

This newsletter, from the Diocesan Education Team, is sent to Church school Headteachers, foundation governors, chairs of governors and clergy.

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# Education newsletter



March 2024

## News from the Diocese

I hope that this newsletter finds you well. We aim to provide news and information and to signpost you to training and resources which you will find helpful.

It was a joy to be at our Big Sing at the cathedral yesterday morning. This was a new event, in partnership with Christian Aid, to raise awareness of their work and to help raise funds.

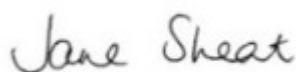
It was an opportunity for pupils to come together in our beautiful cathedral to sing together and to share stories of how they are learning about global justice and becoming courageous advocates. More to follow in our next newsletter. I hope that your end of term services in church also provide time for reflection and wonder at this special time.

I am grateful to Headteachers who joined us for interviews for the post of Diocesan Schools' Adviser. Unfortunately we were unable to appoint and so we are re-advertising with a closing date of 29 April 2024. In the meantime, I am delighted that Victoria Bush has kindly agreed to provide some support for schools with RE and collective worship and with developing spirituality. Victoria can be contacted at:

[v.bush@barrowcevcprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:v.bush@barrowcevcprimaryschool.co.uk).

I hope that you are able to experience some of the hope and joy of Easter over the school holidays.

With all good wishes from all of us,



Jane Sheat  
Diocesan Director of Education

### School Visits by a Bishop

If you wish to request a visit from a Bishop, please do contact the Bishop's Office: [email](#) or telephone: 01473 252829. You will need to plan well in advance because of busy diaries!



### Monday 17 June 2024 1.30pm

We will be holding our Annual Church Schools' Service in the Cathedral. Our theme this year is Hope and Aspiration. It would be lovely to see lots of schools there, so please do save the date.

Whilst we know transport costs can be expensive, maybe attending the school service could be part of a day trip to Bury St Edmunds.

If your school would like to take part in the service – e.g. singing a song, reading or praying – please let [Sue Todd](#) know by the end of this term.

### Wednesday 6 November 2024

This is the date for our annual church school leaders' conference which will take place at the Salvation Army Hall, Stowmarket.

## News from Schools

### Congratulations!



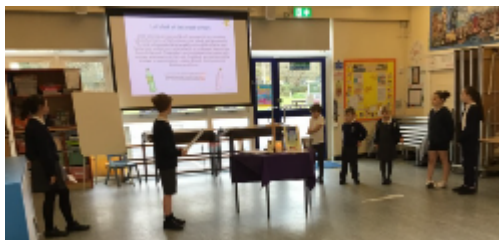
**Congratulations** to **All Saints' CofE Primary School, Newmarket** which held a Uganda Day and raised £150 to sponsor a child to be able to go to school. The School writes: "We had a lovely time decorating biscuits and everyone looked fabulous in their colourful clothes, all for a good cause!"



**Congratulations** to **Barrow CEVCP** on achieving the NCCE Computing Quality Mark. Barrow is the first school in the county to receive the national award which recognises excellent computing curricula. For the Suffolk News article, please click [here](#). For more about the National Centre for Computing Education (NCCE) Computing Quality Framework, please click [here](#).



**Congratulations** to **Moulton CEVCP School** which has a lovely new entrance!



**Congratulations** to **Sproughton CofE Primary** - the **Faith Council** recently led Collective Worship on the theme of food and drink packaging and how Coca Cola are beginning to reduce the amount of labels they have on their bottles. The School writes: "Our Faith Council did a fantastic job of presenting the information whilst engaging the whole school in discussions."



### School Visits - Cathedral

The Learning Hub at the Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds has a dedicated team who work with all schools when they visit. For more about visits, please click [here](#). To contact the Learning Hub please [email](#).



We have 8 copies of the brand new **Rainbow Good News Bibles** available on a first come first served basis, with grateful thanks to Helen Matter. If your school would like a copy, please contact [Jacqui Studd](#).

### Summer Forums

#### For Headteachers

Tues 30 April, 1.30pm

#### For Chairs of Governors

Thur 20 June, 4pm

#### For Small Schools

Mon 24 June, 4pm

The Forums are free and via Zoom. For queries or to book, please email: [Jacqui Studd](#)

Pupils at **Sproughton** are also 'courageous advocates', shining a light on autism and raising money for the Autism Initiatives Group. £1,511 has been raised to date and is still climbing with donations closing on 30 April. The AIG use funding to support people with autism. More details on how this money is spent can be found [here](#).



**Congratulations** to **St Gregory CEVCP, Sudbury** which was visited by 7 Gladiators for a Comic Relief challenge in March. Special congratulations go to the children for their fine victory in the Teachers vs Children Gladiators event.

Mr Woodrow, Headteacher writes: "We are so proud of our amazing pupils and lovely little school! Thank you to ComicRelief, the BBC and the amazing Gladiators for giving us all a school day that we will never, ever forget!" This amazing day was featured on the [BBC's Comic Relief](#), [BBC Newsround](#), Radio Suffolk and in the [East Anglian Daily Times](#) and [Suffolk News](#).

Comic Relief's response: "St Gregory CEVCP you are all absolute champions!!! Thank you for everything you have done this Red Nose Day."



**Congratulations** to EYFS pupils at **St Edmundsbury CEVA Primary School** who took part in an event at the cathedral, in which the children considered the question: Is it easy to ask God for help? Fran Parr, Chair of Governors writes: "Exploring the images and spaces in the cathedral, the children looked for evidence. They lit candles and created a prayer space using stones and crosses with members of the Diocese Education Team. This opportunity helped the children to experience prayer at first hand."



### **Ascension/Pentecost**

Padlets with resources for Ascension and Pentecost are available on our website by clicking [here](#)



### **Summer courses**

Our training programme is available on the Diocesan [website](#). Courses next term:

### **Leadership/Governance**

- \* Being a Governor
- \* Assessment for Governors
- \* Leading a church school(2)
- \* Monitoring for Governors

### **RE/CW**

- \* Inspirational Collective Worship
- \* Annual RE Subject Leader Update

### **SIAMS**

- \* SIAMS: are you ready?

### **Wellbeing**

- \* for Headteachers
- \* for Governors

To book, or for any queries, please contact [Jacqui Studd](#)



Enable children and young people, of all faiths and none, to explore life questions, spirituality and faith in a safe, creative and interactive way. Further

**Congratulations** to **St Peter & St Paul CofE Primary, Eye** for creatively putting its own spin on the reality show The Masked Singer to celebrate World Book Day. The school set up The Masked Reader and members of staff read books and distorted their voices beneath a cardboard mask while pupils were asked to guess who was who. For more, see the [EADT](#)

information and ideas are available [here](#).



### **Ofsted inspections** **Outcomes**

All Saints' CEVCP, Lawshall Outstanding

### **SIAMS inspections** **Outcomes**

Barrow CEVCP J1

Honington CEVCP J1

St Gregory, Sudbury J1

Stonham Aspal J1

### **Headteacher appointments**

Congratulations to the following Headteachers on their appointment:

- Kim Bramley, as Head of School, at St Edmundsbury CEVAP from the summer term
- Kirsten Cameron, Deputy Headteacher at St Matthew's CEVAP, Ipswich who has been appointed Headteacher at St Matthew's from September 2024
- Steve Jeal, Head of School at Brampton CofE Primary who has been appointed Executive Headteacher at Ringsfield, Brampton and Bramfield CofE Primary Schools from September

### **Headteacher resignations and retirements**

We offer our thanks and best wishes to the following Headteachers who are leaving their current school at the end of the summer term:

- Emma Burgess, Bramford CEVCP and Somersham CP
- Debbie Jackson, Hintlesham & Chattisham CofE Primary
- Barbara Rodel, All Saints' CofE Primary, Newmarket
- Claire Wright, Hopton CEVCP

### **For the Attention of Headteachers**

If you are retiring or resigning as Headteacher, please do let us know. Jane, Sue or Phil will attend meetings with your Governors to advise on the headship appointment, alongside the Local Authority. We can be in contact with your Chair of Governors and make sure

### **Dates of interest....**

#### **Easter Sunday**

31 March 2024

#### **[Stephen Lawrence Day](#)**

22 April 2024

#### **[Earth Day](#)**

22 April 2024

#### **St George's Day**

23 April 2024

#### **[World Book Night](#)**

23 April 2024

#### **May Bank Holiday**

6 May 2024

#### **Ascension Day**

9 May 2024

#### **[National Children's Day](#)**

12 May 2024

#### **[Christian Aid Week](#)**

12 May - 18 May 2024

#### **[Foster Care Fortnight](#)**

13 May - 26 May 2024

#### **Pentecost**

19 May 2024

#### **[Walk to School Week](#)**

20 May - 24 May 2024

#### **[National Children's Gardening Week](#)**

25 May – 2 June 2024



### **The Big Help Out**

#### **Friday 7 - Sunday 9 June**

Back for its second year, the Big Help Out has created a series of specialised resources for teachers to get

that we are available for dates for shortlisting and interviews. Many thanks.

Do contact Sue or Phil if you would like them to be your external adviser for Headteacher performance management reviews.

## News from the Church of England



### SIAMS 2024-25

For the list of schools likely to be inspected in 2023/24 and (newly published) in 2024/25 please click [here](#).



**Thy Kingdom Come** is a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost (9 -19 May) for more people to come to know Jesus. For more, please click [here](#).

Cheeky Pandas and Thy Kingdom Come are partnering together to bring free resources that seek to get children excited about Jesus, the Bible and prayer, and ultimately, help each child build a beautiful life-long relationship with Him... with some panda fun along the way! For more, click [here](#).

### County Lines for Schools Resources online training session - Wednesday 17 April 4.00-5.00pm

The Clewer Initiative, the Church of England's response to modern slavery, has an upcoming training session designed for teachers and school staff to raise awareness of county lines and the training package for schools. The online session will present on new resources for schools and explain how they can be used by teachers. All primary and secondary school teachers and educators are welcome on this course, especially anyone who has a responsibility or interest in PSHE, pastoral care or safeguarding to attend.

**If you would like to attend, please sign up [here](#)**

For further information about the schools resources, please click [here](#):

If you have any questions, please email: [clewerinitiative@churchofengland.org](mailto:clewerinitiative@churchofengland.org)

involved and create a new generation of volunteers. There are lots of ways schools can get involved, including hosting Big Help Out assemblies. Information and resources for schools available [here](#).



### Picture News - upcoming C of E training sessions

These certified training sessions are free and attendees will receive a certificate and copies of the slide and recordings:

#### Pupil-led Worship Training for pupils in KS1 and KS2

29 April, 11.00-11.45am  
[Full details and registration here](#)

#### How Picture News supports SIAMS for Church School Leaders

22 May, 1.00-2.00pm  
[Full details and registration here](#)



### Bereavement books and guidelines

The Diocesan guidelines aim to offer clear suggestions for coping in the event of a death in your school community and have been written for church and community schools. Available on our [website](#), together with further resources to help with bereavement.

## News from the Diocesan MAT

### New CEO

I am delighted to say that we have appointed a full-time CEO to the Diocesan MAT. Tracey Caffull started her teaching career in Suffolk and has been Headteacher at Great Bentley Primary School and Executive Head of Great Bentley, Frinton on Sea and Elmstead Primary Schools and previously co-Head at Frobisher Primary School, all in Essex, before joining the Penrose Learning Trust (formerly the South Suffolk Learning Trust) as Director of School Improvement. We look forward to Tracey joining us.

### New Estates Adviser

Geoff Mills joined the Diocesan MAT on 18 March as Estates Adviser, working with Daniel Jones.

### Headteacher vacancy

Please click [here](#).

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## News from Ofsted

### Ofsted Big Listen

Ofsted is seeking feedback from all stakeholders in the education sector, including teachers, support staff, parents, other caregivers, governors, and children, to see where changes can be made and reforms introduced. For more, please click [here](#). The consultation closes on 31 May 2024.

### Ofsted Response to the Education Select Committee report

For the response, please click [here](#).

For the Education Select Committee report, please click [here](#).

## News from DfE

Please see important change to conversion grants for maintained schools converting to academy status from September 2024. The £25k grant will only be payable to groups of three or more schools:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/convert-to-an-academy-information-for-schools/3-prepare-for-conversion>



### Archbishops' Young Leaders (AYLA) Award

**webinars** are a great way to find out how the AYLA works. Just 45 minutes, the twilight sessions help you think about how you might develop courageous advocacy in your school and equip the next generation of young leaders. The session will unpack how the Award helps learners grow and develop in key leadership skills and character virtues and the kinds of social and environmental action projects which schools get



### No Place Like Home - Art and Poetry Competition for Schools

Sanctuary Foundation is inviting schools to take part in an exciting new art and poetry competition that invites students aged 7-18 to reflect on what life is like for the 43.3 million children around the world who are displaced. Deadline for submissions: 20 May 2024. For more, please click [here](#).



**RISE Theatre's** final primary school tour of **God's Planet** takes place this autumn. Bookings are now open for 1 October - 29 November 2024 and there is a special offer for all school bookings confirmed before 14 June as well as further discounts for academy and group bookings. Further information is available [here](#) or for booking, discount information [here](#).



involved in within their communities. For dates of sessions running next term, and to register, please click [here](#).



**Away From It All (AFIA)** is a Mothers' Union holiday scheme, primarily funded by MU members, to give the opportunity of a break to those who may be experiencing stress or difficulties in their family life. For more information, please click [here](#). Mothers' Union has also recently started a School Uniform grant scheme. For further details, please contact the Mothers' Union (Suffolk) by clicking [here](#).

**4Front Theatre's 'The Parable Keeper'** is a one hour show suitable for all primary aged children and is a great way to supplement RE teaching and an exciting way to add more collective worship into schools. Churches can also sponsor or host performances within their buildings - which is a great way to get children into church! For more, please click [here](#).

### News from YOUR School

If you have any stories you would like highlighted, please do send us details and we will include in our next newsletter. Please send photos, short articles, web-page references, etc. electronically to [Jacqui](#) and we'll be pleased to include them.

### From the Diocesan Education Team

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This newsletter is sent to all church school Headteachers, foundation governors, chairs of governors and clergy.

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