

From the Diocesan Director of Education
Claire Meese

As a Christian, I need reminding time and time again, that the values of the Christian faith in some ways run counter to the values of the society I live in. For instance, the Bible is full of stories of the small and seemingly insignificant having mighty impact. A young boy responds to Christ by offering a small lunch of loaves and fishes and it is transformed into a meal for many as a sign of the kingdom of God (Matthew 14). The small, youngest and most insignificant of brothers is chosen by God to be a future King of Israel - David, because God sees what is on the inside (1 Samuel 16) and on his route to the throne he uses his skill humbly honed protecting sheep to kill the giant Goliath (1 Samuel 17). Even Jesus came from the humblest of beginnings in a rural town in a small country. It matters not how small or insignificant a person or place might be in the worlds view. We are all valued by God and can serve him.



In our diocese 66% of schools are 'small' (<210 pupils) of which 14% are very small (<80) so it is fair to say we have a high percentage of small schools. In March 2018 the Church of England published a report, 'Embracing Change: Rural and Small Schools' providing an analysis of the challenges facing small schools. Our small schools do some excellent work and make a huge impact in increasingly challenging circumstances and this needs to be celebrated. However, the report continues to emphasise the need for small schools to come together in formal groupings such as formal collaborations, federations and Multi Academy Trusts. It also reminds us all of the need to continue to provide a quality 21st century education. Please pray for our Board of Education as we consider how we can support our small schools through these challenging times and help governing bodies make decisions with pupils at the heart. We need not fear change if we prayerfully seek God's grace in order that we might first serve Him and go where he is leading. In school leadership roles we constantly face a wide range of decisions and challenges. We can all feel small or overwhelmed at times, whatever size our school is. On these occasions, we can take courage from the fact that God uses and equips ordinary or seemingly insignificant people to achieve great things. Many of the great leaders in the bible, used their gifts and experience humbly, put others first and offered their lives to God for his purpose. At the start of a new school year we will be praying for all of you as you lead our Church of England schools, that you would know God's presence supporting and sustaining you, as you create the conditions for children and young people to receive an education that enables them to experience "life in all its fullness. " With very best wishes for the new term,

Claire Meese

DDE

Staffing Update
**This term the following
people take up new roles:**

Executive Headteachers:

Phil Abbot - St Swithun's
C of E Primary Academy,
Retford. Gamston C of E
Primary School and Worksop
Priory C of E Primary Academy

Jon Brown - Coddington
C of E Primary School, and
Newark Christ Church
C of E Infants

Headteachers:

Samantha Robinson -
St Mary Magdalene C of E
Primary, Sutton in Ashfield

Georgina Anelay - Bunny
C of E Primary School

Jenny Marshall - South
Wilford (Endowed) C of E
Primary School

Samuel Mensah - Bleasby
C of E Primary School

Emily Brown - Langar
C of E Primary School

Claire Bills - Gunthorpe
C of E Primary School

Head of School:

Ben Chalenor - Southwell
Minster School

Acting Principal:

Jackie Heath - The National
Church of England Academy

Acting Head of School:

Amber Latif -
William Gladstone
C of E Primary Academy,
Newark

Calling All Schools in Bassetlaw District

2020 marks the 400th Anniversary of the **Pilgrims**, a group of people from rural communities in the north of Nottinghamshire who set out to America in search of religious freedom on board the Mayflower. **Pilgrim Roots** is a partnership of groups who are working together to commemorate the anniversary .



They are keen to work with our schools Some of our schools are already involved in this and in partnering with American schools.

Click [here](#) for further details or contact Jane Lewis our schools advisor - jane.lewis@southwell.anglican.org

HeartSmart

Heart Smart is a primary school resource that supports character education and builds resilience, emotional intelligence and active empathy in the hearts of children. It features Boris, Heart Smart's very own purpose-built robot, a fun, dynamic, interactive character who encourages children to love and accept themselves as well as loving and responding well to others.



It is a creative way of enabling children to adopt a growth mindset and is based on the idea that meaning comes from relationships and every child is worthy of relational connection. It is also a way for children to explore their hearts, the very thing that makes them unique. Click [here](#) for further information about the resource. The creator of Heart Smart spoke at our headteacher network meeting last term and already some of our schools have started using these materials and found that the children love them and that they provide a new and valuable way for developing Christian values with children.

Reminder from Jess Lane our Schools' Building Officer

The Diocese need to be informed of any capital works that take place on Diocesan land and buildings. To capture this we use a 'consent for capital works' form which I would appreciate you completing and returning to me each time you undertake any capital works over £5,000 (extensions, alterations, repairs). I need to present these forms at the Diocesan Board of Education (DBE) meetings. This will apply to almost all Church schools and academies with only a few exceptions

May I also take this opportunity to remind Academies that the Land & Buildings Collection Tool will need to be completed soon. For academies on church owned land, you will need to send your completed form to me for Diocesan sign off.

Email: jess.lane@southwell.anglican.org

LifeSavers

Helping children manage money wisely



Features include the latest news on savings clubs and reports on the positive impact the programme has had on the lives of children, parents and teachers. Click [here](#) to go onto the resource page

New Diocesan Guidelines on: Children and Holy Communion / Young people assisting with the administration of Communion

We now have a supply of new guidelines for children and young people receiving Holy Communion before Confirmation, and the guidelines for children and young people helping administer at Communion. This is an important move forward in helping young people feel included in worship and the guidelines cover church schools.

If you would like copies of the new guidelines please let Nick Harding know

nick@southwell.anglican.org

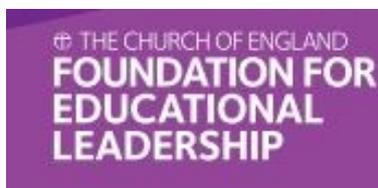
Admissions Training Jubilee House

18th September 16.00 - 18.00

All MATs and VA schools are their Own Admission Authorities (OAAs.) This brings specific legal responsibilities as set down in the School Admissions Code. This session will look at practical things like: going out to public consultation when a school wishes to change its policy **and** setting clear over-subscription criteria – particularly related to Christian faith / church attendance.

Professional Development Opportunities Available Through the Church of England Foundation for Educational Leadership (CEFL)

Last academic year this diocese along with Derby, Leicester and Lincoln partnered with the C of E Foundation for Educational Leadership to offer a new range of professional development opportunities for leaders of church schools. These included being part of **Peer Support Networks** in vision and ethos, teaching and learning, character education, coaching and mentoring and **training for governors on the new ethos enhancing outcomes** approach.



In addition, nine people from our diocese enrolled on the **CofEPQH** (a licenced qualification equivalent to the NPQH.) The feedback from everyone involved has been extremely positive. Participants have appreciated the high quality of the input, the way it is bespoke to church schools and the opportunity for interaction with schools in neighbouring dioceses. We are continuing with the partnership and want to encourage more schools to get involved. Information is available by clicking [here](#). Follow through to links on either programmes or networks. The range of programmes and network themes is expanding. There is a small cost for schools to be part of the foundation but please note that the **CofEPQH programme is free** for school leaders in DfE Category 5 and 6 areas as they will fund it. This applies to teachers in Nottingham City, Broxtowe, Newark and Sherwood, Mansfield and Ashfield.



The Minster Teaching School Alliance
2018 Annual Conference
3rd Oct 2018 13:15 –16.00

This is a launch event for the new year and provides an opportunity to find out about CPD, School to School Support, Initial Teacher Training E.Mids Maths hub and Notts Music Hubs opportunities available through the MTSA. It is open to non-alliance members who are interested in these opportunities.

Click [here](#) for more details

Admission Arrangements for 2019/20 and 2020/2021

This year a separate admissions briefing will be emailed out in September to headteachers, chairs of governors and admissions officers and then uploaded to the Diocesan website found [here](#). Key points from the briefing are summarised below:

2019/2020 Admissions

Check your determined arrangements for 2019/2020 are on your website.

Plan in dates for governors to consider applications and carry out ranking in accordance with the timelines of Nottinghamshire County Council's coordinated admissions scheme found [here](#).

2020/2021 Admissions:

Consultation Period:

Schools/academies who are their own admissions authorities, i.e. **VA schools, Single trust academies and Multi Academy Trusts** are reminded that they must consult on any changes to their admissions arrangements. The consultation period is a minimum of 6 weeks and **must take place between 1st October 2018 and 31st January 2019**

Please send your proposed changes to alison.jacobson@southwell.anglican.org before sending out elsewhere for consultation.

Schools/academies are required to consult at least **once every seven years**, even if there have been no changes.

Determining Arrangements:

All admissions authorities must determine their arrangements by **28th February 2019**. Please send your proposed arrangements to both the Diocese and LA Admissions team in advance of this date. Admissions authorities must publish a copy of the determined arrangements on their **websites**, displaying the policy for the whole offer year (the school year in which offers for places are made). The deadline for all Admissions Authorities to send a copy of their determined admissions arrangements to the local authority is **15th March 2019**.

Learning to live well together

Promoting better relationships through a clearer understanding of the sacred texts of different faiths was the focus of the Living Well Together conference in Southwell Minster on Tuesday 10th July.

Sixty students from six Church of England secondary schools gathered at the cathedral for a conference on the theme of Learning to Live Well Together. Students heard from a panel of speakers from the Hindu, Jewish, Christian and Muslim faith traditions who helped them to understand how sacred texts can be mis-used to promote violence and hatred of people and how they should be interpreted in the light of their original context in a way that promotes better relationships with people of all faiths and no faith.

Dean Nicola Sullivan welcomed students and staff to the Minster and spoke of the importance of learning from both the traditions of the past and the difficult questions of faith which often arise from areas of conflict experienced in every faith tradition. She said: "This important conference brought students from different faiths and backgrounds together to think about how we live with differences and learn to trust one another. I was delighted that this was hosted by the Diocese and Cathedral working together in education."

Pupils took the opportunity to ask some searching questions of the panellists before working together in mixed small groups to prepare presentations about the interpretation of sacred texts. They also discussed how they would share what they had learnt with their peers back at school.



The workshop was jointly organised by the Education Department of Southwell and Nottingham Diocese, Southwell Minster and the St Philip's Centre.

Bryony Hutchinson (Nottinghamshire Local Authority Education Improvement Adviser) said:

"I was so impressed with the questions which the students asked of the panel and the way they worked in their groups sharing their thoughts and ideas."

Bassetlaw Pilgrim Fathers Schools to Forge Links with Massachusetts

Driving to work one day last summer Diocesan Schools Adviser, Jane Lewis was inspired



by a Radio Nottingham interview ...to forge a historic link with schools across the Atlantic. The interviewer, Sarah Julian, was in Massachusetts visiting the Provincetown Museum and Monument, talking to the Executive Director, David Weidner, about the Pilgrim Fathers arriving in Provincetown in 1620 from England, laying the

foundations of American democracy.

2020 sees the 400th anniversary of the Bassetlaw Pilgrims, from Scrooby, arriving in the New World on the Mayflower....and this has been marked and celebrated in Nottinghamshire in various ways over the last few years, including 'Illuminate 400' in Retford. Please click [here](#) and [here](#) for more information.

"During the interview I heard that there was a desire for schools in Provincetown with Pilgrim links to partner with schools in Bassetlaw that also have Pilgrim links," says Jane. "We have a few Bassetlaw church schools keen to be involved in this, so I got in touch. "As a result, David came over this year on July 17th/18th and we visited St Peter's Church of England Primary School in Gringley-on-the-Hill in the morning – when BBC Radio Nottingham recorded a feature (which incorporated last year's interview) – and then we went to

Sturton-le-Steeple school in the afternoon. "David also had the opportunity to visit some of the Pilgrim Sites at Babworth, Scrooby and Austerfield with Jane, and Anna Scott, the Heritage Consultant for Bassetlaw – and they explored how school-to-school partnerships in both countries might work and what the schools would like to get from such a partnership, including a possible exchange of teachers and materials to use in classrooms. Click [here](#) for more information about Mayflower 400.

Jane adds: "It's not just about the story but the lessons that are important today : tolerance, religious freedom; sanctuary etc.. enabling school children to be citizens of the world into the future and learning from the lessons of the past."

Following David's visit he has now formed a partnership with Bassetlaw District Council in promoting the 400th anniversary.

Dates for the Diary

All at Jubilee House

SEPTEMBER

20 Middle Leadership in Church Schools (Session 1)
0930-1530
£325 for all sessions

25 Completing the SIAMS Self Evaluation Form
0930-1230 £60

OCTOBER

02 Understanding Christianity Top -up Training
1600-1800 £30

09 Foundation Governor Training
1900-2100 £30

12 Current Developments from Ofsted
Time tbc

16 Assessment in RE
0900-1530 £120

17 Foundation Governor SIAMS Training
1900-2100 £30

18 SIAMS: Setting a Distinctive Christian Vision for your School
0900-1500 £120

NOVEMBER

20 A Christian and Creative Approach to Character Education
0900-1200

20 Developing your Trust Board
1500-1900

Induction Training

SEPTEMBER

13 Headteacher Induction
0930-1530

18 Deputy Headteacher Induction
0900-1200 £60

OCTOBER

11 New to Teaching in Church Schools
0900-1530 £120

Network Meetings

School Chaplains
4th October 1200-1400

RE Subject Leaders
November 6th 1600-1800

Secondary Headteachers
October 16th 0830-1030
Nottingham Emanuel School

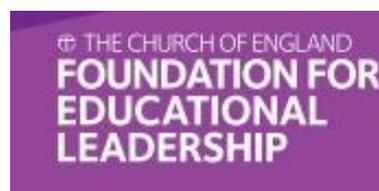
MAT CEO's Meeting
November 9th 1400-1600

Primary Headteachers
October 25th 1330-1530

CEFL National Conference
Thursday 7th February 2019
Methodist Church Hall Westminster
Theme: Resilience

Speakers will include:
Dame Alison Peacock
The Revd Rose Hudson-Wilkin
Mary Myatt

Hold the Date - Further details to follow



Church School Leaders Conference 2018

Creating a Culture of Well-being

14th November 2018

at The Derbyshire Hotel Junction 28 M1

For Headteachers, Senior Leaders, Chairs of governors,
Clergy with a Church School & Chaplains

£95

Keynote speakers:

Kate Coleman, Mary Hawes

A market place:

featuring exhibitors and resources

Eucharist:

celebrated by

The Rt Revd Bishop Paul Williams



Hallem C of E Primary School

Contact Details:

Ally Horne, ahorne@southwell.anglican.org
Jubilee House, Westgate, Southwell, Notts NG25 0JH



www.southwell.anglican.org