

DIOCESAN EDUCATION UPDATE

September 2013

Soaring high

This wonderful photograph was taken by a friend of mine in Somerset.

Ellie Brown has not only recently started her own photography business (www.facebook.com/elliabrownphotography) but is off to college in October. An exciting time (long forgotten by many of us!) a time of freedom before mortgages and electricity bills descend, a time when every day is a day for soaring.

How often did you feel that sense of freedom this summer?

Coming back to school can feel a bit like exchanging wings for shackles – however much you love your job - and it's difficult to hang on to the freedom of soaring but if we can't spend time up amongst the clouds away from it all how can we be refreshed enough to fulfil all of our duties and responsibilities adequately and with something

approximating joy - how can we look down and see the whole picture?

Of course before bemoaning our shackles it might be good to remember what freedoms we enjoy, political, financial and religious. We live in a land where we are so used to freedoms that we take them for granted. We only had to look at the news over the summer to realise how free we actually are in comparison to others. But it's easy to live in a land of freedoms and still feel bound by our responsibilities. DfE, Ofsted, new curricula, increasingly unsustainable workloads can all keep us firmly on the ground.

I really believe though that moments of freedom wait only for us to decide to make them possible. It is about many things; managing time, being open to opportunity, ditching our guilt about not being perfect, saying 'no'. But it's also about having the patience to do things when it's right to do them and doing them when the necessary help is

in place. It's about sometimes waiting.

If you, like me, are incredibly bad at patience, especially at the beginning of a term, then perhaps these words should be stuck above your desk too.....

(and I know it's a seagull and not an eagle – use your imaginations!)

³¹ But those who wait for the LORD's help find renewed strength; they rise up as if they had eagles' wings, they run without growing weary, they walk without getting tired.

My prayer for you, as another school year gets underway, is that you will have patience enough to time things well and find a few minutes each day to soar.

God bless,

Jackie



BUILDINGS!

Although we've only just started a new school year Voluntary Aided School governing bodies need to begin thinking about their needs for 2014/15 capital expenditure.

We're unlikely to find out how much LCVAP funding will be available until the Spring of next year; however, in advance of that we need to put together

a list of possible projects in some sort of priority order; in this way we'll be in a good position to make early starts on projects. So it's an opportune time to review your asset management plan and your school development plan and ask yourself the question – could capital funding help deliver our overall vision for our school? If the answer is "Yes" there's one more thing to consider – can you afford your 10% contribution? In future for projects valued

at £10,000 and over you'll need to supply evidence (a governing body minute) that you have made provision for the whole of the 10% in your budget before a project can be given the go-ahead. Remember that the payment can be made over three years if necessary; if you have any queries relating to the details of the mechanism and the timings please contact Simon Hardy, simon.hardy@lincoln.anglican.org



Greetings from Carol

Carol Acheson

I hope you had wonderful holidays and that the new term has got off to a great start.

It's fantastic to have had the opportunity to meet you and visit some of your schools and I hope to see many more of you this term. Each school I visit inspires me and I come away buzzing with ideas to share. But we all know that it's the young people and children who inspire us and make every day really worthwhile.

My non teacher friends tell me that it is always fascinating to talk to teachers as all of us have so many stories to tell. I'm sure each one of us could write at least one book full of funny, poignant, inspiring and moving stories.

I thought about that recently when I was reading about the work of one young man, Jack Covill-Lowdes, who

is a year 6 pupil at "Magdalen Church of England and Methodist Primary School" in Lincolnshire. I've had the privilege of meeting him and his family, as his uncle Steve works at another of our Church schools. You may have seen Jack's story on television or in the press. An internet search will give you lots more information.

Jack lost his mum, Steph, to cancer when he was only three years old. He wanted to do something special to remember her. He also wanted to raise money to support the hospice where his mum and the family received so much support. With the help of his aunt and uncle, Steve and Tamara, his Head teacher and school community, he organised a charity fun run at his school in Wainfleet. He hoped to raise £300. Lots of friends took part and he had support from people far and wide. To date £3,400 has been raised and do-

nated to the hospice! Isn't that amazing?

The story doesn't end there. Jack's aunt, Tamara, entered Jack's story into a competition in a national magazine. The competition was to find and celebrate children who have achieved remarkable things.

He won the competition and the prize was a statue of Jack made in Lego. He was invited for a wonderful weekend at Legoland to unveil it. The statue is on display this month and next month Jack gets to bring it home. He has decided to put it on display starting in the local shopping centre and will continue to use it to raise money for charity.

I think this is a lovely story and I am sure you have many similar stories illustrating the values and care for others, which permeate our school communities.

If you would like to share them I look forward to hearing from you. Please e-mail them to me at:

carol.acheson@lincoln.anglican.org

Statutory Requirements for school websites.

<http://dioce.se/schoolweb>

From 1st September 2012 all maintained* school websites must show the following information:

- Contact Details: school name, postal address and telephone number, along with a contact name for enquiries.
- Admission arrangements (voluntary aided schools essential) or where they may be found (community and voluntary controlled schools)
- Link to OfSTED Report and section 48 report (External or internal)
- Most recent key stage 2 results
- % achieving level 4 or above in English and mathematics
- % making expected progress in English and mathematics
- % achieving level 5 or above in English
- % achieving level 5 or above in mathematics.
- Most recent key stage 4 results
- % achieving 5 + A* - C GCSEs (or equivalent) including English and mathematics GCSEs
- % achieving the English Bacculaureate
- % making expected progress.
- Link to school performance tables on www.education.gov.uk
- The following information about the school curriculum must also be outlined for each academic year group:
 - Curriculum content and details of how additional information relating to the curriculum may be obtained by parents.
 - For key stage 1, the names of any phonics or reading schemes in operation.

- For key stage 4, a list of all courses provided leading to a GCSE qualification, plus a list of all other courses offered and the qualifications that may be acquired via these.
- Behaviour policy
- The amount of the school's allocation from the Pupil Premium grant for the current academic year, and:
 - how it is intended that this will be spent
 - how the previous academic year's allocation was spent, and the effect of this on the educational attainment of pupils for whom the funding was allocated.
- A report prepared by the school highlighting its policy for pupils with special educational needs, and how this is being implemented.
- Charging and remissions policy
- School's ethos and values

**(academies and free schools must already show this.)*

The governing body is therefore responsible for:

- Ensuring that the information above is published on the school website – or arranging for the information to be displayed on a website, and the address/details made known to parents
- Providing a paper copy of the information published on the website, without charge, to parents on request
- Making sure that the information is updated as soon as is reasonably practicable following a change to that information and, in any event, at least annually



The Breakfast Club

Kellogg's have teamed up with Forever Manchester, a UK charity that makes donations and awards to community groups to help them make positive change in their local communities.

They are working in partnership with Kellogg's to deliver the Help Give a Child a Breakfast campaign in the UK.

Who can apply?

We want it to be straightforward for schools to apply so here are the bits you need to know:

- Your breakfast club – whether established or new – must be based in a school in England, Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland
- For the UK at least 40% of the pupils at the school should be eligible to claim free school meals
- Your School should be based within the 0 – 40% most disadvantaged communities as ranked by your Country's Indices of Multiple Deprivation

Read more here: diocese.se/7nFSPc



Courses and conferences

A wide range of professional development opportunities have been planned for this new academic year. They cover a wide range of themes including religious education, preparing for school inspection, bereavement, spiritual development and church school leadership.

The **Governors Development Day on Thursday 10 October 2013** is a 'must' for governors in church schools. Jane Melbourne (HMI) will provide governors with the OfSTED perspective of developing outstanding governance and she will dispel any myths that are associated with the new inspection process. Mike Simmonds, a national speaker on transforming governance will provide the Christian perspective on governance and share his wealth of knowledge of how a strong Christian ethos is fundamental to securing high educational standards in school. A range of workshops and seminars will take place in the afternoon. This is an event not to miss!

Another important date for the diary is **Tuesday 4 March 2014** when the **Annual Conference for Heads and Chairs of Governors** will take place at the Epic Centre in Lincolnshire Showground. The title of the



The Very Revd David Hoyle, Dean of Bristol Cathedral

event is 'The Spiritual Dimension of Leadership' and one of the guest speakers in the Dean of Bristol, the Very Revd Dr David Hoyle who will inspire us through his insight and wealth of knowledge on the theme. The names of other speakers and workshop leaders will be confirmed in due course but please note the date now.

In the next couple of weeks, schools will receive a brand new course booklet which provides details of all the courses for the year and the booking procedures. Flyers and booking forms are also available on the website and from the Events Coordinator, Sandy Willmott at sandy.willmott@lincoln.anglican.org

Changing Education

Making Sense of Academies and the Law

**Saturday, 2nd November
10am – Lunchtime
(Lunch provided)**

In the changing landscape of education, this half day conference will clarify and further participants thinking and planning in relation to schools, trusts, governance and academies. A day for governors, trustees and all involved in the academy agenda to deepen their understanding of their roles and responsibilities, organised by the Dioceses of Southwell and Nottingham, Sheffield, Lincoln and Derby at:

Newark Showground, Lincoln Rd, Winthorpe, Newark-on-Trent, Nottinghamshire NG24 2NY

Cost: £35 per delegate

For more details of speakers and to book please visit: diocese.se/mkRfbx

School Governance

The School Governance (Roles, Procedures and Allowances) (England) Regulations 2013 came into force on the 1st of September 2013 and simplify and replace the provisions of three previous sets of regulations.

Changes include:

PART 2

Roles of the Governing Body and Head Teacher

6. (3) The governing body must appoint a clerk with a view to ensuring their efficient functioning and must have regard to advice from the clerk as to the nature of the governing body's functions

PART 3

Appointment, Functions and Removal of Officers

7 (2) Prior to the election of the chair and vice-chair, the governing body must determine the date on which the term of office of the chair and vice-chair will end.

(LDBE Comment: This is less prescriptive than previous regulations.)

PART 4

Meetings and Proceedings of Governing Bodies

13.— (4) the clerk of the governing body must give written notice of the meeting and a copy of the agenda for the meeting at least seven clear days in advance to—

(d) the local authority, where an agenda item for the meeting involves consideration of change of school category.

(LDBE Comment: LDBE would consider this to imply the Diocese as the local Diocesan responsible body)

14(7)(d) that the proceedings of a governing body are not invalidated by any person not having received written notice of the meeting or a copy of the agenda for the meeting.

14 (8) Notwithstanding the requirements of paragraphs (1) to (3), the governing body may approve alternative arrangements for governors to participate or vote at meetings of the governing body including but not limited to by telephone or video conference.

If you have any questions please contact David Clements david.clements@lincoln.anglican.org

Reminders

Admissions:

Governing Bodies will be considering revisions to school admission policies for September 2015, during the coming term. Local Authority schools will, I am sure, be receiving information on this outlining the procedures the LA wish you to follow. Please remember that the Lincoln Diocesan Board of Education has a duty to offer advice to schools, in particular Aided schools, on their admission policies. Please send a copy of your present policy to:

david.clements@lincoln.anglican.org and any amendments to the policy that governors propose before final ratification in spring 2104. The LDBE Governance Committee will respond to the governing body in due course with any comment or suggestion within 6 weeks of receiving the policy or suggested amendments.

Website information:

Schools will be aware that the government, from September 2012, amended the requirements for the information that should be available on a school website. Please check that your school website is up to date. A summary of the information required by the 2012 regulations can be found at: diocese.se/RE1

It may be helpful to parents if admission policies can be more easily accessed from school websites rather than being listed in sections on "policies" or with the "school brochure".

Appointment of Foundation Governors:

The Diocesan Board of Education, in the autumn 2012, introduced a revised appointment process; this process now takes longer to complete as references have to be obtained as well as a more comprehensive application form. Once all the relevant information is available the papers are then considered by the LDBE Governance Committee. The Committee has delegated responsibility to confirm appointments or otherwise; the committee meets regularly, at least every 2 months, to consider such applications and other matters of Governance.

Updated Governance regulations:

The Government has produced some updated regulations that came into effect on 1st September 2013 [The School Governance (Roles, Procedures and Allowances) (England) Regulations 2013]. These can be found at: diocese.se/RE2. The full document and a brief summary can also be found on the Lincoln Diocesan website at: diocese.se/RE3

The Lord's Prayer:

As put together by the good children of
Green Oak C of E Primary School, Godalming.



Our Father in heaven, you are awesome!

Show us who you are and how you want us to be.

Make earth more like heaven.

Please give us what we need to keep going each day.

Help us know when we are wrong and clean us up on the inside.

Help us to let other people off and move on.

Keep us safe from bad stuff.

You're in charge!

You're strong and powerful and always there.

Forever.

Amazing!



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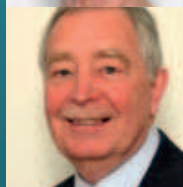
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