

# EDUCATION NEWSLETTER FROM THE EDUCATION TEAM AT THE DIOCESE OF EXETER

Dear Colleagues,

This half term has been like a marathon – long, hard and requiring plenty of stamina and resilience. You, as ever, have risen admirably to the challenge.

We are indebted to you for the love, care and commitment you give to our communities and to each other. We are stronger together and our collaborations enable us to work smarter, make better decisions and share the load each of us is carrying.

We are pleased that our forum and network events are being well attended and serving a useful purpose as we seek to ensure our work adds value. The next Covid-19 support group meeting is scheduled for the 3rd November at 1:30pm and is open to all, whether you are looking for support or feel you have something to offer. For joining instructions email [educationevents@exeter.anglican.org](mailto:educationevents@exeter.anglican.org). A new network which we hope will be of benefit involves the coming together of a school leader with a clergy team member to look at issues that matter to young people. On 1<sup>st</sup> December the focus is on working together to support children and young people's (CYP) mental health, whilst in the new year there will be opportunities to look at supporting transition, address CYP's concerns about inequality and injustice and working together to follow the lead of CYP in taking care of creation. Please register [here](#).

Looking back over this last half term it is clear just how much we have achieved as a family of schools. Thank you again for your dedication and service. Now that the half term break is here, please do make time to pause, to rest and to put yourselves and your families first.

*Sue Lockwood*

Acting Diocesan Director of Education

*"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest". Matthew 11:28*

**Service Level Agreement:** The new agreement will start in January 2021. Please click [here](#) to subscribe and gain additional support for your school, and in support of our family of schools. Your contributions allows us to continue to provide our core level support in addition to the extra benefits detailed.

**Interfaith Week 2020** will be taking place in the week 8<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> November. You can find some great interfaith activities for schools [here](#). A **local faith and belief visitors list** can be found [here](#) - many of the visitors listed are happy to link up via Zoom or other virtual platforms.

**Training and network opportunities** are detailed in our Autumn 2020 [programme](#). Events include:

- Diocesan Leadership Forum for school staff: Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November, 10:00 – 11:00
- Foundation Members Training: Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November, 13:30 – 15:00
- Secondary School Leadership Forum: Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November, 10:00 – 11:00
- 'Establishing peace in ourselves – becoming places of peace for others': Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November, 16:00 – 17:00
- RE Updates for C of E Schools – Primary: Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November, 16:00 – 17:15
- RE Updates for C of E Schools – Primary: Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November, 16:00 – 17:15
- Diocesan Governance Forum: Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December, 16:00 – 17:00

**For MAT Leaders, provided by the Church of England Foundation for Educational Leadership - Pupil Wellbeing with Louise Bomber:** Louise is well known for her trauma responsive approach to pupil wellbeing and recent book [Know Me To Teach Me](#). In this session Louise will share the relevance of her approaches in current times so that MAT leaders can consider how these may be implemented within their trusts. [Register](#) in advance for this session on 12<sup>th</sup> November from 1.30 - 2.30pm.

**Admission arrangements 2022 – 23:** Thanks to everyone who has sent in their draft admission arrangements for 2022. If yours remain outstanding please return to [schooladmissions@exeter.anglican.org](mailto:schooladmissions@exeter.anglican.org) as soon as possible.

**Actors needed in preparation for South West Carols - 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> December, 7pm:** As a team we have been asked to find church and community schools to contribute to the nativity as part of the biggest festive carols and nativity event in the South West. Schools that participate will be sent a narrated backing track and instructions on how to film their contribution which will then be included in the broadcast. Alternatively, you can email a festive photo from your school which will be included in the linking sequences in the programme. To get involved, please contact Tatty [tatiana.wilson@exeter.anglican.org](mailto:tatiana.wilson@exeter.anglican.org)

**The Church of England's theme for Advent this year is 'comfort and joy':** How might you link with this theme in your own Christmas celebrations or connect with your Church about doing something together? One easy idea could be enabling children to make Christingles. The Children's Society has lots of advice on how to do this safely this year. Find out more [here](#).

