



From Jackie Waters-Dewhurst, Diocesan Director of Education

Sometimes, when the sky is blue and the day is crisp and there has been snow or there hasn't been snow but there's a chance to put on your favourite jumper and feel snug and warm; sometimes when you wake to icicles hanging from the trees and the thatch and you know that you can go for a crisp walk (even if it's only to the car!) and enjoy the bite on your nose before you return to the warmth of your office or classroom or home; sometimes, on times like these it is easy and right to be joyfully thankful!

Sometimes, when the sky is grey and the ground wet and uninspiring; sometimes when the news is gloomy and the isolation drags ever on and rumours abound about Easter openings and more of the people who you know are sick – sick and tired sick or covid sick or any other sick; sometimes, on times like these being joyfully thankful for what we do have is all that we have left to do.

Psalm 100

A psalm of thanksgiving.

1 Shout with joy to the LORD, all the earth!

² Worship the LORD with gladness.

Come before him, singing with joy.

³ Acknowledge that the LORD is God!

He made us, and we are his.^[a]

We are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving;

go into his courts with praise.

Give thanks to him and praise his name.

⁵ For the LORD is good.

His unfailing love continues forever,

and his faithfulness continues to each generation.

Sometimes (occasionally...) I start the day with the Church of England Morning prayer from their App. I usually do this when there is nothing else to do that will bring me back to productivity, positivity,

calm and peace. This morning not only was there Psalm 100 (see above) but one of the refrains was as follows:

*How generous is your goodness, o God,
How great is your salvation,
How faithful is your love;
Help us to trust you in trial
And praise you in deliverance;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

May you, may we, be able to trust God in our trials and praise him in those small victories and successes that continue, often unnoticed in our lives and our schools.

God bless
Jackie

Smile Spot!

We heard news this week of the generosity of one of the companies who have, for the last few years, been working with one of our Church of England primary schools helping pupils to understand the world of work. The following comes from Sandra Fawn the Headteacher of Canon Peter Hall Church of England Primary School and is an exciting testament to what can happen when church schools commit to sitting at the centre of their communities:

“Our overwhelming thanks go to P66 for their generous donation of laptops to further support our pupils and families at Canon Peter Hall CofE primary school. This will enable more of our children to engage in their remote learning at home during the lockdown period and beyond. In addition, it can never be overestimated how this will also support their well-being through online communication with their friends and staff in school. Thank you again on behalf of all our families at CPH!”

Keep smiling the world is still full of good things!

Resources and Information

Our Spring Courses

Follow [this link](#) to see our spring courses.

Prayer & Reflection Videos

We continue our series of prayer videos – with an instalment from Jennie Fytche, Schools Worker from LightSpace, Grantham.

These can be found [here](#)



HeartSmart

New remote learning platform: <https://www.heartsmartv.com>

HeartSmart believe children need HeartSmart more than ever before and want to help our amazing schools & teachers in any and every way possible! Teachers have been asking for more remote learning resources - HeartSmart have listened and are pleased to launch HeartSmart TV - a collection of 37 HeartSmart films, lessons and activities, all available at the click of a button....

Building resilience and mental wellbeing has never been so important, so HeartSmart are delighted to make this new platform available free of charge to all of our 400 HeartSmart schools. Over the next 5 weeks, they are emailing schools with a brand new weekly video lesson (see below)”

<https://www.heartsmartv.com/videos/letlovein>

Lockdown Photography Ideas

Chris Vaughn, photographer, has shared the following with us –

<https://chrisvaughanphotography.co.uk/photoideas/>