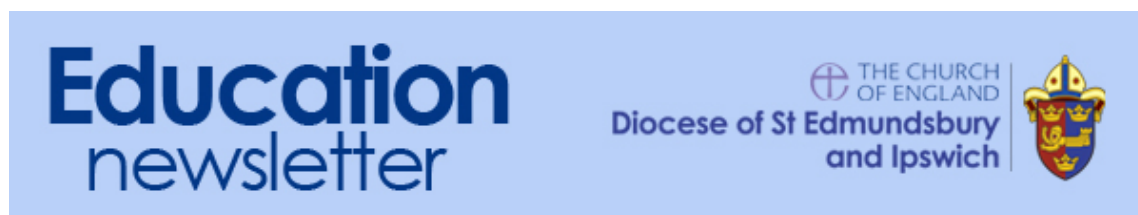


This newsletter, from the Diocesan Education Team, is sent to Church school Headteachers, foundation governors, chairs of governors and clergy.

[View this email in your browser](#)

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April 2019

News from the Diocese

Dear all,

As I write this, we are still in Lent, a season of reflection and preparation before the celebrations of Easter. One of the prayers used in Lent includes the following words:

"help us to use these days to grow in wisdom and prayer".

With the increasing challenge of school budgets and unprecedented political uncertainty, I find assurance in the well thought-out prayers of the Church of England and the 200 year history of church schools, which must have faced many challenges over the generations. It is for each of us to seize the opportunities in our generation to make a difference to the lives of our children and young people and to find imaginative and creative ways to do so.

We are fast approaching the end of another busy term. My hope is that you are able to find time over the school holidays to grow in wisdom and prayer, and then to enjoy the glorious celebration of Easter.

May the God who brings new life and hope fill you with His joy this Easter.



Photo: Michelangelo's Pietà

With all good wishes,

Jane Sheat

Jane Sheat
Diocesan Director of Education

Statement of Entitlement for RE

The new Statement of Entitlement for RE for Church of England schools was published in February 2019 replacing the 2016 version. For more, please click [here](#)



RE Summer Conference for all RE teachers

Tuesday 18 June 2019,
Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds
The keynote presentation will be given by the The Holocaust Education Trust. A full programme of short, focussed sessions will follow with a choice for both primary and secondary delegates. To find out more and book, please visit [CPD Online](#)



Dates for your diary:

Sunday 6 October 2019

An education service will again be held in the cathedral at Bury St Edmunds.

Wednesday 6 November 2019

The annual church school leaders' conference will be at the St Nicholas Centre.

Small Schools Forum

It was good to meet with heads and governors from small schools again recently at our Small Schools Forum. We are continuing to work out the Church of England's vision, using the report [Embracing Change: Rural and Small Schools](#) and its set of questions for governing bodies (Appendix 2). I commend these to all small schools.

The date of the next Smalls Schools Forum is Monday 1 July 2019 at Coddendam Community and Sports Hall, 4.00-5.30pm.

Please also see details of recent research on running rural schools efficiently under News from the Department for Education (below).

Helen Matter

Helen Matter is retiring from the team on 31 August. We will be advertising her post shortly on the Diocesan website and Suffolk Jobs Direct. More information will follow.

Thank you!

Many thanks to those who have already paid their subscriptions for 2019/20.

ADMISSIONS – A Reminder for Headteachers and governors

If you are planning to alter your Admissions policy in any way, please contact [Karen Harman](#) for guidance and support. The Admissions Code is very specific and in order to avoid issues in the future it is vital that policies are accurate and specific too. Please make those decisions referring to changes at this term's governors' meeting so that we can carry out a consultation in the autumn term.

The deadline for contacting Karen if you need to consult on changes is **1 September 2019**. Consultations on changes must run for a minimum of six weeks and the start date of the window is **1 October 2019**.

In Year Fair Access Protocol (IYFAP)

Many Heads will have had experience of attending IYFAP meetings. Please use the [attached form](#) to feedback your thoughts and send to Charlotte.clydesdale@suffolk.gov.uk

Valuing All God's Children National Survey

We would like to draw your attention to the Valuing All God's Children national survey that has recently been launched by the Church of England Education Office. Many of you heard the input provided at last autumn's church school leaders' conference by Katy Staples, the author of [Valuing All God's Children](#). Since then, your comments regarding VAGC have been many and varied, not least in relation to its place in the new SIAMS inspection schedule. We would urge you to use this opportunity to share your views and respond to the survey following the link [here](#).



A great opportunity for children and young people to be congratulated for their hard work and to thank teachers, staff, governors, volunteers and business partners who go the extra mile and deserve recognition. Deadline for nominations is Monday 22 April. The Awards evening will be on Wednesday 10 July 2019. Full details are available on the Raising the Bar [website](#).

News from the Diocesan Multi Academy Trust

I am delighted to report that St Matthew's CEVAP in Ipswich joined the Diocesan MAT on 1 March 2019.



We welcome Danielle (Danni) Himsworth to our team as MAT Administrator. Danni works 20 hours per week and previously worked at the Raedwald Trust for Pupil Referral Units.



The Church of England has launched the **Family Prayer Adventure Map** as part of [Thy Kingdom Come](#), the global prayer movement that takes place between Ascension and Pentecost. The map is designed for children in years 4, 5, 6 and their families and encourages a link between school, church and households.

For more about this please visit [Thy Kingdom Come resources page](#)

For further ideas to engage in prayer, please click [here](#).

LIFE exhibition

This year the LIFE exhibition about the life of Jesus is taking place at St John's Church, Ipswich from 10-14 June. For more information, please see [website](#)



Resilience events at Assington Hall, Sudbury

For Senior Staff at church schools Thursday 4 July 12.00 - 3.30pm

A guest speaker will lead a reflection after which there will be time to reflect, network, pray or read and enjoy the beautiful surroundings.

For Church School Heads Friday 5 July, 9.30 - 3.30

Guest speakers are Jon Neale, the CEO of Suffolk Mind and the Revd Stephen Morley. The theme this year is Headteacher Mental Health and Wellbeing.

To find out more about either event, please contact [Jacqui Studd](#).

News from Schools



Pupils at **Stonham Aspal CEVAP School** have a new LCVAP funded Community Room. The children in the pictures above are enjoying themselves making pancakes on Shrove Tuesday. This project used ring-fenced Healthy Pupils Capital Fund.

Bishops Martin and Mike have completed their their Lent Pilgrimage, having walked 90-miles from Southwold to Stowmarket. Along the way they met school children from a number of our schools including:



Walsham Le Willows CEVCP School where pupils quizzed the Bishops about their pilgrimage; the school is looking forward to welcoming Bishop Martin back on Friday 5 April to unveil the school's new 'Vision Mosaic'.

Pupils at **Norton CEVCP School** welcomed the Bishops as they entered Stowlangtoft by singing 'We are Walking in the light of God' and then walked with them to Stowlangtoft church.



Training courses for the Summer term include:

- * our termly Basics of RE and Collective Worship courses;
- * a look at SIAMS inspections;
- * leading a church school;
- * creating a school vision workshop;
- * developing leaders; and
- * recording and assessing in RE.

To find out more, please visit the [Diocesan website](#); or contact [Jacqui Studd](#).

More news from schools

Norton CEVCP School has had a new classroom with time capsule installed. For more, please click [here](#)

Pupils from **Rattlesden CofE Primary Academy** were looking to the stars in early March after the universe was bundled into a box and brought to the village. For more, please click [here](#).

Bildeston Primary and **Whatfield CEVCP Schools** recently took possession of a new minibus with an event involving pupils from both schools. For more, please click [here](#).

To celebrate science week, some of our church schools took part in an array of activities: **Ixworth CofE Primary School** had a very exciting day from a pop-up planetarium; **King Edward VI School** led 258 primary school children through interactive science experiences; pupils from **Barnham CEVCP School** had an explosive time at the University of Cambridge. For more please click [here](#)

St Peter and St Paul CofE Primary School, Eye attended a school mass in the local church with the Bishops.

For more, please see the [Bury Free Press](#), Norton CEVCP School [website](#) and the Diocesan [website](#).



Congratulations!

Congratulations to pupils at **Dennington CofE Primary School** who helped design an Elmer called 'Waddles' who will take part with 99 other young Elmers in this year's Elmer's Big Parade Suffolk. The Big Parade runs from June to September 2019, celebrating the 30th anniversary of both St Elizabeth Hospice and the much loved Elmer the Patchwork Elephant book series. The [EADT](#) reports with photos.

Congratulations to pupils at **St Gregory CEVCP School, Sudbury** on completing their Goodwill Marathon of 26.2 kind acts for people with dementia and their families and carers to raise money for Dementia Revolution. It was also part of Mark Watson's 26.2 Hour Comedy Marathon. For more, please see the school's video by clicking [here](#).

Congratulations to pupils from **Palgrave CofE Primary School** who came second in a mock trial competition at Ipswich Crown Court in March 2019. For more on this story, please click [here](#)

Ofsted Inspections

	Outcomes
Capel St Mary CEVCP	Good
East Bergholt CEVCP	Good
Great Whelnetham CEVCP	Inadequate
Kersey CEVCP	Requires Improvement
King Edward VI, Bury St Edmunds	Good
Mellis CofE Primary	Good
Sproughton CofE Primary	Good

SIAMS Inspections

	Outcomes
Elmsett CEVCP	Good
Worlingham CEVCP	Excellent



It's Your Move - a fun and friendly guide to moving to secondary school. This revised edition offers lots of advice, together with stories of real people who have already made the move. This book makes an ideal gift for Year 6 pupils. Currently they are on special offer - £14 for 10 instead of the usual £20. Please click here for [more](#)



More Congratulations!

A number of our church schools took part in the 32nd Celebration of Schools' Music at the Snape Maltings Concert Hall in March.

Well done to pupils from **Crawford's CofE Primary, Haughley, Dennington CofE Primary, Great Barton CofE Primary, King Edward VI, Rougham CofE Primary, St John's CEVAP, Ipswich** and **Tattingstone CEVCP School** who took part. For more, please click [here](#).

Congratulations to **Charsfield CofE Primary, Elmsett CEVCP, Orford CEVAP** and **Stutton CofE Primary Schools** who have each won £2,500 in book vouchers having collected tokens published in the East Anglian Daily Times and Ipswich Star newspapers. For more please see the [EADT article](#)

News from the Department of Education

Running rural primary schools efficiently

14 March 2019
Findings of a research project which examined how to run small rural primary schools efficiently. For more details please click [here](#).

News from Ofsted

Ofsted has launched a consultation on proposed changes to the school inspection framework from September 2019- please click [here](#) for the consultation. Please do respond to the consultation, which closes on 5 April 2019.

Headteacher appointments

Congratulations to the following on their recent appointments:

- Darren Gates who has been appointed Headteacher at St Matthew's CofE Primary School from September 2019
- Sarah Smith who has been appointed Headteacher at Stoke by Nayland CofE Primary School from September 2019

Headteacher resignations/retirements

We will be saying goodbye to the following Headteachers who are leaving church schools this summer:

- Vicky O'Brien who is leaving Worlingham CEVCP School
- Julia van Ek who is leaving Sir Robert Hitcham CEVAP School, Debenham

For the Attention of Headteachers

If you are retiring or resigning as Headteacher, please do let us know. Jane, Karen or Phil will attend meetings with your Governors to advise on the headship appointment, alongside the Local Authority. We can be in contact with your Chair of Governors and make sure that we are available for dates for shortlisting and interviews. Many thanks.

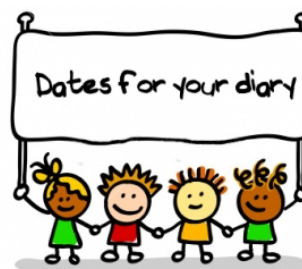


Sharon Waldron, Headteacher at Stonham Aspal CEVAP School provides an update on the 'WorthLess?' campaign:

WorthLess? has gained a unique insight into the state of England's schools and academies since the introduction of the new National Funding Formula (NFF). WorthLess? represent over 60 Local Authorities and Boroughs with a reach to several million families.

Current Concerns

- Since 2010 school budgets have been reduced in real terms by 8% and by 20% at post-16
- Class sizes are rising and the curricular offer is being restricted
- Increasingly, schools are being asked to support with children's emotional health and wellbeing. Frequently, we do not have adequate resource to meet a growing need.
- Often, the most vulnerable students in our schools – those from disadvantaged backgrounds or those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) – are bearing the brunt of cuts and schools are struggling to provide the levels of support that they are entitled to.



Easter Day

21 April 2019

St George's Day

23 April 2019

World Book Night

23 April 2019

Children's Book Week

29 April – 5 May 2019

National Share-a-Story Month

May 2019

May Bank Holiday

6 May 2019

National Children's Day UK

12 May 2019

Christian Aid Week

12 - 18 May 2019

Foster Care Fortnight 2019

13 May - 26 May 2019

Walk to School Week 2019

20 - 24 May 2019

Share a Pencil Day

22 May 2019

Suffolk Show 2019

29 - 30 May 2019

Ascension Day

30 May 2019



Free! The WIRE award (Widening Inclusivity in RE)

Suffolk SACRE is pleased to announce the launch of this new award which recognises and rewards the inclusive quality of RE learning opportunities in school. There are just four simple and enjoyable activities to complete within a year, each of which can be evidenced with real ease. Schools can apply annually and receive a certificate validated by SACRE

Latest Actions have included:

- Surveys to gather an accurate picture from serving head teachers across the country
- Writing to MP’s including a cabinet debate on 4 March
- Writing to parents and carers on 8 March raising these issues nationally
- TV and radio broadcasts both national and local (Stonham Aspal CEVAP School included in Look East broadcast on 8 March and Sharon was on Radio Suffolk again on 8 March).

We need to be politely relentless with our support of this campaign.

For years now Suffolk has been in the bottom third for funding and although the fairer funding formula is slowly improving our situation, as the pot of funding has not truly been increased (as the pupil numbers have gone up the funding has gone up), we are likely to continue to fall into the lower funded authorities category. It is our children who suffer. What more could we achieve with our children? What more could we offer if we were funded appropriately?

and a WIRE logo for their website.

Find out more [here](#)

News from YOUR School

What we are asking for is photos, short articles, web-page references, etc that we can highlight in the next and subsequent editions of this newsletter so that your school’s achievements can be broadcast to a wider audience. Please send items electronically to [Jacqui](#) and we’ll be pleased to include them.

From your Diocesan Education Team:



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