

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

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# Education newsletter



July 2023

## News from the Diocese

Dear Colleagues

As we approach the end of term, it is good to look back on this school year and give thanks for all the good things that have happened, as well as looking forward to the new school year which starts in September. We also look forward to a break over the summer, of course!

It was lovely to celebrate the work of church schools at our special cathedral service on 19 June. I am so glad that we held this service on a weekday, as it enabled more pupils to attend. We plan to do so again next summer. Many thanks to all the pupils who took part from King Edward VI and Debenham High Schools, St Gregory CEVCP in Sudbury and the Diocesan MAT choir.

It was also good to see Headteachers and senior leaders at our annual wellbeing day on 7 July. As a team we are always keen to support Headteachers, and Colin Tapscott provided a number of useful strategies for managing anxiety.

Bishop Martin hosted garden parties in the first week of July as a way of saying thank you to churches and schools for all that they do. Again, it was good to see a number of you there.

Our special thanks go to several heads who retire this summer for all that they have done, and we wish them all the best for the future. We have also recently said goodbye to Pete Bloomfield, who started in January as full-time CEO for the Diocesan MAT. I have resumed the part-time role of CEO pending a permanent appointment being made.

In other staffing news, Gemma Taylor has been appointed acting head at Nacton CofE Primary for the autumn term 2023. I am grateful to Gemma for agreeing to provide some training next term, and thankfully a lot of training has already taken place on the new RE Agreed Syllabus. I am sure that you will join me in wishing Gemma well in her secondment next term.

## Autumn Forums

### Headteachers

Tue 19 September,  
1.30pm via Zoom

### Admissions

Thu 28 September,  
4pm via Zoom

### Small Schools

Mon 16 October,  
4pm via Zoom

### Chairs of Governors

Tue 21 November,  
4pm via Zoom

The Forums are free.  
For any queries or to  
book, please contact  
[Jacqui Studd](#)



## Wednesday 1 November 2023

This is the date for our annual church school leaders' conference this year.

Please see our website for lots of resources and information to help you- <https://www.cofesuffolk.org/schools/> and see below our training offer for next year.

Whatever this summer holds, may I wish you a relaxing and restful summer?

With all good wishes from all the team,



Jane Sheat  
Diocesan Director of Education

## News from Schools



**Moulton CEVCP School** had a visit from Bishop Mike this week. Debs Shipp, Headteacher writes: "Bishop Mike visited our school to lead collective worship alongside Reverend Chris Childs. He was impressed with the pupils' knowledge of his special clothing. After the collective worship, he held a Q&A session with a group of Y2 and Y3 children. It was a pleasure to welcome Bishop Mike into our school!"

**Congratulations!**



**Congratulations** to **Acton CEVCP** on its new Sensory Garden which will be used for small group work and to provide a relaxing area for children to use when they need a bit of 'chillout' time.

**Congratulations** also to the Eco Council who took part in a local litter pick as part of the Great British Spring Clean 2023.



## Archbishop of York Youth Trust Update

Free online sessions on the Young Leaders Award Programme are being run next half-term for both Primary and Secondary schools. Find out more and sign up [here](#). For further information and resources about the YLA, please click [here](#).

## School Visits

If you wish to request a visit from a bishop, please do contact the Bishop's Office: [email](#) or telephone: 01473 252829. You will need to plan well in advance because of busy diaries!



**SUFFOLK**  
Community  
Foundation

## Grants available

The Suffolk Community Foundation offer grants to:

- Promote health and wellbeing
- Tackle disadvantage
- Support local solutions to meet local needs
- Promote community cohesion
- Develop sustainable and supportive communities

Please visit the [Suffolk Community Foundation website](#) for more information.



**Congratulations** to pupils at **All Saints CofE Primary, Laxfield** who had a sponsored run to raise money for Ipswich Neonatal Unit. £568.20 was raised!



Michelle Boyd, Head at **Bardwell CofE Primary** and Claire Dunnell Paley and Jess Damant, co-Heads at **Kersey CofE Primary** were featured in an article in Suffolk News about their approaches to children's anxiety. For the article please click [here](#).

**Congratulations** to **Barnham CEVCP** which held a special week for pupils focusing on the countryside, which included learning about vegetable growing, a visit by a shepherd with a ewe and lamb and air rifle shooting. An outdoor sharing assembly saw pupils proudly share their learning and experiences from Countryside Week with their families, school governors and residents from the village. For more, please see [Suffolk News](#).

**Congratulations** to pupils at **Barningham CEVCP** who have helped launch an after-school gardening club. The children of the future world council wanted to teach pupils the importance of looking after the environment and their local community. The club started after the Easter holidays and has become 'a huge hit with the pupils'. For more, please see [Suffolk News](#).

**Congratulations** to **Bramfield CofE Primary** and **Orford CEVAP Schools** who have received £1,500 between them to buy educational equipment, due to the efforts of students, parents and friends collecting tokens in the LEGO® competition. The winning schools were decided by the average number of tokens collected per pupil. For more, please see the [East Anglian Daily Times](#) (EADT)

**Congratulations** to the Year 10 Young Enterprise Team "Koazy" at **Debenham High**. After winning the Suffolk and Norfolk finals (reported in the last issue), they have since won the Regional East of England final and reached the national finals, finishing in the 12 top companies (out of more than 900 businesses in the UK). For more, please see the [EADT](#) article.

**Good luck** to **Arthur** and **Oliver**, two pupils at **Elveden CofE Primary Academy** who have set themselves the challenge of climbing Mt Snowdon (Yr Wyddfa) on 12 August 2023 for a good cause. They are raising money for the East Anglia Air Ambulance in honour of their cousin Roán who died earlier this year. For more information, or to sponsor, please click [here](#).

**Congratulations** to pupils at **Great Barton CofE Primary Academy** who, to honour the Coronation of King Charles III, have created a Coronation garden. One side is themed red, white and blue and the other side is bee friendly. For the Suffolk News article please click [here](#).

**Congratulations** to **Great Whelnetham CofE Primary** which has achieved the School Games GOLD mark award! The

## Diocesan training 2023-24

Details of our training programme for the next academic year are available on the Diocesan [website](#).

Those running in the autumn term include:

### Leadership/Governance

- \* Being a Governor
- \* Leading a Church School
- \* Monitoring for Governors
- \* SEND for Governors

**RE** - recorded training will be available for the

- \* New RE Syllabus
- \* New to RE

- further details below

### SIAMS

- \* SIAMS: Are you ready?

### Wellbeing

- \* For Administrators

To book, or for any queries, please contact [Jacqui Studd](#)



### RE recorded training

Recordings of Gemma's training on the New RE Syllabus and for her New to Teaching RE course will be available early next term. If you would like to receive the recording and accompanying resources (cost £60.00), or for any queries, please contact [Jacqui Studd](#).

school writes: "We are extremely proud of our pupils competing in local inter-school competitions and their dedication to all aspects of school sports on offer."



**Congratulations** to pupils at **Norton CEVCP School** on their recent Dance-a-thon. Lisa Sparkes, Headteacher writes: "The sun was shining, and the glow sticks were dazzling at Norton CEVC Primary School while pupils danced the day away, raising money for three cancer charities with a Dance-a-thon. On Friday 16 June, beginning in the morning as pupils registered, classes danced their way along the corridors to their designated slot. Continuing through break and lunchtime, the whole school, staff and parents took to the playground for a last dance at the end of the school day. There was certainly a real sense of community and belonging.

Each year the school runs a sponsored event for a specific charity or undertakes an act of kindness to support the local community. With two pupils diagnosed with cancer and other families touched by this disease, the school chose to raise funds for Young Lives vs Cancer, Cyclists Fighting Cancer and Cancer Research, charities who have provided outstanding support for the families of the pupils involved.



When all the sponsorship money had been collected, the total amount raised was £4,700. This was an amazing total.

It was such a special day particularly as one of the pupils diagnosed with cancer had her last chemotherapy session and got to ring 'the bell'."

**Congratulations** to Year 5 at **Sir Robert Hitcham CEVAP, Debenham**, whose 'Garden Fit for a King' entry won Silver in the Schools Garden Competition at the Suffolk Show. The school's [diary entry](#) documents all the hard work that pupils put into making their garden.

**Congratulations** to **Trish Wingfield**, teacher at **St Gregory CEVCP** who had a special Take That treat in June. The school had made a video asking Gary Barlow if he could visit the school or send a video to Mrs Wingfield ahead of her retirement at the end of the school year. Mr Barlow responded by inviting Mrs Wingfield to the premier of the Greatest Days film and meeting the band. For the EADT please click [here](#). It was also featured on [ITV News Anglia](#).



### **Collective Worship**

For ideas for CW planning, based on Christian values and seasons, please click [here](#)

For CW resources, please click [here](#)

For resources on religious festivals, please click [here](#)

### **RE resources**

For resources for RE subject leaders, please click [here](#)

Subject knowledge for RE subject leaders is available [here](#)

For resources on worldviews by faith, please click [here](#)



### **Global Neighbours Accreditation Scheme**

The Global Neighbours Team at Christian Aid is supporting our church schools with courageous advocacy through the Global Neighbours accreditation scheme. This involves termly meetings with our schools of which there have been three so far. For further information about the accreditation scheme, please click [here](#).

The date for the next termly meeting is **Tuesday 10 October** at **3.45pm** via Zoom.

To book, for slides from previous meetings or for any queries, please contact [Jacqui Studd](#).



**Congratulations** to **St Margaret's CEVAP School, Ipswich** which was recently assessed for the REQM and was awarded Silver, with elements of Gold. The REQM recognises outstanding learning in Religious Education with 3 possible awards, Gold, Silver or Bronze.

Jo Gunn, Headteacher writes: "The assessor told us he had only given out 2 or 3 silvers in 10 years, so we are extremely proud! An enormous thank you and well done to Helen Peats who carried out the hard work of obtaining the evidence and presenting it. This is well deserved and it goes hand in hand with our Christian vision, Wellbeing Award for Schools and Inclusive Quality Mark. The depth of RE learning shone through, specifically the pupils tackling the 'big questions' and being able to articulate their thoughts on equality and respecting each other so well, so thank you to ALL staff for teaching magnificently and being such positive role models!" For more on the REQM, please click [here](#).



**Congratulations** also to Jo Gunn, Headteacher at **St Margaret's CEVAP School**, on being ordained deacon at the Cathedral in Bury St Edmunds by Bishop Mike, alongside nine other candidates, on Saturday 1 July 2023.



**Congratulations** to **St Mary's CEVCP, Benhall** for this beautiful display. The School held an event with parents, pupils, staff and governors to work on a community art project. The results and displays are stunning- all animals were made by the children!

The school has also been accepted as part of the Wilder Suffolk project and will be working with Foxburrow Nature



**Dates of interest....**

**Summer Reading Challenge**

July - August 2023

**National Read a Book Day**

6 September 2023

**Education Sunday 2023**

10 September 2023

**Roald Dahl Day**

13 September 2023

**International Day of Peace**

21 September 2023

**Bike to School Week**

25 - 29 September 2023

**National TAs Day**

29 September 2023

**Dyslexia Week**

3 - 9 October 2023

**World Animal Day**

4 October 2023

**World Space Week**

4-10 October 2023

**World Teachers' Day**

5 October 2023

**National Poetry Day**

5 October 2023

**World Food Day**

16 October 2023

**National Pyjama Day**

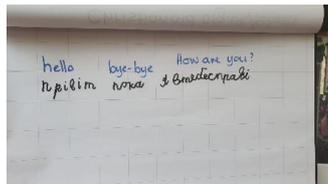
anytime for Children's Trust

Reserve and other similar settings from the Suffolk Wildlife Trust to give children more experiences of the outdoors and local environment.

**Congratulations** to the gardening club at **St Peter & St Paul's CofE Primary, Eye** for their efforts creating a garden for the Suffolk Show. They were awarded 'Highly Commended' and did an amazing job representing the school by speaking to the judges and members of the public about the garden that they had created, inspired by the King's passion for the environment and protecting the planet for future generations.



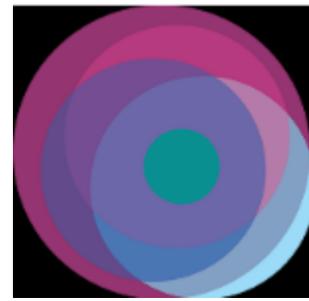
**Congratulations** to pupils at **Stonham Aspal CEVAP** who worked with Suffolk Wildlife Trust to create a Jubilee Garden.



**Congratulations** to Oak class at **Thorndon CofE Primary** who have been learning Ukrainian from a great teacher!

**Congratulations** to the Gardening Club at **Trinity CEVAP School, Stowmarket** for winning a silver guild in the Suffolk Show's "Garden fit for a King" competition.

**Congratulations** to the Eco Warriors at **Wilby CEVCP** who, with the Waste Management Team at Suffolk County Council, have conducted a waste audit using the waste collected from all areas of the school on the previous day. They will create an action plan to help the school reduce/manage the waste produced. A special Waste Management information sharing event is being planned for the Autumn Term.



**Inter Faith Week**  
12-19 November 2023  
Provides an opportunity to:  
\* Strengthen good inter faith relations at all levels

\* Increase awareness of the different and distinct faith communities in the UK, in particular celebrating and building on the contribution which their members make to their neighbourhoods and to wider society

\* Increase understanding between people of religious and non-religious beliefs.

To find out more, please click [here](#)



**Picture News Impact Awards 2023**

The awards aim to celebrate children, schools and communities who are using current affairs to help children learn from our world, give them a voice and allow them to make a difference. Open to all schools (both schools using Picture News and those who aren't). For more information, please click [here](#).

Ofsted inspections	Outcomes
Walsham le Willows CEVCP	Good
Acton CEVCP	Good
Stonham Aspal CEVAP	Good
St Botolph's CEVCP	Good
Orford CEVAP	Good
St Edmundsbury CEVAP	Inadequate

## SIAMS inspections

Moulton CEVCP

Elveden CofE Primary

## Outcomes

Excellent

Excellent

### Headteacher appointments from September 2023

Congratulations to Gemma Taylor, appointed acting Head at Nacton CofE Primary School for the autumn term

### For the Attention of Headteachers

If you are retiring or resigning as Headteacher, please do let us know. Jane, Sue 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.

Do contact Sue or Phil if you would like them to be your external adviser for Headteacher performance management reviews.

## News from the Church of England

### SIAMS: Updated list of schools likely to be inspected by SIAMS 2023-24

For the updated list, please click [here](#) (and see page 12)

### Leaders Like Us

A programme for aspiring senior leaders from UKME/ GMH backgrounds, throughout the country, with the aim of enabling them to progress to headship. For more please click [here](#).



For coaching, training and resources for leaders see [Everyday Leader](#), led by Colin Tapscott.



### National Professional Qualifications (NPQs)

The St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocesan MAT is offering the following CofE NPQs – Leading Teaching (NPQLT) and Senior Leader (NPQSL), whilst the Diocese of Norwich is offering Headship (NPQH), Leading Teacher Development (NPQLTD), Leading Behaviour and Culture (NPQLBC) as well as Early Headship Coaching Offer (EHCO), from Spring 2024.

The CofE NPQs are the only ones to offer coaching as part of



**50 things to do before you're 5** is a place-based app from Suffolk Libraries, which helps parents and families to find free or low cost ideas in their local area for play and development, nurturing the skills, language and resilience needed in school and beyond. For more, please click [here](#).

## News from the DfE

### Apply for trust establishment and growth funding

Apply for funding to support the creation of a new multi-academy trust (MAT) or to expand an existing MAT into a new area. Deadline for applications is 30 September 2024. For more, please click [here](#).

### Trust capacity fund

A fund to help trusts develop their capacity and take on underperforming schools, particularly in education investment areas. For more about the fund, please click [here](#).

### Commissioning High-Quality Trusts

Guidance on how the DfE's Regions Group takes decisions about the creation, consolidation and growth of academy trusts. For more, please click [here](#).

## News from Ofsted

### Changes made to school inspections

Ofsted has announced

the programme. For NPQLT and NPQSL the face-to-face days and the coaching are led by Heather Hann, Jane Trampnow and MAT Heads. At the moment, the costs are being funded by the DfE and there is a further £800 of funding available for schools with less than 150 pupils to pay for supply costs.

Applications for cohort 5, which starts next term, are now open. For an overview of the NPQ programme, please click [here](#). To apply, please visit: [www.cefel.org.uk/npq/](http://www.cefel.org.uk/npq/). If you have any queries, please contact Heather Hann [heather.hann@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:heather.hann@cofesuffolk.org)



**Spring's Dance Company** workshops in the autumn term: [Creation](#) - introduces the Genesis narrative of creation in a fun, inclusive and engaging way through dance; [A Christmas Story](#) - guides pupils on a journey of dance, drama and discussion inspired by Anne Booth's Christmas story Refuge; and [Bethlehem Bound](#) - explores the anticipation of the first Christmas through the eyes of the wise men and the angels - using dance, drama and discussion.

changes to improve aspects of its work with schools which includes changes to inspection processes, a revised complaints procedure and new wellbeing investment from government. For more, please click [here](#).

### Work with schools Inquiry

The Education Committee has launched an inquiry into Ofsted's work with schools. The inquiry aims to assess how well Ofsted is fulfilling its role in inspecting schools and whether and how it could be improved, to inform the work of the incoming His Majesty's Chief Inspector. For more, including the call for evidence, please click [here](#). Deadline for evidence is 20 July 2023.

### News from YOUR School

If you have any stories you would like highlighted, please do send us details and we will include in our next newsletter. Please send photos, short articles, web-page references, etc. electronically to [Jacqui](mailto:Jacqui) and we'll be pleased to include them.

### From the Diocesan Education Team

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