocesan syllabus with the Understanding Christianity project    2 Day Course</b>		
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January</b> 9.30am -3.30pm Church House, Daresbury  <b>&amp;</b>  <b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May</b> 9.15am -12.30pm Church House, Daresbury  <b>Please be aware that the deadline for bookings or cancellations is 19/12/2017</b>	<b>Attend both days</b> These two days will be helpful to delegates <i>who haven't previously attended</i> the Understanding Christianity resource training but delegates <i>who have attended the training</i> last year may find it helpful to revisit the material and to further consider how the resource can complement the Diocesan syllabus.  Delegates must indicate on booking if they have already received the UC resource in earlier training so appropriate materials can be ordered if necessary.	Click <a href="#">here</a> for a booking form  £150 per person for Family of Schools members  £200 per person for non-members  <b>NB</b> There is a £50 reduction on the course cost for those who have



<b>as materials must be ordered a month before</b>	NB Teachers who have previously attended the Understanding Christianity training may wish to attend to explore further links with the Diocesan syllabus.	attended the UC Training before.
<b>World Religions Day</b>		Click <a href="#">here</a> for a booking form
<b>Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018</b>  Morning session 9.15am -12.15pm (Islam)  Afternoon session 1pm -4pm (Hinduism)  Church House, Daresbury	This day session is designed for the non-specialist who is interested in improving their knowledge and understanding of how to teach two major world religions. Delegates can choose to attend all day or alternatively attend either the morning (Islam) or afternoon session (Hinduism). The two sessions will involve an introduction to good practice in each world religion and consider how to teach them effectively in the primary school. There will be two invited guest speakers, Imran Kotwal (a popular Muslim teacher who runs workshops in schools) and Prajyoti from Pushpanjali Dance. A basic knowledge of these two world religions will be covered and there will be practical activities to show how RE can be taught creatively. Time will be given to look at curriculum planning and delegates will consider how to adapt ideas to the Diocesan and Locally Agreed Syllabus they may follow. There will be opportunities to raise questions and discuss ideas.	<b>Full Day</b> £150 per person for Family of Schools members  £200 per person for non-members  <b>Half Day</b> £75 per person for Family of Schools members  £100 per person for non-members
<b>Assessment and the diocesan syllabus</b>		Click <a href="#">here</a> for a booking form
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June</b> 9.30am -12.30pm Church House, Daresbury	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.	£50 for Family of Schools members  £75 for non-members

## Diocesan Groups

<b>Early Years Group</b>		Click <a href="#">here</a> for a booking form
<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November</b>  10am -12noon  Church House, Daresbury	The Diocesan EYFS group generally meets termly, often in one of our church schools. It is an opportunity to discuss current early year's issues and draw on good practice from 10 different Local Authorities, which are part of the Diocese of Chester. Newly qualified teachers and teachers new to early years are very welcome, as well as our more experienced practitioners.	

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## Prayers

Please pray for:

Family, friends and teachers of Lewis a pupil at Wybunbury Delves C of E Primary School who has sadly passed away.

Mr Ian McDougall (Mac) who is currently in Hospital waiting for an operation.



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## Staff News

**A very warm welcome to the following:**

**New Headteachers' from January 2018:**

Mr Darren Jones at Heswall St Peter's C of E Primary School

Mrs Christine Wright at Hoylake Holy Trinity C of E Primary School

Mr Andy Ramsden at Oxton St Saviour's C of E Primary School

Mrs Kelsey Mort at Tilston Parochial C of E Primary School

Mrs Natalie Tomlinson at Wharton C of E Primary School



**New Deputy Headteacher from January 2018:**

Mrs Anne Bell at Oxton St Saviour's C of E Primary School (has been Acting Deputy since April 2017)

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## Inspections

Congratulations to the following schools

**Section 48 outstanding/good**

Bickerton Holy Trinity C of E Primary School

Bollington Cross C of E Primary School

Bosley St Mary's C of E Primary School

Guilden Sutton C of E Primary School

Huxley C of E Primary School

**Section S5 / S8 outstanding/good**

Birkenhead The Priory Parish C of E Primary School

Dukinfield St John's C of E Primary School

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### Astbury St Mary's C of E Primary School

Astbury church was beautifully decorated as the school joined the family service for harvest. There were many gifts for the local storehouse as well as the traditional thank you gifts and prayers. The children from Astbury School read from the Old and New Testaments and sang **I mustn't forget** to say a great big **THANK YOU**. Rector Jeff led the congregation in prayers of thanks to God for the harvest as well as blessing prayers. Members of the congregation had been asked to wear their wellies, the final welly dance was enjoyed by many.



### Bollington St John's C of E Primary School

Everyone is delighted that a water Pump has been built in Zimbabwe and named after the school, as the school financed it.

The pump is located in Zimbabwe in Manicaland – a province in the north eastern highlands of Zimbabwe.

An Elephant Pump can easily provide safe drinking water for upwards of 300 people.

The impact on the community where the well is built is profound and far reaching.



There are numerous ways in which having a water pump will assist a community:

- It provides safe, clean drinking water to a community that before would not have access to drinking water, but would most likely need to walk for miles to retrieve water in buckets or containers.
- Having a pump eliminates many diseases e.g. dysentery – the concept of the Elephant Pump arose from the now CE of The Africa Trust, Ian Thorpe, having witnessed people falling ill after drinking water from a contaminated water source. This prompted Ian to produce a viable and practical water source – he then went on to invent the Elephant Pump



- As the focus of the well building is for sustainability, it is likely that having access to water close by will mean that the children (as well as others) in the community will be able to eat better, drink more water and from this be able to better concentrate in class at school, which means a better education and a better future for them.
- Depending upon the set-up in the community where the pump is, it is possible that a banana plantation could be established, and using water from the pump, the bananas could then be sold, more banana plants could be planted, and the monies from the sales could contribute towards the children's' school fees.

### **Bosley St Mary's C of E Primary School**

At the start of this school year, Bosley St Mary's welcomed eleven new children to school, one new teacher, two new teaching assistants and the new benefice curate Kim Quak-Winslow too. For the first time in recent decades the school is now at a full capacity of 56 children, and everyone is busy learning through all sorts of activities with a swashbuckling whole-school topic of PIRATES.

The KS2 annual residential was a highlight as always: the junior class headed to a beautiful new rural venue in North Wales and spent a wonderful few days in the fresh air, orienteering, dam/bridge/fire-building and tackling many a team-building challenge.

Year 5 children also thoroughly enjoyed the annual Pilgrim Day at Chester Cathedral where they learnt what it means to be a pilgrim and monk, and all took part in music & art, experiencing the life, work and worship of the Cathedral through the ages.

Each school Harvest Festival service thanks were given and prayers for the strong farming community. and they have also widened their vision to the global aspect of harvest where there is a particular need. This year the school found out about the work of the UK charity Send a Cow and their 2017 Harvest Appeal. The Ethos Group and School Council organised a range of fund-



raising activities including games, cake sales & a tea-party, a farmer's market and dressing-up day, and soon reached our target of £210 which is enough to provide seeds, tools and training for 7 families in an East African country like Uganda so that there can be a sustainable harvest in those communities for the future.

## Great Budworth C of E Primary School

Year 5 & 6 pupil's thoroughly enjoyed their Bible Explorer sessions last term. Mr Reynolds visited to lead the sessions over the last 5 weeks giving a whistle-stop tour of the whole of the Old Testament. Working through the National Charity Walk Through the Bible, the pupils loved this fantastic opportunity to see how the big picture story line of the Bible fits together, using actions, drama & much more. Some of the pupils comments were:

"I really enjoy Bible Explorer because you have fun and learn about the Bible."

"It's funny, action packed, amazing, interesting. I like his funny jokes."

"Bible Explorer is a fast moving programme so you must look and listen and not get lost. I wish Bible Explorer was every day."

"I love Bible Explorer because I'm not much of a Christian but Mr Reynolds makes it really fun for me. My favourite subject was when Moses saved the Israelites from Egypt. It has inspired me to read the whole Bible."

"I like learning all the actions and characters."

"I really like the ten plagues and the actions to help us remember."

"I like Bible Explorer because I'm learning about the Old Testament and he is really funny as well."

"What I liked most about Bible Explorer was when Mr Reynolds poured water on his head."

"My favourite part is learning the actions for every part of the Bible."





### **Sir Thomas Boteler C of E High School**

On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October, representatives from all 7 TCAT schools made a visit to London. They visited the Houses of Parliament where the Education Officers gave them a full tour of the Parliamentary Estate and explained the history of these iconic buildings. Students were able to ask questions and find out more about the government and how our country is run. They participated in a series of workshops based on voting and representation, and actively participated in writing manifestos and campaigning to gain votes.

The School was delighted to host a talk from a member of the House of Lords on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October. The purpose being to encourage students to become more engaged with the political and parliamentary process and to give GCSE Citizenship students the chance to ask questions of a peer.

Lord Storey met GCSE Citizenship students in Years 10 and 11 and representatives from the TCAT council to talk about the work and role of the House of Lords, followed by a question and answer session on various aspects of the parliamentary process and life at the Houses of Parliament generally.



### **Tushingam-with-Grindley C of E Primary School**

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children had a wonderful time in Rhyl recently, despite the chilly weather. The youngsters especially enjoyed paddling in the sea, exploring the seashore and digging in the sand, all very exciting. The children were thrilled to visit the Sea Life Centre in Rhyl too. They were both fascinated and delighted to meet exotic sea creatures close up! A few days after meeting these exotic sea creatures, the whole school watched a dramatic dinosaur performance in school. Children had learned about dinosaurs during the day through special Life long ago dinosaur workshops, and were later captivated by the appearance of several dinosaurs in our school hall. The children and adults were riveted; it certainly was a day to remember at Tushingham School.



### **Hartford C of E High School**

## **Primary Ethos Conference**

On Wednesday 21st June Hartford Church of England High School Ambassadors were honoured with the request of supporting a primary Ethos Conference organised by Witton Church Walk CE Primary School, Tarporley CE Primary School and St. Oswald's CE Primary School in Chester. This was held at Witton Church Walk CE Primary School.

This was a conference organised to bring together 15 different schools, deepen their knowledge of Christian values, share in collective worship and complete various different workshops around the focus of friendship.

Hartford Ambassadors were invited to support the running of the day and support the Ethos team of Witton Church Walk. Activities included Prayer corner, making friendship bracelets, drama, singing and making wooden crosses. Throughout these sessions all pupils were encouraged to engage upon the Christian message and reflect how this could impact on their personal lives. At the end of the day, Hartford Ambassadors shared their personal reflections with the whole group and delivered a confident, thoughtful and touching reflection.

## **Shocklach Oviatt C of E Primary School**

The children have had a very exciting half term with new Executive Headteacher, Kath Shepherd. The children have enjoyed a multitude of rich harvest experiences. They wrote and performed very thought provoking harvest poetry inspired by produce grown by the children in our school garden. The children also wrote and read reflective prayers at our jam packed Service at St Edith's. The twice weekly toddler group also loved creating art work which was proudly displayed in the church. The congregation was treated to an entertaining version of The Little Red Hen from Reception, Year One and two children. Reverend Jane Stephenson congratulated all of the children on such a beautiful service before inviting them to collect conkers from the grounds. Mac from our local Foodbank in Whitchurch, led worship for the whole school and inspired the children to bring in very generous donations. Helen Peel and church warden at St Edith's came and baked Harvest bread with the children. Helen is an ex pupil of our school and shared the history of this tradition with us all. This freshly baked bread was delivered with a smile by some of Year 6 children to the local community. Grandparents' Day was another very special highlight. Grandparents travelled from across the country to have lunch, share and celebrate their grandchildren's work and achievements. Grandparents offered to lead part of our Worship that day and this was very memorable indeed. Reception, Year One and Year two enjoyed a very special trip to Chester Cathedral to see the sculptures and they particularly enjoyed buying two lego bricks each to help keep the incredible model version going. The children then spent the afternoon in the new Storyhouse Theatre and William's Grandpa delivered a highly entertaining story telling session! Year 5 enjoyed taking part in Pilgrim Day at Chester Cathedral and they were congratulated on being super ambassadors for the school. At the end of the Summer term, Years 5 and 6 were treated to a tour of the Houses of Parliament and an exclusive Q and A session with MP, Antoinette Sandbach. Certificates arrived this term to mark this incredible opportunity. In the final week of the half term, the whole school had a fantastic activity day at Tattenhall Outdoor Centre. The children enjoyed canoeing, archery, ropes, hammocks and the zip wire. Team work, co-operation and fun was had in abundance.





### Sir Thomas Boteler C of E High School

Parlez-vous français? 26<sup>th</sup> September was European languages day. To mark the event that celebrates languages all over Europe, student's I took part in a number of activities. Year 7 started off the day with a French breakfast of a pain au chocolat and jus d'orange. One Year 7 student remarked that it was better than English breakfast and one asked to have French breakfast every day. Other forms watched a presentation about the importance of learning other languages with quotes from some famous people such as Nelson Mandela, **if you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language that goes to his heart.**



At lunchtime students could win prizes for having short French or Spanish conversations with MFL Teachers Mr Shelmerdine and Mrs Ward in the canteen. There were also lots of ways of saying hello in different languages on posters around the school. The challenge was to learn six different ways of saying hello in return for a prize at the end of the day. This was extremely popular with lots of student involvement.

### Woodchurch C of E High School

On Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September, Miss Carr held an Eco Reps assembly, to welcome back Reps from previous years and to congratulate new Eco Reps, especially those in year 7. The assembly explored



Ecological issues and looked at what the pupils can be doing to contribute to the solution of the



Environmental Problem. Many of the pupils showed a keen interest in the topic. It was an incredibly successful assembly to introduce environmental concerns to the Eco Reps. Miss Carr looks forward to working with the Reps in the future to raise awareness and campaign for Environmental Rights.



On Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017, school was pleased to be visited by the Most Revd George Takeli, Archbishop of Melanesia, his wife Mrs June Takeli and the Ven Dr Michael Gilbertson, Archdeacon of Chester. This visit was in recognition of the new partnership that has been recently been created between Woodchurch High School and St Nicholas Church of England College in Honiara, Solomon Islands.

After meeting the Head teacher and representatives of the Senior Leadership Team at school, our visitors toured the school building and participated in lessons. On their tour, our visitors spent time on the school farm, which was a concept that the Archbishop of Melanesia was very impressed with.

He also had the opportunity to meet with a group of children and take part in a question and answer session based around culture, faith and teaching and learning. In this discussion, the Archbishop of Melanesia expressed how pleased he was with the new partnership between the schools and his hope was for it to grow and develop into a very positive learning experience for both schools.



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## Adverts

SPRINGS DANCE COMPANY

# Easter Project

Springs Dance Company specialises in RE through dance and helps young people learn about and learn from the Christian faith.



The Springs Easter Project leads pupils through a series of dance workshops that help them engage with the Easter story.

Children will learn and create movement in response to the story. They can explore their own spirituality as the workshops link Jesus' relationship with his disciples to Jesus' presence today. The workshops can culminate in an informal sharing or performance of the Easter story by the pupils, which can be shown to the school and parents.

*"They were incredibly professional, organised, thorough and patient. They brought the best out in our children... I look forward to working together again next year! Although, I don't know how you can improve."*

M Moody, Teacher, St Andrew's School  
Streatham. The Easter Project 2017



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For further details please contact:

Rebecca Bertram

Tour Booker

T: 07876 752 910

E: [touring@springsdancecompany.org.uk](mailto:touring@springsdancecompany.org.uk)



## Rhema Theatre Company

Please contact:

Becky and Mike

*Rhema Theatre Company*

W: [www.rhematheatre.org](http://www.rhematheatre.org)

T: 0161 929 6384

E: [admin@rhematheatre.org](mailto:admin@rhematheatre.org)



## Hope Christmas Magazine



### Something to give

HOPE is inviting Christians to make a journey this Christmas to take a glossy Christmas HOPE magazine to every home in their area and to sing carols on the streets. The Christmas HOPE magazine features comedian Miranda Hart, Sky Sports and former Blue Peter presenter Simon Thomas, and toy store entrepreneur Gary Grant. As well as competitions and giveaways, there's a children's story using the Bethlehem Journey resources. These link with the Christmas Journey to Bethlehem carols booklet produced in partnership with Bible Society, Sports Chaplaincy UK, and Integrity Music. To find out more visit [hopetogether.org.uk/christmas](http://hopetogether.org.uk/christmas).

More than 250,000 copies of *Christmas HOPE* have been pre-ordered.

Last year we ran out of copies so place your order soon from [www.cpo.org.uk/christmashope](http://www.cpo.org.uk/christmashope). Or you can order by phone 01903 263354. Copies will be available from the first week of November.

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## Who's who in the education department

Telephone number: 01928 718834

**Mr Chris Penn** - Director of Education

Ext 222

[chris.penn@chester.anglican.org](mailto:chris.penn@chester.anglican.org)

**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](mailto: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](mailto:jill.kelly@chester.anglican.org)

**For governor appointments, newsletters, events**

**Sandra Reynolds** – School Administrative Assistant/Receptionist

Ext 265

[sandra.reynolds@chester.anglican.org](mailto:sandra.reynolds@chester.anglican.org)

**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](mailto:adele.holt@chester.anglican.org)

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

**Sandra Jones** - School Assets Administrator

Ext 227

[sandra.jones@chester.anglican.org](mailto:sandra.jones@chester.anglican.org)

**Administrator**

**Charlotte Somers**

Ext 248

[charlotte.somers@chester.anglican.org](mailto:charlotte.somers@chester.anglican.org)

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