

# DBE Schools Bulletin

June 2022

Being deeply Christian and for the common good,  
our schools will be communities which are:

**LOVING**  
in relationships

**AMBITIOUS**  
in aspirations

**BOLD**  
in actions

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"AND THE PEACE OF GOD,  
 WHICH PASSES ALL  
 UNDERSTANDING, WILL GUARD  
 YOUR HEARTS AND YOUR MINDS  
 IN CHRIST JESUS."

♥ Philippians 4:7

## Jubilee Celebrations

The start of this month has marked the special celebrations of Her Majesty the Queen as she became the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee. Over the extended bank holiday weekend, the nation came together through a range of special services and community events to mark and give thanks to our Queen Elizabeth who has faithfully served her country and God as monarch for the last seventy years. Our schools have held their own jubilee celebrations and it would be wonderful to receive any photos and information from these so that we can share some of these in next month's bulletin.

One of the special events to commemorate the jubilee was a service of thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral. The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, who spoke at our HT & Senior Leaders' Conference in 2018, led the sermon in which he said this,

*"For me, the best leaders - like Paul, like Jesus - are those who know how to be led. People who lead for others, not themselves. People whose heart's desire is to serve the common good and build up the common life; who don't try to do it all themselves, or act in their own strength alone; people who take a longer view; and who seek out places of replenishing, even places where they might learn the mind of Christ. And... in Her Majesty the Queen we see an example of this kind of service; a staunch constancy and a steadfast consistency; a faithfulness to God, an obedience to a vocation that is the bedrock of her life."*

Whilst this is written about the Queen, it could equally apply to the dedication and commitment of those who lead our church schools and churches. May you seek out those places of replenishment during this busy period, as we move into the final half term of the school year.

# Canon Chancellor Award 2022

Canon Chancellor Award at Chester cathedral has been taking place for eight years. This is an annual award to encourage quality of teaching and learning of Christianity in schools.

In 2022 schools were asked to create a Misericord in any medium using a parable of Jesus as a stimulus. Primary and special schools were eligible to apply.

This year we have three prize winners one from Shocklach Oviatt CE Primary school and two winners from Saughton CE Primary school.




**Canon Chancellor Award 2022**

## Misericords

Celebrating teaching Christianity in schools.  
Schools were tasked with  
Create a Misericord in any medium using a parable of  
Jesus as a stimulus

This winning entry is from  
**Shocklach Oviatt  
CE Primary School**





The winning entries are currently displayed in the children's chapel at Chester Cathedral. The award ceremony will take place on Friday 17 June where some children from each school will be presented with an award for each winning entry. They will join together for a buffet lunch and a tour of the Cathedral.




**Canon Chancellor Award 2022**

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These winning entries are from  
**Saughton  
CE Primary School**




Their prize will be a visit to the school of one of the Science and Faith workshops delivered by a member of the Learning Team from Chester Cathedral.

*Jen Stratford  
Education Officer  
Chester Cathedral Education*



## Welcome to Ukraine Families

As communities across the Diocese begin to welcome Ukraine families, we share Saighton Primary's experience of the children joining their school.

It has been a huge privilege to welcome four children (from two families) from The Ukraine. They have only been with us for a week yet have enjoyed worship, baking scones, Young Leaders activities and a Jubilee Celebration for the whole school community!



Children have a wonderful way of bypassing a language barrier and showing hope, humanity and love - these photos say it all.



## RE Conference Reflections

The first ever Chester DBE RE Subject Leader was held on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May

Lat Blaylock from RE Today delivered the interactive, informative sessions around Creativity in Approaching Religions and World views.



Here are some pictures from the day and feedback we received and shared with Lat:

*"An amazing conference, Lat was so engaging and has given me lots of confidence"*

*"Thank you for a wonderful day, it was great to re-connect with RE colleagues and celebrate that RE can be transformational."*

*"Absolutely exceptional! I loved this conference. I feel inspired and am ready to get back to school and share it with both my staff and children."*

Due to the positive responses received from this event we hope to host a similar conferences next year.



## Spirited Arts Competition

Join hundreds of schools from around the world taking part in NATRE's Spirited Arts 2022 competition!

Every year, the NATRE team are blown away by the number of entries received. Not only do we receive lots from here in the UK, we also receive entries from as far as Hong Kong, Australia, Thailand and Bahrain! We are so impressed with not only the quality of the artwork we receive from you all, but also the excellent RE and deep thinking that comes across in the entries too.

### FREE RESOURCES

There's some great useful tips and creative inspiration to share with your pupils from RE Adviser, Lat Blaylock in the recorded webinar and PowerPoint presentation!

[Click here to access these fabulous resources](#)

### GET INVOLVED!

This year's competition details are all available, including some NEW themes for you to respond to with your creativity.

All entries must be received before **31 July 2022** - we look forward to seeing your work!





## Worship in a church school



We warmly invite you and your associated clergy to join our **Collective Worship in Church Schools Network**. Aiming to meet once a term, via Zoom, we will look to share resources, ideas, explore the implications of the [CEEO Guidance for CW](#) and work through big questions together as we seek to offer high quality worship in our schools.

What makes working in a church school so special? When answering this question many people cite the joy of collective worship, whether that be the whole community coming together with shared vision and goose bump inducing, heartfelt singing or the intimate setting of form / class-based worship that allows friendship and knowledge of the Christian faith to grow.

In many of our schools, collective worship is most definitely the heartbeat of the school that permeates through the day. As a diocese we value and greatly appreciate those who take on the responsibility of leading on this important aspect of our school lives and want to further our support of those who are making this happen.

As we have engaged with the Growing Faith adventure, we realise too that our clergy would greatly value that time to be supported and support schools in this. Do share this information with those who support your school.

The next Meeting will last one hour, **9:30-10:30am on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2022**

The meeting is available to book through [Bookwhen](#).

**There is no charge for this network.** Looking forward to seeing you there!

## New Islam CPD Session for Primary RE Teachers

From the Muslim Learner Services is a new Webinar covering Teaching & Learning about Hajj (Pilgrimage to Mecca) and Eid-ul-Adha.



**Muslim Learner Services**

•Assemblies •Workshops •Training

**Training Dates:** Mon 13 June (4-5 pm) **OR** Thu 7 July (4-5 pm)

**Location:** Zoom Live Webinar

**Trainer:** Mr Imran Kotwal

**Cost:** £25 Per Person **OR** £100 for 5 or more Teachers from the same school

For more details see our [leaflet](#)

To book a place, email [CPD@Muslimlearnerservices.org](mailto:CPD@Muslimlearnerservices.org) or [CLICK HERE](#)

## Developing Diversity of Governing Boards

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND Diocese of Manchester | CHURCH FOR A DIFFERENT WORLD

Diocese of Liverpool

CARLISLE DIOCESE

THE DIOCESE OF SHEFFIELD

Diocese of YORK

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND Diocese of Leeds

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND Diocese of Chester

Diocese of Newcastle growing church bringing hope

Diocese of Durham

GOVERNORS CONFERENCE

### Developing the Diversity of Governing Boards

Keynote speaker and host, Sharon Warmington will focus on the reasons why diversity of race is good for governing boards and how Chairs, Governors, Clerks and Senior Leaders can proactively recruit and retain Black representation within their schools.

ONLINE CONFERENCE  
Saturday 25th June 2022  
10.00 am – 1.00 pm

Contact: [info@nbg.co.uk](mailto:info@nbg.co.uk)

NBGN  
NATIONAL BLACK GOVERNORS NETWORK

This online conference takes place on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June between 10am and 1pm and is free to attend. Please click on the link for further details. [Developing Diversity on Governing Boards](#)

To register your place click on this link to the NBGN's Eventbrite site: [NBGN Event Tickets](#)

## Springs Dance Company

Specialising in cross-curricular dance, in particular with Religious Education, Values and PSHE, Springs Dance Company is delighted to be offering the following programme to schools for the Summer and Autumn Terms:

- **The Good Samaritan** - Focusing on the importance of helping others, these workshops touch on themes of living in a multi-racial / multi-religious society, ask moral questions and go deeper into RE.
- **You Are Special** – These workshops tackle the big issue of self-esteem and create opportunities for the children to discuss ideas about self-worth and how we treat others.
- **PARABLE Interactive Performance Workshop** - Combining a professional performance and integrated workshop experience in one, PARABLE provides an exciting opportunity for children to encounter and overcome creative challenges, accomplish tasks and influence the outcome of the performance whilst absorbed in a vibrant world of professional dance and theatre.

Further details on all of Springs' workshops can be found at [Springs Dance Company - Schools Workshops](#).

# KICK Sports Coaching, Mentoring and Chaplaincy

*(Primary and Secondary)*

KICK are a provider of sports coaching, street dance coaching, solutions focused mentoring and schools chaplaincy in primary and secondary schools. This could be an option for your PPA next year, making use of sports premium funding, or the mentoring option could be valuable for pupil premium learners or those with mental health and wellbeing needs.



Joe Lowther writes "We would like to introduce you to KICK who are a not-for-profit provider with a values-driven ethos. The areas we deliver, in Primary and Secondary Schools, include PE National Curriculum, Transformational Street Dance, Schools-based Chaplaincy and Solutions-Focused Mentoring. All the sessions KICK provide include a value application, to build Christian distinctiveness in schools and they therefore meet a number of SMSC and where applicable SIAMS criteria which can be helpful to schools. We have over 20 years experience, work with over 20,000 kids a week in 90 Schools and have recently moved national paving the way for them to come out to Guildford Diocese."

For more information about their work, watch their latest video here: [KICK - Transforming lives](#)

Chief Exec, Joe Lowther, is a former Principal of an Outstanding School in Tower Hamlets and would be very happy to discuss with you what KICK offer if you would like to know more? His contact details are [joelowther@kick.org.uk](mailto:joelowther@kick.org.uk) and can set up a bespoke one: one appointment to synthesise what KICK can do for your school.

## POP UK- Free Song Bank

During the summer term, schools continue to support children's mental and emotional well-being during **Mental Health Week** and prepare **Year 6** for their next big step as they move on to High School.

We have [specially written songs and accompanying video lessons](#) for Mental Health Week and Year 6 Transition. These **FREE** resources help children **hold onto hope** as they face challenges in their lives. The songs reinforce the Christian values they've learned and give them the confidence to look ahead to new opportunities the future will bring. Schools can access them through our [FREE Song Bank](#)

Teachers particularly value the fact that our resources are:

**INCLUSIVE** Songs written for all children whether they share a Christian faith or not.

**DISTINCTIVE** Non-confessional lyrics that teach clear Christian values, appropriate for all to sing.

**RELEVANT** Contemporary songs with themes that matter to children.

## Summer Term RE Cluster Leader Meetings

Launched by the Diocese in 2019, our primary RE subject leader cluster groups give RE leaders from church schools opportunity to network, share good ideas and ensure sustained good practice in RE across our Diocese. Don't miss out.



Please contact your RE Cluster Group Leader or [charlotte.somers@chester.anglican.org](mailto:charlotte.somers@chester.anglican.org) for further

Name of Cluster Group	Group Leaders	Details of meeting	Venue for meeting
Cheshire East South	Fiona Pulle (Brereton CE) Liz Ward (Wybunbury Delves CE)	<b>Thursday 23rd June at 4pm</b> Fiona Pulle	<b>Brereton School</b>
Cheshire East North & Cheshire West & Chester North (Northwich)	Carys Clark (St Johns the Evangelist, Macc.)	<b>Tuesday 28th June at 4pm</b> Carys Clark	Online via Zoom
Cheshire West & Chester South (Chester & Ellesmere Port)	Rachel Inns (Hoole CE) Vicky Sewell (Christchurch Ellesmere Port)	<b>Wednesday 22nd June 4pm</b> Rachel Inns	<b>Hoole CE Primary School</b>
Cheshire West & Chester (Rural)	Finola Jackson (Saighton CE)	<b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 4pm</b> Finola Jackson	<b>Saighton Primary</b>
Tameside & Stockport	Amelia Wassall (Hyde St Georges )	<b>Thursday 30th June 4pm</b> Amelia Wassall	<b>Hyde St Georges</b>
Trafford	Vanessa Horner (Bowdon CE)	<b>Tuesday 21st June 4pm</b> Vanessa Horner	<b>Bowdon CE</b>
Wirral	Charlotte Fenwick (Christchurch Birkenhead) Rachel Clark (St Andrews Bebington)	<b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June 4pm</b> Rachel Clark	Online via Zoom or <b>St Andrew's, Bebington</b>

information.

## Discover Magazine – Exploring The Bible

Good News are delighted to launch a brand new educational publication for Everyone! called the 'Discover Magazine'. With over 90 pages of teaching content the Discover Magazine has been created as a teaching resource for UK primary schools.



The Discover Magazine is free of charge and could be used to support teachers in Religious Education (RE) lessons for Upper Key Stage 2 level to teach their class about the Bible and to learn what the Bible says.

It is written by Lat Blaylock, who was our key note speaker at the Diocesan RE Conference and has been recommended by one of the local members in Wirral.

Schools can order free copies directly from the website here: [Discover Magazine](#)



## June & July 2022 Courses

Date	Course	Location
15/06/2022	<a href="#">Admissions and Appeals for VA Schools and Academies for Governors &amp; Headteachers</a>	ON-LINE
16/06/2022	<a href="#">Understanding Christianity &amp; the Diocesan Syllabus</a> <b>FULLY BOOKED</b>	CHURCH HOUSE, DARESURY **
22/06/2022	<a href="#">Collective Worship in Church Schools Network Meeting</a>	ON-LINE
29/06/2022	<a href="#">Looking to the Future: Review, Reimagine, Research, Reset</a>	CHURCH HOUSE, DARESURY **
05/07/22	<a href="#">Spiritual Development in a Church School</a> (MORNING EVENT TICKET)	FOXHILL CONF. & RETREAT CENTRE
05/07/22	<a href="#">Prayer Spaces In Schools</a> (AFTERNOON EVENT TICKET)	FOXHILL CONF. & RETREAT CENTRE
05/07/22	<a href="#">Spiritual Development in a Church School &amp; Prayer Spaces in Schools</a> (TICKET FOR BOTH EVENTS & LUNCH)	FOXHILL CONF. & RETREAT CENTRE
05/07/22	<a href="#">World Faiths - 'Islam'</a> (ONLINE TWILIGHT)	ON-LINE
07/07/22	<a href="#">Chairs' Clinic &amp; Networking Group</a>	ON-LINE

**\*\* DELEGATES WILL BE NOTIFIED IF A VENUE IS CHANGED FROM 'IN PERSON' TO 'ONLINE'**

## Wild and Wonderful



This organisation offers free eco resources suitable for ages 4-12 that tie in with the primary teaching curriculum (UK) for science, RE and other subjects and links to the work of A Rocha and Climate Stewards. Follow the link below for more details:  
[Wild & Wonderful | Free Science, Faith and Creation Care resources](#)

**Does your school have any news to share from this month?**

We are always keen to hear from our schools and aim to include all contributions received. We would particularly like to hear from you if your school has not previously been featured.

Please send a short article with a couple of photographs to

[linda.boys@chester.anglican.org](mailto:linda.boys@chester.anglican.org)

## Heads' wellbeing programme for 2022/23.

The headteacher wellbeing programme is a year-long programme to support headteacher wellbeing. Taking place in the beautiful setting of Foxhill we run two cohorts, one for experienced headteachers and one for those who are more recently appointed. There are four sessions that look at a variety of different topics and strategies as well as time to meet together and support one another. In addition to this Heads receive termly wellbeing visits that are an opportunity to discuss any matters that are prevalent at that time. Two of this year's cohort shares their thoughts below:



*As an experienced headteacher I tended to work on auto pilot, but I know this can lead to 'burnout.' We don't give ourselves time to reflect on us as a person even though we are always looking out for others. The headteacher wellbeing programme gave me permission to stop and reflect on myself as well as giving me the tools to support myself and others. As a result of this course I have been able to put things in perspective and to deal with an ever-increasing workload. I have had time to read some great books that have changed my practice but more than anything, the chance to meet others and talk about the importance of looking after ourselves, so we can look after others, has been really powerful. The beautiful building, grounds and artwork in Foxhill is the perfect place to reset yourself.*

*This course is a must for all headteachers, I can't recommend it highly enough. I hope there will be a chance for me to join another course like this in the future.*

*The Headteacher Wellbeing Programme has been a huge help to me, I cannot recommend it highly enough.*

*It has provided me with practical strategies, an opportunity to prioritise wellbeing and has helped me to build supportive relationships with other colleagues. The chance to meet in the beautiful Foxhill House, to stop and reflect on what can be such a fast paced and reactive role has really helped me to gain a sense of perspective and has helped me to take practical steps to support both my own and my team's wellbeing.*

*Please take this opportunity to prioritise your wellbeing, it will pay dividends in the future. I thoroughly recommend the course to anyone in headship, in fact I wish I could repeat it again next year!*

If you are interested in next year's programme click on this link for details:

[2022-23 Headteacher Wellbeing Programme](#) or contact [Charlotte Somers](#) .

## Headteacher Cluster Meetings

CLUSTER GROUP	DATE	TIME
<b>2022 DATES</b>		
Nantwich/Congleton	Thursday 16 June	10am -12pm
Northwich	Thursday 26 May	1.30pm -3.30pm
Rural Chester	Monday 20 June	1.30pm -3.30pm
Trafford	Monday 20 June	12.30pm – 2.30pm
Warrington/Halton	Monday 16 May	1.30pm -3.30pm
Macclesfield	Tuesday 17 May	1.30pm -3.30pm
Stockport/Tameside	Tuesday 24 May	10am -12pm
Chester	Monday 13 June	1.30pm -3.30pm
Wirral	Friday 10 June	12.30pm -2.30pm

### DBE team contact details to enable schools to contact officers by phone or e-mail.

<a href="mailto:chris.penn@chester.anglican.org">chris.penn@chester.anglican.org</a>	Director of Education	07540 722667
<a href="mailto:sue.noakes@chester.anglican.org">sue.noakes@chester.anglican.org</a>	Deputy Director of Education	07540 722668
<a href="mailto:mark.whitehill@chester.anglican.org">mark.whitehill@chester.anglican.org</a>	School Effectiveness Officer	07540 722669
<a href="mailto:jenny.mcilveen@chester.anglican.org">jenny.mcilveen@chester.anglican.org</a>	Christian Character & CPD Officer	07581 245812
<a href="mailto:simon.geddes@chester.anglican.org">simon.geddes@chester.anglican.org</a>	Buildings & Finance Officer	07564 901986
<a href="mailto:sandra.jones@chester.anglican.org">sandra.jones@chester.anglican.org</a>	School Assets Administrator	07549 109589
<a href="mailto:charlotte.somers@chester.anglican.org">charlotte.somers@chester.anglican.org</a>	Director's PA & Administrator	07549 109578
<a href="mailto:linda.boys@chester.anglican.org">linda.boys@chester.anglican.org</a>	DBE Administrator	07549 109590



## News from Schools

### Bollington St Johns

Our school council have planted a Glastonbury Thorn tree, to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The Glastonbury Thorn is believed to have been brought to the UK by Joseph of Arimathea, and a flowering sprig is sent to the British Monarch every Christmas.



### Dodleston



Each half term, the whole school work together on the same book, which has been carefully chosen to support the teaching of the wider curriculum. In Spring, we explored 'The Black Book of Colours'.

This wonderful book helps a sighted person imagine what it is like to be blind. The text is both typed and in Braille and has raised black line drawings on black paper, which can be deciphered by touch. The children used this book as a stimulus

to explore poetry on colour, communication and inclusion.

We then moved on to learning about the Hindu festival of colour, Holi and end with a community celebration of colour, with a poetry recital and colour run. It was an amazing day filled with colour and love!

### Stockport St George's

We are taking part in the celebrations to mark the 125th anniversary of St. George's Church. The children have been busy performing Psalm 23 for the members of the church as well as family and friends. The whole school took part and it was super to have such a large celebration after the restrictions of the past couple of years. The children completed art work which are now displayed in Church. Each class completed a pictorial representation of the Psalm and the banners are now hung in Church. Prayers were said for all experiencing conflict which is especially poignant as we welcome 33 refugee children next week to the school.

Faithful Shepherd,  
Teach us to hear your voice.  
Gather us into your flock and guide us in all we do.  
Teach us to look after our beautiful planet and care for all of its inhabitants.  
Please protect citizens of countries that face daily violence, fear and unrest.  
Guide them into finding peaceful resolutions using your example.  
In Jesus' name,  
Amen



Year 6