

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.' 1 Peter 1:3

The Diocesan Board of Education

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I hope you had a lovely Easter holiday. It is a time for celebrating new life, being joyful and hopeful for the future.

The Easter story provides us with a source of inspiration, strength and courage to live our best lives within the love of God.



This Easter time was even more special for me and my family this year as we welcomed into the world my first grandson, Arthur. If I do say so myself, he is gorgeous!



My daughter in law was pregnant during the season of Lent and I came to realise that the Lenten journey has quite a few parallels to the process of pregnancy and birth. In a straightforward sense, during the 40 days leading up to Easter, some people choose to give up a certain food or habits for the sake of their spiritual health. In pregnancy, my daughter in law refrained from certain foods and activities for 40 weeks for the sake of the well-being of her child.

During Lent and in pregnancy, there are feelings of discomfort, tiredness and emotions can run high. There may be slight trepidation but there is no reversing it. No turning back. The only way is forward. Like in the Easter story, there is pain to be endured for the sake of a new life. **And best of all, there is incomparable joy that awaits on the other side.**

¹⁸ *I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. (Romans 8:18)*

I have been having lots of cuddles with Arthur over Easter. The hard work and pain endured by my daughter in law and the worry for us turned into great joy for all the family.

How may the story of Easter and the experience of bringing a new baby into the world relate to the work we do in church schools?

*You can do this.
It will be worth it.
This is normal.
I know it hurts.
Easter is coming and it
is so close.
Keep going.
Trust that He knows
just what He's doing.
One moment at a time.*

The Diocesan Board of Education

Well, I know that school leaders tread paths where there may be discomfort, worry and even pain along the way. For example, if you invest a new maths scheme, you make the painful decision to invest what funds you have, staff will go through a level of discomfort as they try to implement it effectively and then there is the worry about the impact it will have on pupil outcomes.

If the conditions for success has been carefully set, then you may feel much more hopeful that it will work. For example, if the research in the scheme has been thorough, the training has been high quality and the teachers adapt it to meet the needs of the pupils, then you may experience great joy when outcomes improve.

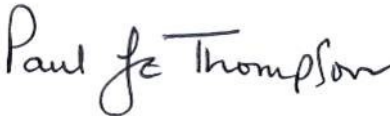
In schools we can be hopeful. We all recognise that joy and success does not always come easy. To best endure the bumpy road to success, we need a shared Christian vision, we need to maintain our high aspirations for all, we need to recognise the strength of the church school family and work together.

'Ubuntu' – 'I am because we are'.

With the flowers blossoming, the daylight hours getting longer and summer approaching, we can take inspiration from God's World that we can be hopeful that all adults and children in our schools will flourish.

I hope you have a happy and successful summer term.

Best wishes—



from Paul Thompson, **Diocesan Director of Education**

The Diocesan
Board of Education

Diary of Upcoming LDBE Courses and Events—

Date	Time	Course	
<u>23/04/2024</u>	<u>13:30-15:00</u>	<u>RE Cluster</u>	<u>online</u>
<u>24/04/2024</u>	<u>10:00-12:00</u>	<u>Bishop Visitors Meeting</u>	<u>In person</u>
<u>25/04/2024</u>	<u>10:00-12:00</u>	<u>Bishop Visitors Meeting</u>	<u>In person</u>
<u>25/04/2024</u>	<u>16:00-18:00</u>	<u>Church School Governor Induction</u>	<u>online</u>
<u>02/05/2024</u>	<u>10:00-15:30</u>	<u>Developing Inclusion Through the Vision for Education</u>	<u>In person</u>
<u>07/05/2024</u>	<u>10:00-11:00</u>	<u>Diocesan Headteacher Briefing</u>	<u>Online</u>
<u>09/05/2024</u>	<u>16:00-18:00</u>	<u>Preparing for SIAMS inspection - The Spiritual Life of the School</u>	<u>online</u>
<u>14/05/2024</u>	<u>16:00-18:00</u>	<u>Diversity, Equity and Inclusion: Continuing the Conversation</u>	<u>Online</u>
<u>16/05/2024</u>	<u>16:00-17:00</u>	<u>Collective Worship Cluster</u>	<u>online</u>

The Diocesan Board of Education

Lincolnshire Schools/ Academies - Special Needs Hubs and Specialist Satellite Provision

The Church of England's vision for education is fully inclusive. As such we are fully supportive of schools who have offered places in support of the Local Authority's strategy to develop special educational needs hubs and specialist satellite provision.

However, it is important for leaders to be aware that for some church schools there may be legal restrictions in the way church school sites can be used. Whilst we are keen to see schools develop this much needed provision, schools and academies should seek their own legal advice to ensure they are compliant with their Trust Deeds and Church Supplemental Agreements.

Schools should contact the LDBE team to let us know about their intention to create a SEND hub or specialist satellite provision and the legal advice that they have received.

Any queries about this issue should be directed to Ellen—ellen.cross@lincoln.anglican.org

AYLA Free Information Webinars



Free Twilight Webinars

Introduction to the Young Leaders Award

"The AYLA gave the children a comprehensive understanding of community. Pupils were empowered to engage with people and develop self confidence in speaking with members of the community... our pupils were able to witness how their actions brought joy." AYLA teacher

Looking for a programme that supports pupils to develop courageous advocacy, leadership and character and to serve their communities?

Come and find out more about the **Archbishops' Young Leaders Award** programme through our free online sessions this term for both Primary and Secondary schools.

Find out more and sign up at www.abyyt.com/events.

SCHOOLS NEWS

The Diocesan Board of Education

Branston CofE Infants Holy Week

We are always really keen to share the wonderful things you do as a church school. At the end of last term, Paul was privileged to visit Branston Church of England Infant School to see how the children explored the significant events of Holy Week.

You can see from the school's newsletter attached, the school community was immersed in a fantastic range of creative and inspirational activities to further develop their understanding of Easter. If you would like to share examples of your great work with other schools in the diocese, please let us know.