

Dear Friends and Colleagues -

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

Genesis 2:1-3

Half term is approaching - and I pray you all get respite and rest.

The above is my favourite bit of Genesis - I love that God so loved rest and revered it that they built it into the fabric of time for generations of people. We've sort of wandered away from allowing ourselves rest as a part of time; hustle culture and the pressures of what we just need to get done to keep going have become overwhelming. But God stopped. God! God factored into the very story of time rest. That's massive for me to think about.

Jesus stopped. Jesus spent time alone, in prayer. Often at crucial moments in his life, he just stopped.

As a Christian - I live my life in the inspiration of Christ; I remember to stop, pray, think - it doesn't come naturally!

I'm also a Quaker - and our Advices & Queries, the absolute distillation of our faith, says this -

'Every stage of our lives offers fresh opportunities. Responding to divine guidance, try to discern the right time to undertake or relinquish responsibilities without undue pride or guilt. Attend to what love requires of you, which may not be great busyness.'

[Quaker Advices & Queries 28](#)



Attend to what love requires of you - love for yourself included.

Rest is self care; in social activism, we encourage people to put the oxygen mask on themselves first, so that they can then help other people. If we don't do what love requires of us, and look after ourselves, we can't fulfil our greatest gift - helping others.

Dr Saudra Dalton-Smith has described 7 types of rest - one of which is spiritual: '...the ability to connect beyond the physical and mental and feel a deep sense of belonging, love, acceptance and purpose. To receive this, engage in something greater than yourself and add prayer, meditation or community involvement to your daily routine.'

So try and rest, if you can.

Ellen Cross
DBE Administrator

Free Webinar Recording for Governors: **Financial Sustainability**

For any governors unable to attend last week's webinar about Governance Tips for financial sustainability, hosted by the NGA, a recording is available at this [link on NGA's website](#)

This is free to all schools and academies.

A lot of content is included in the 45-minute session, which explores help and guidance for challenges such as:

- declining reserves
- budget deficit
- falling rolls and staffing costs
- being proactive in making the most of every resource.

Upcoming Courses & Events -

Date	Time	Course		Book Here
12/02/2026	10:00-16:00	New Church School Headteacher Induction	Face to face	BOOK
24/02/2026	16:00-18:00	Developing Knowledge in RE	Online	BOOK
26/02/2026	10:00 - 12:00	Bishop Visitor Training	Face to face	BOOK
25/02/2026	10:00 - 12:00	Bishop Visitor Training	Face to face	BOOK
26/02/2026	10:00-12:00	Your curriculum and Your Theologically Rooted Vision	Online	BOOK

LIVING OUT OUR VISION



The Diocesan
Board of
Education

MEETING THE NEEDS OF THE MOST VULNERABLE

Leadership Conference

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**THE RIGHT REVD
STEPHEN
CONWAY**

BISHOP OF LINCOLN



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**STEVE
CHALKE**

FOUNDER OF OASIS
CHARITABLE TRUST



**THURSDAY 26TH MARCH 2026
10AM-4PM**

The Showroom
Tritton Road
Lincoln
LN6 7QY

**COST: £195 (SLA/MPA) £300 (NON-SLA)
GOVERNORS: £155(SLA/MPA) £235 (NON-SLA)
CLERGY: £75**



Living Out Your Vision: Meeting the Needs of the Most Vulnerable

A Conference for Church School Leaders

Join us for an inspiring and practical day designed especially for Church of England school leaders who are committed to shaping communities where every child can flourish. Living Out Your Vision brings together nationally respected voices and hands-on expertise to support leaders in championing inclusion, belonging, and hope within their schools.

We are delighted to welcome **The Bishop of Lincoln, The Rt Revd Stephen Conway**, and **Steve Chalke MBE**, founder of the Oasis Charitable Trust, as our keynote speakers. Both bring profound insight into what it means to lead with compassion, courage, and a deeply rooted Christian vision—particularly in service of the most vulnerable.

Alongside our keynote sessions, participants will have access to a rich programme of workshops tailored to the everyday realities of leading a Church of England school. Topics include:

- Developing and nurturing spirituality across the whole school community
- Strengthening the governor's role in supporting disadvantaged and vulnerable pupils
- Embedding inclusion and belonging as core expressions of Christian distinctiveness
- Using case studies in RE to deepen understanding, engagement, and reflective practice

Whether you're looking to refresh your vision, strengthen your leadership toolkit, or gain practical strategies for meeting diverse needs, this conference offers a space to learn, reflect, and connect with colleagues who share your commitment to transformative education.



[BOOK HERE](#)

SPRINGS


DANCE COMPANY


Now Booking: The Easter Project 2026! ✨


Looking for a fresh, creative and engaging way to explore the Easter story with your pupils? Springs Dance Company's much-loved Easter Project workshops bring the narrative to life through movement, imagination and joyful participation.


★ "The team have been amazing with the children and had every single child engaged and on board... calm, fun and inspiring!" — Deputy Headteacher, Great Horwood Primary School

Our Easter workshops can be delivered as a one-day experience or a longer project, and can even culminate in a pupil sharing or performance. A perfect way to enrich RE learning this Spring!

 Now booking for Spring–Summer 2026 and beyond

 touring@springsdancecompany.org.uk

 07775 628 442

 Find out more: springsdancecompany.org.uk/join-in



Racial Justice Sunday

A HUGE thank you to all the schools who have contributed to Racial Justice Sunday this year. It was wonderful to have children full involved in the service helping to mark this important day in the church calendar.

A big shout out to Scunthorpe Church of England Primary who led the lesson for the service. They retold the story of the Good Samaritan with such confidence and pride.

Thank you to St Nicholas' school Boston, whose prayers were included in the devotional that all members of the congregation were able to take with them. A copy is included with this bulletin for other schools to use too.

A further thank you to the following schools for sending jigsaw pieces and prayer cards to display in the Chapter house. They made a wonderful display and ensured that church schools were full represented in the service and the meal afterwards. Thank you all!

Contributors: Gunness and Burringham, Hackthorn, Long Benington's Equalizers group, Swinderby, Dunston and Nocton, Lisle Marsden, Stickney, William Lovell, Leasingham, Bishop King, Lincoln and St Annes, Grantham and the one school who didn't send their name with their contributions – please let us know who you were!

