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

December 2022

News from the Diocese

Dear Colleagues
As we near the end of term, I do hope that you are able to celebrate the joy of Advent and Christmas as a church school. I am looking forward to seeing lots of Inspiring Angels across the diocese this year- https://www.inspiringangels.org.uk/

It was a joy to meet together in person for our annual church school leaders’ conference on 9 November. We met in the Edmund Room at the cathedral in Bury St Edmunds, and have already booked for next year on Wednesday 1 November 2023. Our keynote speaker was Dame Estelle Morris, who gave an overview of how the current education system has evolved. Pupils from Eyke CoE Primary played string instruments and sang in the cathedral itself and Lucie Fairweather, Headteacher explained the school’s commitment to provide music for all pupils. Lyndsay Allsopp, Headteacher at Ixworth CoE Primary outlined the school’s journey to its recent good inspection outcome, and the central role of the school’s Christian vision and values. I spoke about the DfE, the diocese and academies and Matt Fulford, founder of Inspired Efficiency https://www.inspiredefficiency.co.uk/ spoke about energy saving and net zero. Matt works with the Church of England Education Office nationally. Gemma led our final session on schools’ Christian vision, which tied in neatly with the SIAMS inspection framework. Feedback from the day was very positive.

Monday 19 June 2023, 1.30pm
We will be holding our annual service of celebration for church schools at the Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds.

Wednesday 1 November 2023
This is the date for our annual church school leaders’ conference next year.

Spring Forums via Zoom

Headteachers
Wed 18 January, 1.30pm

Admissions
Tues 24 January, 4pm

Small Schools
Mon 27 February, 4pm

Chairs of Governors
Wed 15 March, 4pm

The Forums are free. For any queries or to book, please contact Jacqui Studd
The Education Secretary has recently confirmed that the Schools Bill, which had already been delayed, will not now go ahead. Maintained schools should continue to plan for the future but there is no longer a national target of full academisation by 2030.

In spite of the cost of living crisis affecting many families and the prospect of teacher strike action, we welcome news of additional funding for schools in the autumn statement and additional capital funding to improve energy efficiency. Please see below for more information.

May I also draw your attention to changes in the SIAMS inspection framework from September 2023 and news about Christian Aid’s Global Neighbours Scheme in this issue?

At Christmas we celebrate the one who is the light of the world. On behalf of all the team, may I wish you all a very happy Christmas? May our celebrations of Christ's birth deepen our faith, renew our hope and strengthen our love in the year to come.

With all good wishes from all the team,

Jane Sheat
Diocesan Director of Education

---

**Diocesan Board of Education**
We are looking for two serving Headteachers to join the Diocesan Board of Education. The board meets in Ipswich four times a year in the afternoon. Headteachers play an important role in informing the work of the DBE in relation to church schools. For more information, please contact Jane or Paul Ryle, Headteacher at Mellis CofE Primary who is an existing member head1940@mellisprimaryschool.org

**Inspiring Angels**
A collection of angels created by our schools.

---

**Upcoming Diocesan courses next term**

**Leadership/Governance**
* Assessment for governors
* Being a Governor
* Monitoring for governors

**RE/CW**
* CW and RE for governors
* Excellent RE Teacher
* Inspirational CW
* the new RE Syllabus
* New to Teaching RE
* Spiritual Development in Primary Schools

**SIAMS / Ofsted**
* Are you SIAMs ready?
* Ofsted Training

**Wellbeing event**
* for Administrators (please see below)

Further details of our training is available by clicking here. To book, or for any queries, please contact Jacqui Studd

---

**Advent and Christmas**
Gemma has collated resources for advent and Christmas - available on our website by clicking here.
Hintlesham & Chattisham CoE Primary School
Pupils made angels to donate to the local church for Christmas this year.

Hopton CEVCP School
The School used ‘An angel like me’ to start a conversation with pupils before making angels with a message, which pupils wanted to take home.

Bedfield CoE Primary School (below)
Craft making activities on the theme of angels helped to show pupils skills.

Sir Robert Hitcham CEVAP School, Debenham (below)
Pupils have been busy working on the theme of angels in school and they have them displayed all over!

St Mary’s CoE Academy, Mildenhall (below)
Each class made angels as part of the Amazing Angels festival at St Mary’s Church this advent.

Resilience event for Administrators and Bursars
Thursday 2 February 2023
1.30 - 3.30pm
Our speaker for this event is Joyce Crawford. Joyce’s experience in Suffolk schools is wide-ranging and Joyce will offer her unique insight, which promises to be very interesting and relevant for all Church School Administrators and Bursars. For further information, please click here.

Growing Younger Sunday - 29 January
Growing Younger Sunday celebrates youth and families’ ministry. This event is an annual event and will lead each year with a series of planned activities for Growing Younger. For more information and resources, please click here.

News from Ofsted
Governance webinar
To see the recording of Ofsted’s 45-minute webinar on governance and inspection, please click here.

School inspection data summary report (IDSR) guide
This guide gives an overview of the inspection data summary report (IDSR) for primary and secondary schools, along with information to help interpret the charts. For further details, please click here.
News from Schools

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Elveden CofE Primary Academy which celebrated Harvest Festival and Christingle. Lorna Rourke, Headteacher writes: "It was so lovely to welcome our parents to our Harvest Festival at the church. We are proud of all our wonderful children and amazing staff for making our first time together this academic year such a success!

The parents enjoyed their harvest bread and soup made by the children and we had so many donations for Thetford Food Bank. Children also enjoyed celebrating with friends and family at the annual Christingle service.

They made their Christingles in school, in family groups and finished with a Christingle parade at the church led by the Collective Worship council."

Congratulations to pupils at St Gregory CEVCP School, Sudbury who have taken to the airwaves locally and internationally. They were live on the Luke Deal Breakfast Show on Radio Suffolk, filmed for Look East watching England v Iran in the football World Cup and the Swap Club was featured in an episode of 60 Minutes in America. For more, please click here.

Global Neighbours Accreditation Scheme
The Global Neighbours Team at Christian Aid are supporting our church schools with courageous advocacy through the Global Neighbours accreditation scheme. This involves termly meetings with our schools, the first of which was held on Wednesday 23 November with 19 schools attending. For the slides from this meeting, please click here. For further information about the accreditation scheme, please click here.

Dates for future termly meetings will be advised in the new year.

Suffolk Mind is providing funded training opportunities for East Suffolk schools-

- there are still spaces available on the following dates:
  - Monday 9th January – via Zoom
  - Monday 30th January – Face to Face at Limes Primary Academy in Lowestoft
  - Tuesday 28th March – via Zoom
- All training is 9am – 3pm.

To book email Suffolk Mind. For more information please click here.
Congratulations to Great Waldingfield CEVCP School for this lovely Christmas tree which is on display in St Laurence’s church, part of the Christmas Tree and Nativity Festival. The school choir also sang in the Big Sing at Snape Maltings and opened the local Christmas fayre.

News from the Diocesan MAT

Welcome to Marie Lipman who joined as Senior Business and Finance Officer on 1 December 2022.

Farmington Scholarships

The aim of the Farmington Institute is to support and encourage Headteachers working on values and standards, and teachers of Religious Education in schools. The Institute awards scholarships to Headteachers, secondary and primary school teachers, and teachers of RE to children with Special Educational Needs. Applications are now open for the academic year 2023-24. For further information please click here to visit the Farmington website. For the printable flyer, please click here.

Congratulations to Hopton CEVCP School which had spectacular fun celebrating BBC Children in Need this year! The School writes: "the School Council decided they wanted to make spotty biscuits for everyone in school. An afternoon of cooking enabled everyone to share a Children in Need cookie at breaktime! They were delicious – thank you School Council. The spotty fun continued as we dressed up in spots and also held a Junior Bake Off with a Children in Need theme.

Lots of spotty Pudsey cakes and treats were entered into the competition with a special cake sale at the end of day to raise funds. A huge well done for all the baking and effort by everyone in the school community— it was a super spotty day!"

Congratulations to Orford CEVA Primary. Class 3 (Y4/5/6) attended a short remembrance service at St Bartholomew's with their handmade wreath of prayers.

The rest of the school hosted a 2-minute silence, a shared collective worship session and the school council raised money for the Poppy Appeal.

Uma from Y6 also volunteered to do one of the readings in the official service at Church on behalf of the school.
Congratulations to All Saints' CofE Primary School, Newmarket which had a wonderful 'WOW week' at the school and celebrated Inter Faith Week in style.

From commemorating Remembrance Day, enjoying quiz and movie nights, having their hands painted, to the family and friend festival and raising money for Children in Need. For more please click here.

For reflections from national faith communities and their leaders in the context of Inter Faith Week 2022, please click here.

Congratulations also to All Saints' CofE Primary for this beautiful garden of remembrance at the front of the hall. Rachel Bacon, Deputy Head writes: "A new child to our school from Ukraine made a beautiful wreath with the words "Please don't forget those that are at war." This is a significant reminder for us all to hold the people of Ukraine in our thoughts and prayers."

Congratulations to Stonham Aspal CEVAP School for this beautiful mural which has been painted across the entire school hall ceiling.

Dates of interest....

Epiphany
6 January 2023

Big Bird Watch
6 January - 20 February 2023

Chinese New Year
22 January 2023

Holocaust Memorial Day
27 January 2023
(please see below)

National Storytelling Week
28 January - 5 February 2023

Candlemas
2 February 2023

NSPCC Number Day
3 February 2023

Children's Mental Health Week
6 - 12 February 2023

Valentine's Day
14 February 2023

Random Acts of Kindness Day
17 February 2023

Shrove Tuesday
21 February 2023

Fairtrade Fortnight
27 February - 12 March 2023

National School Governors’ Awareness Day
28 February 2023

Red Nose Day
17 March 2023
Congratulations to Trinity CEVAP School, Stowmarket for these lovely displays from the School’s prayer room. Linda Curran-Spain, Headteacher writes: “Every school has special places in them - the Prayer room at Trinity is one of ours.”

Please do let us know about your prayer space by sending photos to Jacqui Studd.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ofsted inspections</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morland CofE Primary, Ipswich</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Peter &amp; St Paul CofE Primary, Eye</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelsale CEVCP</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Saints’ CofE Primary, Newmarket</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 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

Flourishing Together: National Conference
Friday 27 January 2023
Union Chapel and St Mary Magdalene Academy, Islington
Speakers include: Lord Boateng, Dame Rachel de Souza, Mary Myatt, Dame Alison Peacock, the Most Revd Stephen Cottrell.
For more information, and to book a place, please click here.

Holocaust Memorial Day is on 27 January, and schools can get involved. There are lots of free resources online to help lead assemblies, activities or lessons with students. Contact the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust Senior Education Officer for help and support and to get started, email: education@hmd.org.uk
Add your school to the HMD map here to share your involvement.
Becoming a Net Zero Carbon school
Thursday 9 February 2023, 4pm
This webinar is part of a regular series for schools, aiming to become net zero carbon. This update covers:

- NEW resources to help schools,
- what key milestones to include in your own action plan,
- the Energy Toolkit, now open for entry for 2022 data,
- two inspiring case study videos from Blackburn and Gloucester dioceses.

For more information, and to book, please click here.

SIAMS 2023
Dr Margaret James, National Director of SIAMS, has set out how SIAMS will develop from September 2023. For guidance and resources on the new framework, please see the CofE SIAMS website: SIAMS Inspections | The Church of England

SIAMS Inspector Training
The CofE SIAMS central team are keen to recruit new trainees for the next inspector training cohort which will commence in September 2023. Application details for new inspector training are due to go live in January and will be circulated. If you are interested in becoming a SIAMS Inspector, please do contact Jane or Phil.

NPQs reminder for February 2023 – sign up for programmes by the end of January
From February 2023 the St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocesan Multi Academy Trust and Diocese of Norwich are offering the following Church of England NPQs – Leading Teaching (NPQLT), Senior Leader (NPQSL), Headship (NPQH), Leading Teacher Development (NPQLTD), Leading Behaviour and Culture (NPQLBC) as well as Early Headship Coaching Offer (EHCO).

Why do an NPQ this February?

1. It’s true what they say, the best things in life are FREE! and we have the best NPQ Offer yet. Our NPQs:

   - Are fully funded
   - Fit flexibly around your teaching
   - Are underpinned by expert coaching, all of whom are serving or retired Headteachers
   - Are highly recommended - what do the current cohort (NPQLT cohort 2) say about us?
     - 100% Overall participant satisfaction
     - 100% Coaches and facilitators are knowledgeable and engaging
     - 100% feel better equipped to lead others effectively
     - 100% say that they have been motivated to engage with research and evidence

News from the DfE
New Secretary of State for Education
For more, please click here.

Additional capital funding for schools to improve energy efficiency in 2022-23
Eligible schools will receive an allocation from an additional £447 million in capital funding in 2022-23 for capital improvements to buildings and facilities, prioritising works to improve energy efficiency. For further information, please click here. For energy efficiency guidance, please click here.

Autumn statement 2022
Available here.

Schools Bill dropped
For more, please click here.

Praise-along is a new collective worship project, uniting UK primary schools through Christian songs. The songs, written by leading children’s song writer Kelly Fort, will be available from January 2023. For more information, please visit the following website Praise-Along Music. For an example of Kelly’s work, please click here.
Apply [www.cefel.org.uk/npq](http://www.cefel.org.uk/npq/)

2. Did you know that the DfE funds all CofE NPQs for Teachers and leaders employed in state funded schools?

3. Don’t miss out, apply today.

4. Our aim is to ensure ‘that where a child lives has no bearing on the quality of teaching they receive’. We are therefore especially encouraging small, rural schools, to consider taking up our NPQ offer. For every teacher that takes up a free NPQ, the school will receive a £200 payment to support. [https://www.cefel.org.uk/npq](http://www.cefel.org.uk/npq/)

If you have any queries then please contact Heather Hann [heather.hann@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:heather.hann@cofesuffolk.org)

---

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Tel:</th>
<th>Mob:</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jane Sheat</td>
<td>01473 298560</td>
<td>07884 232231</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jane.sheat@cofesuffolk.org">jane.sheat@cofesuffolk.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sue Todd</td>
<td>01473 298570</td>
<td>07917 390362</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sue.todd@cofesuffolk.org">sue.todd@cofesuffolk.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Jones</td>
<td>01473 298532</td>
<td>07920 050407</td>
<td><a href="mailto:daniel.jones@cofesuffolk.org">daniel.jones@cofesuffolk.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gemma Taylor</td>
<td>01473 298570</td>
<td>07394 568404</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gemma.taylor@cofesuffolk.org">gemma.taylor@cofesuffolk.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phil Knowles</td>
<td>01473 298570</td>
<td>07551 122311</td>
<td><a href="mailto:philip.knowles@cofesuffolk.org">philip.knowles@cofesuffolk.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacqui Studd</td>
<td>01473 298570</td>
<td>07485 348883</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jacqui.studd@cofesuffolk.org">jacqui.studd@cofesuffolk.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>