

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

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# Education newsletter

THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
Diocese of St Edmundsbury  
and Ipswich



October 2019

## News from the Diocese

Dear all,

As I write, we are rapidly approaching half term after a busy few weeks. It is good to have Gemma Kingston with us as our new Diocesan Schools' Adviser. If you have not yet met Gemma, please feel free to contact her to arrange for her to visit your school to support RE and Collective Worship - [gemma.kingston@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:gemma.kingston@cofesuffolk.org)

It was good to see so many at the cathedral in Bury St Edmunds on Sunday 6 October for our annual service of celebration for church schools. Many thanks to all those who took part and to Karen Harman for organising the service.

I am grateful to Dr Paul Parslow-Williams, Headteacher at Charsfield, Dennington and Occold for leading a session on the new Ofsted framework at our termly Small School Forum at Coddendam, on 7 October.

I very much enjoyed attending a 150 year celebration service at All Saints' CofE Primary School in Newmarket on 9<sup>th</sup> October (more on this below).

I hope that you will be able to join us at this year's conference for church school leaders on Wednesday 6 November. We are looking forward to welcoming back Phyllida Hancock from Contender Charlie who will draw out lessons in influential leadership from Shakespeare's Julius Caesar.

Last month I went back to Edinburgh for a primary school reunion- great fun! As we reminisced, I was struck by how many fond memories we had of our teachers. It was a reminder of how powerful an impact teachers have on children's lives.

*Jane Sheat*

Jane Sheat  
Diocesan Director of Education

### School Visits

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!

### Diocesan Schools Art Project 2019

#### 'All Things Bright and Beautiful!'

This year's art project will be led by Dave Morris, Art Consultant. This year's focus is on extending 2D skills. In particular, we'll be exploring the following techniques:

sgraffito, impasto,  
decorative, tint, print.

A Skills Day is planned for Monday 25 November. For more information or to book your school a place, please click [here](#).

## Cathedral Service - 6 October 2019

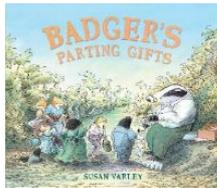


Hundreds of pupils and parents filled the cathedral on Sunday 6 October for the annual service of celebration of church schools. The Dean welcomed all the schools and the Ven Dr David Jenkins, Archdeacon of Sudbury and pupils from Barnham CEVCP, Debenham High School, Ixworth CofE Primary, King Edward VI, Bury St Edmunds, Risby CEVCP and St Margaret's CEVAP, Ipswich, led parts of the service. The theme this year was one of Jesus' sayings in John's gospel: "I am the vine". For more, please see our [website](#).

Photo: pupils from Risby CEVCP School with the school banner

### Bereavement

We have produced a set of guidelines which aim to offer clear suggestions for coping in the event of a death in your school community.



We also have three packs of resources on bereavement for specific support for pupils and staff alike. Along with over twenty books, each pack includes a soft toy badger to use alongside one of the books.

Both the bereavement guidelines and information on the bereavement packs are available on our [website](#). For any queries, please contact [Jacqui Studd](#).

## News from Schools

### Congratulations!



#### **Congratulations to All Saints' CofE Primary School, Newmarket**

which celebrated its 150th birthday in October. To mark this special occasion, the school held a Victorian day.



Photo: pupils from Walsham le Willows CEVC School with school banner



### Dates for your diary:

#### **Wednesday 6 November**

The [annual church school leaders' conference](#) will be at the St Nicholas Centre, Ipswich. To book, please contact [Jacqui Studd](#).



### Training - Autumn term

- \* the first of three twilight sessions on leading a church school (see below);
- \* a new session for governors on Headteacher recruitment and performance management;
- \* a course aimed at developing leaders;
- \* a course on leading Collective Worship;

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



The aim was to think about what life was like for a Victorian child, 150 years ago at the time of the school's foundation. Pupils came to school dressed as Victorians and learnt about some of the manners and

customs, played with Victoria toys and had a Victorian school dinner. There was also a Thanksgiving and Eucharist service.

**All Saints'** also had a hugely successful Sports Day with a difference in July, making it positive for all pupils, both able bodied and those with disabilities who were all able to show off their skills. For more please see the [Newmarket Journal](#).

**Congratulations** to **Gordon Leathers, Rougham CofE Primary School** who has been nominated in the Bury Free Press Teacher of the Year award. For more please see the [Bury Free Press](#).

**Congratulations** to pupils from **Barnham CEVCP School** who won a competition at the School Farm and Country Fair in May 2019. The prize, which pupils enjoyed in September, was an inside experience following the journey of a potato from field to being loaded on a lorry heading off to restaurants and supermarkets! For more please click [here](#).

**Congratulations** to **Barningham CEVCP School** which celebrated the opening of a newly refurbished early years area in September. For more please see the [Bury Free Press](#).

**Congratulations** also to **Kersey CEVCP School** which opened a brand new early years outdoor area in July 2019. For more, please see the [East Anglian Daily Times](#)

**Congratulations** to pupils at **King Edward VI School, Bury St Edmunds** who have been awarded the School Games Platinum Mark – a government-led award scheme, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust. For more, please see the [Bury Free Press](#).

**Congratulations** to **Sir Robert Hitcham's CEVAP School Framlingham** on the new Reflective Garden which was formally opened by the Rt Revd Dr Mike Harrison, Bishop of Dunwich in September 2019. For more please visit the school [website](#).

**Congratulations** to the **Eco-Council at Tattingstone CEVCP School** who were shortlisted for the final of the Suffolk Creating the Greenest County Awards 2019. Beverley Derrett, Headteacher, writes: "The children have worked very hard over the year on a number of projects such as: Suffolk Plastic Pledge, Big Battery Hunt, Community Metal recycling project and the Relove Reuse project involving clothes and shoes.



## LEADING A CHURCH SCHOOL

We are again offering twilight training sessions on leading a church school. You may be a very experienced school leader or in your first headship post but there will be something for you in these discussions – and the opportunity to network is invaluable! (And there will be cake!) The first session takes place on **18 November 2019 4pm**.

For more information please click [here](#). To book please contact [Jacqui Studd](#)



## Get ready for Christmas 2019 - #FollowTheStar

Building on the very positive feedback and huge amount of engagement in 2018, the Church of England are delighted to be using the same theme for Advent and Christmas in 2019 and 2020 as well! For more information and for resources, please click [here](#).



**The Good News Fund** provides grants of up to £3k to help pioneer and grow expressions of mission across England and Wales which create opportunities for children and young people to explore the Bible, respond to Jesus and grow in faith. For more, please click [here](#).



All the projects have involved a lot of commitment from the children and their families. The children have got other children, staff and community involved and this has made their projects incredibly successful.

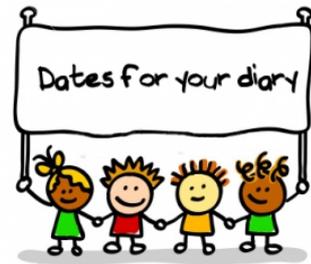
The Creating the Greenest County awards celebrate the environmental excellence of organisations across Suffolk and we are delighted to have been chosen. On the day we were successful to achieve a highly commended award for all work the Eco-Council have done over the last 12 months. Well done children!"



**Congratulations** to the following schools on receiving the WIRE Award:

- **Bentley CEVCP School**
- **Debenham High School**
- **Elveden CofE Primary Academy**
- **Great Waldingfield CEVCP School**
- **Hintlesham & Chattisham CofE Primary School**
- **Norton CEVCP School**
- **St Mary's CofE Primary School, Woodbridge**

'Widening Inclusivity in RE' (WIRE) involves submitting simple evidence of four areas which show that staff and pupils are working on developing links outside their school. For further information on WIRE and how to apply, please click [here](#).



**All Saints' Day**  
1 November 2019

**UK Parliament Week**  
2-8 November 2019

**Wear Blue Day**  
8 November 2019

**Anti-Bullying Week**  
11 - 15 November 2019

**World Kindness Day**  
13 November 2019

**Children in Need**  
15 November 2019

**Nursery Rhyme Week**  
18 - 22 November 2019

**Universal Children's Day**  
20 November 2019

**Advent starts**  
1 December 2019

**Christmas Jumper Day**  
13 December 2019

## News from the Diocesan MAT

It was good to welcome over 30 governors from MAT schools to the Suffolk Food Hall for a conference on 20 September.

We look forward to welcoming our 19th school to the MAT shortly - Wetheringsett CEVCP.

### Ofsted Inspections

Bramfield CofE Primary

Long Melford CofE Primary

### Outcomes

Good

Good

### SIAMS Inspections

Great Barton CofE Primary

### Outcomes

Good

### Headteacher appointments

Congratulations to the following Headteachers on their appointment:

- Miss Laura Newark who has been appointed as Headteacher at Sir Robert Hitcham CEVAP School, Debenham with effect from January 2020
- Mr Paul Seeman who has been appointed as Headteacher at Worlingham CEVCP School with effect from January 2020.



**The 2019 Real Advent Calendar** is now available. The Fairtrade calendar includes a Christmas story-activity book with a page for each day in Advent along with Advent challenges to do

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

If you are retiring or resigning as Headteacher, please do let us know. Jane, Karen 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 that we are available for dates for shortlisting and interviews. Many thanks.

some good in the season. For more on this, plus free resources for schools and an advent competition, please click [here](#).



## **News from the Church of England**

### **The Church of England Professional Qualification for Headship (including NPQH)**

Applications are still open for the CofEPQH starting in January 2020 at seven delivery centres across the country. Deadline for applications is 4 November 2019. All heads, deputies and assistant Heads in our diocese are eligible to attend this course and to be fully funded. Please click [here](#) to find out more and make your application.

### **Christian Leadership in Schools: an initial review of evidence and current practices**

The Church of England Foundation for Educational Leadership has published a research report which explores current thinking about Christian leadership in schools. A summary report and full report are available by clicking [here](#).

### **Springs Dance Company**

are offering the following workshops for schools:

[A Christmas Story: Refugee](#) inspired by Anne Booth's Christmas story Refuge, the workshops will guide pupils on a journey of dance, drama and discussion, looking at the nativity and beyond.

### **Easter Project**

[2020](#) provides a thought-provoking and exciting way to explore the Easter story.

## **News from Parliament**

### **Religious Education in schools (England)**

October 2019

This briefing sets out the rules in place, as well as issues surrounding the teaching of RE and its curriculum, and information on related topics such as collective worship and the right to withdraw a child from RE classes. To see the report please click [here](#).

### **News from YOUR School**

What we are asking for is photos, short articles, web-page references, etc that we can highlight in the next and subsequent editions of this newsletter so that your school's achievements can be broadcast to a wider audience. Please send items electronically to [Jacqui](#) and we'll be pleased to include them.

### **From your Diocesan Education Team:**



From left to right:

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