
The Diocesan Board of Education



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I love this time of year when we experience the abundance of harvest. I have picked loads of pears, but there have not been many apples. Hopefully I can share what I have and enjoy what others have to offer at the harvest supper in our village. I hope that you will be able to take part in this season of gratitude for abundance and create the opportunities in school to celebrate and share.

Harvest signals a change of season – knowing we have enough to get through, and people to it share with, helps us to face the signs of winter creeping up on us. I love shuffling in leaves before they get mushed up and I will need to sweep them away, clearing a path so that no one slips over.

In school the year is now set up, routines established, children settled in. You have provided that for each other and the sowing of a good start will mean you will reap good things over the whole year. Before we get to half term, though, no doubt you will look ahead to the weeks after it. So I invite you to clear a path amidst the swirling and twirling of leaves and children, an inner path which enables you to let go gratefully of this season of beginnings and enables you to embrace what comes next.

If you have seen the TV programme *Tidying Up* with Marie Kondo or read her bestseller *The Life Changing Magic of Tidying up: the Japanese art of decluttering and organising*, you will know the importance of getting rid of things, but of being grateful. Marie Kondo advises you to pick up that jumper or sandwich toaster with gratitude for what it has been to you, but to pass it on if it does not spark joy in you. If joy is sparked in you she recommends that you put it in the place where it is to be kept, that you give it a home, folding it, if you can, with thankfulness. The purpose of all this is to enable a house to become a home, a place where there is gratitude for what you have and joy. It's not bad advice for a classroom or a heart.

People talk a lot about letting go, but the wisdom which emerges from the bible is more direct: 'Repent' is what John the Baptist invited us to do, proclaiming now as the time to change and turn to God. Centuries before John the Baptist the prophet Isaiah called upon God's people to, 'Make a straight path through the desert'.

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As the season turns I know I need to set a new pattern for rest and reflection if I'm to get through til Christmas. I will enjoy shuffling and sweep up leaves to clear a path. The physical activity will help me mull, pray, let go and pledge myself to let go of what I don't need and prevents me from living well. I can start the work to clear an inner path so that I can be at grateful for what has been accomplished and let go of what doesn't spark joy. Will you?

The Ven Dr Justine Allain Chapman

Archdeacon of Boston, Chair of LDBE

LDBE Upcoming Courses and Events—

Date	Time	Course	
<u>15/10/2024</u>	<u>10:00-12:00</u>	<u>Bishop Visitor Training Session</u>	<u>face to face</u>
<u>16/10/2024</u>	<u>10:00-12:00</u>	<u>Bishop Visitor Training Session</u>	<u>face to</u>
<u>16/10/2024</u>	<u>16:00-18:00</u>	<u>Governor Church School Induction</u>	<u>online</u>
<u>17/10/2024</u>	<u>10:00-15:30</u>	<u>SIAMS: One Year on!</u>	<u>Face to Face</u>
<u>07/11/2024</u>	<u>16:00-18:00</u>	<u>Growing Faith: How do relationships enhance the school's ability to live out its Christian</u>	<u>online</u>

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Free Advent Collective Worship Resource

As we journey towards Christmas this Advent season, we invite your school to join us in *Follow the Star: Calm and Bright* drawing on the world-famous carol, Silent Night:

*“Silent Night! Holy Night!
All is calm, all is bright...”*

We'll hear from 4 main characters in Luke's account of the Christmas story, Angel Gabriel, Joseph, a shepherd and Mary. As we listen to their stories, we'll think about how they experienced 'All is calm, all is bright', the message their story brings of Jesus' birth and what those messages might mean for us today. What

actions could we take to bring calmness and brightness to our world?

Schools can sign up here: www.abyyt.com/advent

National Younger Leadership Groups 2024-25

Just a quick reminder that the deadline for schools to register for this year's NYLG is the **18th October**. Excitingly this year, the group's voices/views, along with other young people, will feed into a least one item in the 2025 General Synod sessions.

Attached to this email is a flyer with more details.

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Farmington Scholarships

The application process for Farmington Scholarships has opened again for 2025-26: <https://farmington.ac.uk/re-teachers/> - here you can find further information and an application form.

2024 has seen the launch of the Farmington Headteachers Institute, which is based in Jesus College, Cambridge. The Headteachers Institute will be offering Headteacher Scholarships for 2025-26. Further details and an application form can be found here [Headteachers - Farmington Institute](#)

Attached to this email is a flyer with more details.

Scampton Church and RAF War Graves Heritage Centre

Working alongside Heritage Lincolnshire, The Commonwealth War Graves Commission and West Lindsey District Council, Scampton Church and RAF War Graves Heritage Centre has created the resource especially for schools who are unable to personally visit. The website provides a unique and exciting opportunity for students to remotely research the personal stories of those who died serving their country.

You can access the new website here: <https://war-graves.scamptonchurch.org/>

This free opportunity is especially designed to work with the KS2 and KS3 history curriculum.

There are also lesson plans that can be downloaded free of charge and adapted for schools particular needs. (Download at: <https://scamptonchurch.org/educational-project/>.)

Day or half day visits to Scampton for sessions to be delivered by trained volunteers for a small charge to cover heating and lighting are also available. Alternatively arrangements can be made to connect remotely with a volunteer on site at Scampton.

If you are interested please contact shelley@scamptonchurch.org