



From *Paul Thompson*, Diocesan Director of Education –



For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work. **1 Corinthians 3:12-13**

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

In this weekly bulletin, I am reflecting on the colour and precious metal - gold. At the weekend, my family celebrated my parents' Golden Wedding Anniversary. 50 years together. What an achievement! With any long union such as this, there will be happy and exciting times as well as sad and difficult times. There is a need for patience, perseverance, friendship, forgiveness, commitment, loyalty and a whole host of other values for the relationship to grow strong and durable.

50 years of marriage is represented by the precious metal gold. Gold is illuminating, sacred, durable; it is precious.

In the Bible passage above, the Apostle Paul highlights gold and silver's ability to withstand fire. Precious metals are not only unharmed when tried by fire but they become refined and pure. This verse is a powerful comparison between a man's good work on the foundation of Christ and the qualities of gold and silver.

In schools, we have traditionally associated gold with success and achievement. I still remember the teacher sticking a gold star in my creative writing book when I was six years old. Gold has stood the test of times in schools. Pupils may have 'golden time' at the end of term or win 'gold medals' at sports day. Staff may have gold accreditation for a training course they've completed.

When being awarded with ‘gold’, we reflect on the hard work, commitment and determination it took to achieve the success. Success does not often come easy.

Margaret Maughan was a member of the British athletics team and won the UK's first Paralympic gold medal for archery in 1960. We think of all the great Paralympic gold medal winners that have exerted incredible levels of emotional, spiritual and physical energy to achieve their gold medals since that first Paralympic event in Rome.



Whenever we start off on a new adventure, there will be hurdles along the way. We may even trip over one or two of them as we aim for our goal. There may be setbacks and times when we think we just can't go on any more. At these times, we can turn to God and we can turn to our friends, family and colleagues to pick us up and help us on our way. We must always remember that we can achieve more by working together.

I think it is important to recognise the Christian significance of gold in those special times of success whether that is in school, family life or leisure time.

There are more than 700 references to gold and silver in the Bible.

The first reference to gold is during creation of the world in the second chapter of Genesis.

A river watering the garden flowed from Eden; from there it was separated into four headwaters. The name of the first is the Pishon; it winds through the entire land of Havilah, where there is gold. (The gold of that land is good...)” **Genesis 2:10-12a**

The Bible says God created the world and the elements within it. Gold is depicted as an asset of value.

“‘The silver is mine and the gold is mine,’ declares the Lord Almighty.” Haggai 2:8

Gold and silver are products of God – they are not a creation of man. God designed them to be intrinsically valuable and beautiful, for gold does not tarnish nor corrode. It can be hammered so thin that a single ounce can spread over a 100 sq. ft. area.

In our church school education, we continue to work together to create something beautiful that will not tarnish or corrode, and which will have an impact across a surprisingly large area – that is a church school community with a strong and distinctive Christian vision that enables all adults and children to flourish. Thank you for all that you do to make this happen.

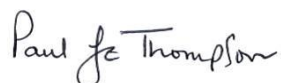
Prayer

Creator God,
you made us all in your image:

may we discern you in all that we see,
and serve you in all that we do;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

I hope you have a joyful week with lots of successes to celebrate.

Best wishes

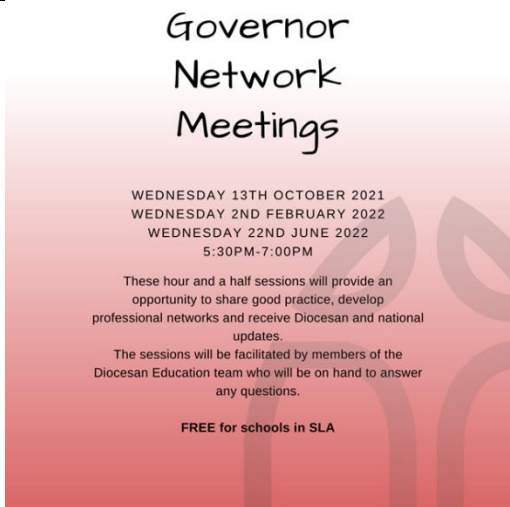



Paul Thompson

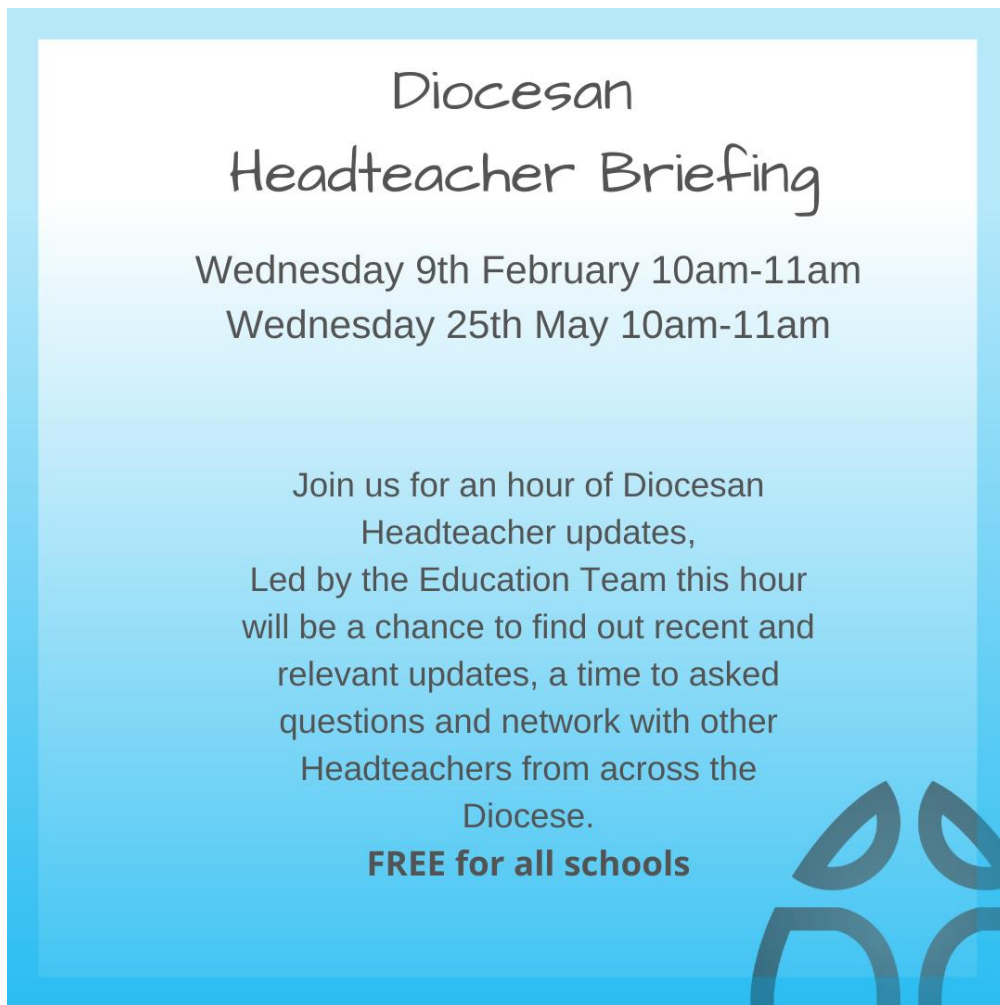
Important Updates and Messages

Courses and Conferences

<p>RE CLUSTER MEETINGS</p> <p>These meetings are an opportunity to get to know other RE teachers and subject leaders in your area, to share good practice, to discover new and useful RE resources and to keep up-to-date with the latest developments in RE.</p> <p>Led by Diocesan RE Adviser, Gillian Georgiou</p> <p>Dates: 5th October 2021 1:30pm-3:00pm 1st February 2022 1:30pm-3:00pm 21st April 2022 1:30pm-3:00pm</p> <p>Venue: Virtual Cost: No charge</p>	<p>This event will take place between 1:30pm and 3:00pm on 01/02/2022.</p> <p>This meeting is open to all and free to attend; all RE cluster meetings are affiliated with the National Association of Teachers of RE (NATRE).</p> <p>The recent Ofsted RE Research Review highlighted the three types of knowledge that we should aim to develop through the RE curriculum: substantive, disciplinary and personal. This meeting will focus on disciplinary knowledge, with a particular emphasis on looking at knowledge through a philosophical lens. We are very pleased to welcome Philip West, author of <i>Just Think: Philosophy Puzzles for Children Aged 9 to 90</i>. Philip has a degree in Natural Sciences and a PhD in Philosophy from the University of Cambridge. He has taught pupils aged 8 – 18 for many years and is now an author of various books relating to teaching Philosophy in schools.</p> <p>Venue: This will be conducted virtually</p> <p>Zoom details will be sent out prior to the meeting</p> <p>Cost: No charge</p>
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 <p>Governor Network Meetings</p> <p>WEDNESDAY 13TH OCTOBER 2021 WEDNESDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2022 WEDNESDAY 22ND JUNE 2022 5:30PM-7:00PM</p> <p>These hour and a half sessions will provide an opportunity to share good practice, develop professional networks and receive Diocesan and national updates.</p> <p>The sessions will be facilitated by members of the Diocesan Education team who will be on hand to answer any questions.</p> <p>FREE for schools in SLA</p>	<p>This event will take place between 5:30pm and 7:00pm on 02/02/2022.</p> <p>This is an opportunity to gather with other governors from across the diocese to discuss the role, share similarities and be updated by the Diocesan Education Team.</p> <p>These sessions are free for governors of schools that have joined the SLA.</p> <p>Please use the link below to book your place:</p> <p>https://www.lincolndiocesaneducation.com/calendar/?calid=1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8&pid=9&viewid=1&event=196</p>
 <p>Collective Worship Cluster Meetings</p> <p>These FREE meetings are an opportunity to get to know other Collective Worship leads across the Diocese, to share good practice, to discover new and useful Collective Worship resources and to keep up-to-date with the latest developments.</p> <p>Dates: 13th October 2021 4pm-5pm 3rd February 2022 4pm-5pm 9th June 2022 4pm-5pm</p> <p>Venue: Virtual Cost: No charge</p>	<p>This event will take place between 4:00pm and 5:00pm on 03/02/2022.</p> <p>These FREE meetings are an opportunity to get to know other Collective Worship leads across the Diocese, to share good practice, to discover new and useful Collective Worship resources and to keep up-to-date with the latest developments.</p> <p>This will conducted virtually.</p> <p>Zoom details will be sent out prior to the meeting</p> <p>Cost: No charge</p> <p>To book your place please click on the link below:</p> <p>https://www.lincolndiocesaneducation.com/calendar/?calid=1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8&pid=9&viewid=1&event=231</p>

New for 2021-22



**Diocesan
Headteacher Briefing**

Wednesday 9th February 10am-11am
Wednesday 25th May 10am-11am

Join us for an hour of Diocesan
Headteacher updates,
Led by the Education Team this hour
will be a chance to find out recent and
relevant updates, a time to asked
questions and network with other
Headteachers from across the
Diocese.

FREE for all schools

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Led by the Education Team this hour will be a chance to find out recent and relevant updates, a time to asked questions and network with other Headteacher from across the diocese.

Venue: Online

Cost: Free

To book, click below:

<https://data.lincolndiocesaneducation.com/civcrm/event/info?id=5506&reset=1>

From Picture News – Collective Worship Webinar & Jubilee Pudding Competition

- Upcoming collective worship webinar in a couple of weeks (this session is already nearly full!): The session will be led by the author of Picture News collective worship and executive head Antony David and will cover the format of the new resource and

explore how to use it. All attendees will also receive a CPD certificate of attendance. To register, please find further details below. This is open to all schools.

Tuesday 8th February 4-5pm – Picture News Collective Worship

[Register here](#)

Since its launch in September, Picture News Collective Worship has become a key resource for many C of E schools. Join executive headteacher and author of Picture News Collective Worship, Anthony David, as he provides an overview, support and further guidance on how to get the most out of the newest addition to your Picture News pack.



- Next, ahead of the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee on 6th February, our resource this week focuses on the Jubilee pudding competition! Attached to this email, the resource for you as a free pack, it also includes our new collective worship addition

Save the Date!

30th March 2022 – Conference for head teachers, chairs of governors, senior leaders, clergy. In person event at Bishop Grosseteste University.

Booking now open! Please click below to book -

<https://data.lincolndiocesaneducation.com/civicrm/event/info?id=5565&reset=1>

Schools! – If you have any articles you would like included in the weekly DBE bulletin, to share good practice in our schools then please email ellen.cross@lincoln.anglican.org