

SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2010

Changes at the Diocesan Board of Education.



Every three years a new Diocesan Board of Education is appointed. Our new board began in January. We welcomed the Venerable David Newman, Archdeacon of Loughborough, as our new Chairman.

David writes, "It is a pleasure to introduce myself as the new chair of the Board. Before becoming archdeacon of Loughborough four months ago, I have spent thirty years in parish ministry in a variety of places – Orpington in Kent, Wolverhampton, Ockbrook and Borrowash near Derby, and most recently at Emmanuel in Loughborough. There I was a governor at Loughborough Church of England Primary School, and two of our three children were at the school. The one who was too old by the time we got to Loughborough is herself now a primary school teacher in Reading. In all my parishes, I have enjoyed links with the schools, mostly through regular assemblies, and indeed I look to my own schooling as a formative part in the

development of my faith. So I am an enthusiast for church schools and look forward to partnering those with real expertise as we seek to encourage our church schools in Leicester to be places of excellence in learning and on the frontline of the church's mission to children and young people."

Bishop Tim announced in December that our new Director will be Mary Lawson. Mary takes up her position during the Easter holidays. Currently Mary is headteacher at All Saints, Wigston Magna. Mary commented, "I am absolutely delighted to have been appointed Diocesan Director of Education for Leicestershire. I have a passionate belief in the value and contribution that church schools can have on the individuals that pass through our doors and even wider into society. The ability to show how God's influence plays a part in all aspects of everyday life is what makes church schools so special. Our schools are not just bricks and mortar - they are made of people, families and souls being carefully nurtured. I am very much looking forward to working closely with all our schools, and, as a headteacher I do understand the pressures of everyday school life and I will do my best to support you in every way I can. "



We look forward to welcoming Mary.



Meanwhile after so many years as our Chairman, Gwynne Jones stepped down at the end of last year. At the December Board of Education meeting Gwynne was presented with a painting of Venice, a city that holds very fond memories for him. I am delighted to say that although Gwynne has stepped down from being our Chairman he has agreed to remain a member of the Diocesan Board of Education so we have not lost his vast knowledge and experience.

In our schools this term we welcome:

Carolyn Stephenson as Headteacher at Viscount Beaumont School in Coleorton.

Meanwhile Michael has been very busy with headteacher appointments recently:

Wendy Wakefield will be the new headteacher at Loughborough [with effect from April]

Chris Southall has been appointed as the new Principal at Brockington College [from September]

The following headteacher posts are in the process of currently being advertised:

South Kilworth
Manorfield School at Stoney Stanton
Arnesby and Mowsley Federation
Croxton Kerriel
Long Clawson
Swinford
All Saint's Wigston Magna

Interviews take place for Whitwick St John the Baptist in February.



EDUCATION SUNDAY 2010

A BIG "Thank you" to all our schools who took part in our celebration of Education Sunday this year. The service, sandwiched between 2 presentations accompanied by Westlife's "You raise me up", was accompanied by Lesley Anne Lashley of Kibworth Primary and Brockington orchestra, ably conducted by Anne-Marie Shaw. Ten schools had each painted a picture to show the story of their local area [deanery]

NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOLS:

Belgrave St Peter's, Leicester

As a foundation governor at Belgrave St Peter's C of E Primary School, I asked the newly appointed Head teacher, Beth Walker, if the children could help with the Shoe Box Appeal. I was invited to meet an enthusiastic school council, who agreed to make posters and encourage the filling of the boxes. I then addressed the whole school taking along with me a shoebox filled with sweets, a toy, crayons, a colouring book, tooth paste, toothbrush etc. I asked, "Who likes Christmas?" and "Would your presents fit into a shoebox?" The response was tremendous. Just two weeks later I collected over forty boxes! We put them into St Peter's church to be blessed on Shoe Box Sunday 15th November. At that service more generously filled boxes arrived from the Parish of the Resurrection, that is St Peter's, St Alban's, and St Gabriel's. A total of eighty-seven shoeboxes were then delivered to a warehouse, sorted into large cartons of different age groups, ready to be transported by lorry to Romania. I have visited that country and witnessed, at first hand, the joy on the faces of those children who know that these gifts (the only one they will receive) have been sent from England with love.



Rosemary Jennings [governor]

Lubham All Saints CE Primary School – “Open the Book” club



Our after-school Open the Book club has now been up and running since May 2008, and after starting with 5 pupils it now has a membership of 18, from Reception children up to Year 6.

The club is led by Sue Meadows who is a reader at All Saints Church in Lubham. The children enjoy hearing well-known Bible stories each week, and making props which they then use to retell the story to the rest of the school during collective worship.

Children from the club have participated in family services at the church, most recently at the Christingle service where they used a giant model made at Open the Book club to explain what each part of the Christingle represents.

St. Leonard's Swithland

1. Created a 'lifesize' nativity scene that was blessed by Canon Horton while displayed in the pub. The art work was completed by a number of children at the school with support from our extended services art expert, Hayley Fern. The pub arranged for a brass band to play and a number of children from the school and people from the village/local community sang carols. This was featured in the Loughborough Echo too. Incidentally, this took place after the Nativity service in which we collected on behalf of Christian Aid - as part of their Big Sing project - raising £166.



2. Crib Festival. The children contributed to the crib festival held at St Leonards Church - they made cribs in DT classes in a range of materials - wood, fabric, lollipop sticks, clay. These were on display over in the church over a weekend in December.

Gilmorton Chandler:

Just before we broke up for the Christmas hols, we heard that we are the first school in Leicestershire to be awarded flagship status with the Food for Life Partnership. There are 180 flagship schools nationwide, 18 in the East Midlands. The Food for Life Partnership is a national change programme and award scheme for schools committed to transforming their food culture. We will receive funding and be supported by the various partner agencies to achieve the bronze, silver and gold awards and, as a flagship school, we will host visits from other schools commencing their FfLP journeys. The selection process was rigorous and involved a range of staff and pupil interviews. We are being supported by the School Food Support Service and Healthy Schools team too.

During the summer term Michael is looking to ensure that he visits a significant number of our schools. This visit will be in addition to any visits that your school asks for under the Diocesan Board of Education Service Agreement. To visit the number of schools he wishes to do will mean that days will need to be allocated to particular geographical areas of our diocese. If you would especially like him to visit for a particular reason, please can you contact him on 0116 248 7450 as soon as possible so he can work around these commitments. Please, when he rings to arrange a visit, can this become a priority as he may be unable to re-book.

Collective Worship Network Meetings (Summer Term)

For Collective Worship co-ordinators and teachers, but also helpful for governors and clergy interested in supporting worship.

Advance dates for your diaries

Monday, 24th May

Tuesday, 25th May

Thursday, 27th May

St. Cuthbert's CE Primary School, Great Glen 1 - 4pm

Bottesford Primary School 1.30pm – 4.30pm

St. Peter's CE Primary School, Market Bosworth 1 - 4pm

Cost: If your school subscribes to the Service Agreement: £5 for lunch
If your school does not subscribe the cost is £30 plus £5 for lunch
[Please pay in advance]

Parish and School Partnership

A series of 'Roadshows' around the Diocese to support parishes working with schools. John Fryer (Children's Worker) & Janet Ingram (RE Adviser & Cathedral Education Officer) will be bringing resources and training opportunities to you doorstep. Talk to your local parish about what support/projects/resources you would like for your children and how you would like the parish to be involved. We will then run the 'Roadshows' directly related to your needs. More details to follow...

Taking place on the following dates:

Jun 10th, 22nd, 29th July 6th

Venues: Ashby, Melton Mowbray, Market Harborough, Hinckley, Leicester City

Times: 6:30 – 9:30 (includes supper)

Education @ Leicester Cathedral

Take opportunity to plan a trip outside the classroom to support your RE curriculum. Visit the Cathedral website www.cathedral.leicester.anglican.org for details of a whole range of visit programmes and booking information. These include, 'Experiencing Easter', a series of 6 installations with activities based on Holy Week, only two dates now available 19th and 26th March.

Transition Year Pilgrimage 'Moving On' available from 19th May onwards.

Also, 'Lifepath', a day for Key Stage 2 pupils to work with a partner school to discover new things about themselves and others. 23rd & 25th June



Advance notice of 'Journey Together' (Friday Sept 24th, October 1st, 8th and 15th) a learning walk incorporating a visit to a Mandir, Gurdwara and Cathedral for primary and secondary pupils. An introduction to these projects will be given for anyone wishing to take part Wednesday 26th May 4-5pm at the Cathedral.

For our Secondary Schools there's opportunity to experience 'Breathe' either at the Cathedral or at your own school. See the website for details.

SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT

A big "Thank you" to those schools who have already returned their Service Agreement letter. Please remember to return yours, even if you are deciding not to subscribe but to "pay as you go."

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP RESOURCES

From the Summer Term onwards these will only be available to schools who either subscribe to the Service Agreement or who wish to purchase them from the Board. They will be e-mailed out to schools by the end of this term and will no longer be available on the website.

CONTACTING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

We are just at the end of a phone line if ever you need help, guidance, support or advice. Just dial 0116 248 7450.