
The Diocesan Board of Education

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

² There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. ³ So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up."

⁴ When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am." (Exodus 3 v2-4)

I hope you had a restful break from school and you feel ready to embrace the final half term of this academic year. This half term will of course be another busy period in school. However, it is one that I always enjoyed as a child as well as a teacher in school. It is the time when we typically have sports days, school excursions, summer fetes and celebration events.

It is also the time of year when we host the Diocesan Church Schools Festival in Lincoln Cathedral. In fact, this started in the week before half term and we continue in these next two weeks. It is a wonderful opportunity for pupils and adults to travel from many church schools within the diocese to be together as one family in the awesome Cathedral.



For some children, it is the first time they have been inside the Cathedral. I enjoy watching their initial reaction as they enter the building. We often hear them say 'wow' as they stare at the spectacular interior of the grand building.

When we welcome the schools at the start of the day, we encourage the children and adults to take time in the day to stop and notice. There is so much to see and if we don't stop and look, we will miss the sights, the noises and the special feeling within the Cathedral. We encourage the children and adults to look up, look around and focus on what they see, hear and feel.



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When you stop and look, you notice things you have not seen before – no matter how many times you've been to the Cathedral. When I stop and look at one of the many stained glass windows, I notice a Biblical scene or the light shining through to the floor that I have not noticed before. When I listen to the choral workshops in the chapter house, I notice the different sounds that echo in that space. When I enter a side chapel and there is no-one else in there, I notice and feel the peace and calmness of that place

The theme of the Church School Festival is based upon the story of Moses and the Burning Bush – which as you know is the story that underpins the Diocesan Vision for Education – (Called, Aspirational, Rooted and Empowering)

In the story, we learn what happened when Moses stopped, looked and noticed something quite extra-ordinary. He saw the bush on fire and he noticed it wasn't burning up. He stopped, listened and noticed that God was speaking to him. God was calling him to do something very important – to help vulnerable people become free.

The Cathedral provides a wonderful environment for us to notice something very special. If you have been to the Church Schools Festival or you are planning to come in the next few days, I urge you to take a moment and see if you notice something very special. You may find it is the presence and love of God.

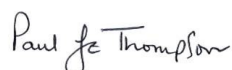
When you are in school during this busy term, I also urge to take a moment to notice. Notice the children playing nicely with each other in the playground. Notice the teacher who has planned the school excursion. Notice the teaching assistant who is helping a child with a tricky spelling. Notice the midday supervisor helping the child open a flask. Notice the time you've provided pastoral support to a parent.

Notice the big things. Notice the small things. Notice the things that seem insignificant. When we notice people and the special qualities they have, it is important to take a moment to show appreciation and to give thanks. Within the love of God, we have lots to appreciate and to say thank you for.

When you see me or a member of the DBE team in your school, you will see us stop in the corridors, stop in the classrooms and stop in the playgrounds. This is so we can take a moment to notice to appreciate the great things you do in school. Thank you.

I wish you a happy and successful end to the academic year.

Best wishes—



from Paul Thompson, Diocesan Director of Education

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New DBE Administrator

I am delighted to announce that we have a new member of the DBE team.

Kim Dove has been appointed as a new administrator and she starts her role today (Monday 3rd June). Kim will have a range of administrative responsibilities including supporting the administration for foundation governance in schools. I am sure you will soon get to know Kim as she will be a kind voice on the phone and a friendly face at diocesan conferences and events. We wish Kim all the very best in her new role.



Try Picture News Worship – x4-weekly packs

You will receive a ready-made worship resource, suitable for pupil-led or staff-led worship. Each pack explores a current news story and provides thought-provoking ideas to challenge and inspire. The packs arrive each Friday morning, ready for the week ahead.

Request the free-of-charge resources [here](#)

Upcoming LDBE Courses—

Da	Time	Course	
19/06/2024	17:30-19:00	Governor Briefing	online
25/06/2024	10:00-15:30	RE Conference	In per-
02/07/2024	10:00-12:00	Preparing for SIAMS inspection - Empowering All	online
05/07/2024	9:30-12:30	SEF writing Workshop	In per-

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Sanctuary Foundation Great Big Live Assembly—

On Thursday, June 20th at 9:05 am, a free, live broadcast for schools all across the country will be hosted by Sanctuary Foundation - a charity advocating for the needs of refugees.

This fast-paced, child-centred, interactive broadcast will feature:- a celebration of the inclusion of refugee families in our schools and communities, art and poetry from some of the shortlisted entrants to our No Place Like Home competition, a short inspirational and interactive presentation of the issues facing refugees, voices of refugees- and celebrity appearances.

The assembly is 20-minutes long and streamed live on YouTube with simple joining instructions. A special schools resource pack will be emailed out to you after registration with further information and a wealth of optional follow-up activities that tie in with the curriculum.

Only one ticket is needed per school as the link can then be shared with other class teachers. The assembly is suitable for children from both primary and secondary schools but is best suited to Key Stages 2 and 3. Free tickets are limited to the first 1000 schools. Additional schools can register with a donation.

We do hope you will join them for this special event.

Tickets can be found [here](#).

Diversifying and enriching curriculum provision

Attached to this week's bulletin is a case study from Wrawby St Mary's Church of England Primary academy. This school has been using an online resource, [Lyfta](#), as a tool to enrich and enhance its curriculum offer. This resource brings human stories to life and is impacting on pupils' knowledge about our diverse world, helping them to develop as global citizens of the future. Pupils are benefiting from developing their understanding of the wider world and broadening their horizons to understand people, places and perspectives.

This resource will help church schools who want to focus on global citizenship, diversity, sustainability, character education, cultural capital as well as social and emotional learning and oracy. It can support schools to develop opportunities for spiritual reflection across the broad curriculum as well as helping to improve understanding around justice and social action.

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Championing Education: The Battle of Heligoland Bight December 18 1939

This year marks the 85th Anniversary of The Battle of Heligoland Bight, the first named air battle of World War 2. With the high number of losses the strategy for Bomber Command attack subsequently changed from daylight to darkness operations. Crews, on both sides, had to adapt to night flying which added to the challenges already faced.

In the current climate understanding the past to learn for the future is paramount but challenging for schools. It is challenging in terms of how we might engage children to connect with the past, learn key facts and understand concepts such as remembrance, recognition and reconciliation.

The school curriculum allows for this, with Church schools able to define their vision and values as a community with scope for this to be enriched by local heritage, regional stories and visits.

The Battle of Heligoland Bight provides a context by discovering the stories behind the aircraft and RAF crews which ditched in North Lincs and Lincolnshire, enriching both the history and wider curriculum. In addition it can enhance the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of young people by reflecting how local stories have shaped the vision and the values of the school community.

If you are interested in finding out more about The Heligoland39 Project or would like to share examples of your current practice please get in touch.

Patricia Ruff Education Champion (volunteer) patricia.ruff@outlook.com

The Heligoland39 Project. For the digital archive email ibccarchive@lincoln.ac.uk

The H39 design below is our representation of reconciliation: a three petal poppy, with two forget-me-nots to represent the two German fighter pilots who perished on 18 December 1939. The forget -me -not is the German symbol of remembrance.



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GE2024

Give pupils a voice this general election

The Prime Minister has called a general election to take place on the 4th of July.

We have created resources to support pupils to explore the general election as global citizens as well as an activity to help pupils meaningfully participate in the general election and meet their newly elected representative after the election!

The resource is available to download from Monday the 3rd of June.

To find out more please contact Josh: jgear@christian-aid.org.



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