

The cross on the right has been recently commissioned for Barton VA School.

It will serve as a reminder to all who visit the school that the Christian community gathers around Christ's cross and, to quote some words from our communion service, 'The tree of shame was made the tree of glory; and where life was lost, there life has been restored.'



Just as there would be no point to Easter without the resurrection, so , to quote a recent Cambridge theologian, 'If you leave Calvary behind, you arrive not in Paradise, but fairyland'!

All the members of the Schools Team therefore wish you a reflective Holy Week and a

Joyful Easter!

Assistant Director's Jottings

When I last had the privilege of sharing my thoughts with you all I wrote about journeys and bored you with my "holiday snaps" from my recent trip to Nicaragua.

This school term I haven't journeyed to anywhere as far away but I have covered hundreds of miles travelling around the diocese in my role as assistant director visiting schools, headteachers and governing bodies, as well as attending meetings with local authority officers and going on the odd course.

I love the variety and the fact that every day is different in much the same way that I enjoyed all the challenges that headship threw up but my best days are still those when I have been in schools meeting children and staff. I'm always asked to take pictures of the good practice that I see so that we can put them on one of our websites or books (do look at our website www.ely.anglican.org/schools and the CASIAS website www.casias.org for valuable resources and if you haven't tried any of the assemblies from the Ely 900 book then you're in for a treat!) Sadly though, all too often, I return to the office with no pictures in my camera not because I've forgotten to put it in my bag but because you can't really take photographs of conversations and those special moments which are fleeting but live with you for a long time.

When I first started this new job I thought I would listen to mind expanding Radio 4 documentaries or uplifting music as I journeyed between appointments, but instead I have found myself replaying in my head all the things that people, particularly children, have said to me and all the things that I have seen which cannot be

photographed in the normal sense of the word but are photographed into memories. In just two terms I have a bulging photo album of memories and I should like to thank so many of you for welcoming me into your school families and sharing so many good things with me.



Jeremy Summerell

Much of my work involves listening and part of my brief as one of the Team's Assistant Directors is to co-ordinate a new service which we have named "The Schools Well Being Project". This sets out to offer colleagues a "Listening Ear" which is different to anything that is currently provided by SIPs or inspectors – LA, Ofsted or SIAS. This is holistic in its approach and seeks to care for people, especially the Headteacher, as well securing the best possible outcomes for schools in a supportive and non-threatening way.

I piloted the project with a small number of schools during the Autumn and Spring terms and received positive feedback. A small group made up of some serving headteachers and recently retired professionals is, as I write, preparing itself to offer the service across the Diocese to those schools who wish to be involved during the coming months. Headteachers should look out for an email in the next week which sets out all the detail and how to accept or decline the offer.

To return to the journey theme. Our journey through Lent is coming to an end and we are getting closer to our next destination, **Easter**, when we can stop again for a while before setting out on the next journey – SATs, reports, residentials, planning another academic year All of us in the schools team send you our best wishes for a blessed Easter and pray that you will find some time for yourself.

I recently found these words of St Augustine and they have been both a challenge and a comfort to me in my new role as I travel around visiting schools.

"People go abroad to wonder at the heights of mountains, at the huge waves of the sea, at the long courses of rivers, at the vast compass of the ocean, at the circular motion of the stars, and they pass by themselves without wondering."

I hope you may find them useful too!

Jeremy

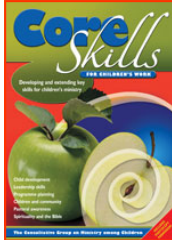


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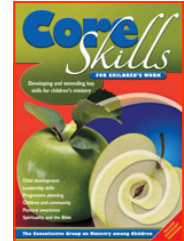
The Schools Bulletin is published fortnightly in term. We are pleased to publish news and notices. Please send details and pictures (.jpeg) and we will try to include them. Send to: debbie.jordan@ely.anglican.org

Core Skills Training—For those working with children

Core Skills Training



at
All Saints Church Hall, Milton
Thursday 23rd April 2009
Fortnightly until
Thursday July 2nd 2009
7.30pm to 9.30pm
£20 per course/£5 per module



For everyone who works, or hopes to work with children in church
An exciting new inter-denominational training course

To find out more:

Contact: Julia Chamberlin, Diocesan Children’s Work Adviser
Tel: 01353-652714—Email: Julia.chamberlin@ely.anglican.org



Coming your way next term!

We have a number of exciting events planned for the second half of next term, full details and booking forms will be with you after Easter, but you may like to put these in your diary now:

- * 2nd June - a morning at All Saints School, March looking at Eucharists in Church Schools. This is for schools which already have Eucharists and schools which may be thinking about this. Please consider coming as a ‘couple’ – someone from the school and someone from the parish
* 21st June – a special Sunday afternoon service (5.30) at the Cathedral to celebrate church schools in this 900th anniversary year of the Diocese of Ely. We are hoping that most schools will be represented at this service by both adults and children
* 26th June – a major East Anglian Conference on collective worship with national speakers - in Ely. We hope schools will consider sending a small team to this one if at all possible – head / clergy/ foundation governor
* 29th June – and last, but not least, the Church Schools Garden Party!

Inter Faith Week

inter faith week

15 - 21 November 2009

increased Community understanding between faiths and the wider society

Sophie Faber from the DCSF Community Cohesion Unit outlined their plans to hold a national Inter Faith Week in England and Wales in November.

Apart from an official launch this will not be a ‘top down’ Week with centrally organised events but, rather, one in which the different faith communities and organisations such as inter faith bodies, schools, institutions of further and higher education, local authorities and other public agencies will be holding their own events – each making their own unique contribution.

This will be officially announced by Hazel Blears, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. The Week is being facilitated by the Inter Faith Network (IFN) for the UK, working with its member bodies, in partnership with the Department for Communities & Local Government.

If you would like further information about the Week or are keen to take part, please contact:

The Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) will be supporting IFN and CLG in encouraging schools and youth groups to organise activities and events for the Week to:

Sophie Faber, sophie.faber@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk or visit www.interfaithweek.org.uk .

They would like to work with interested providers to develop exciting plans for faith schools’ participation in Inter Faith Week.

- * promote good inter faith relations
* highlight the contribution of faiths to building

The Week is being held on a ‘one off’ basis, although the option for faith and inter faith bodies to hold a similar Week in future.

Global School Partnership

Schools wishing to develop and explore international school links might be interested in the **Global School Partnerships Programme** which helps schools to establish and get the most out of their partnerships, through advice and guidance, professional development opportunities and funding.



For more information visit www.britishcouncil.org/globalschools where you can:

- ◆ Access information about grants
- ◆ Download free or buy 'Partners in Learning – a guide to successful global school partnerships'
- ◆ Register your global school partnership and receive regular information about funding,

resources and events

- ◆ Access advice on finding a partner school and developing your partnership
- ◆ Find out about professional development opportunities for teachers
- ◆ Access resources to help you develop your school partnership

Don't forget!

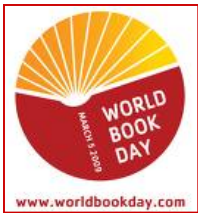
If you are interested in linking with a school in Hong Kong, Please contact:

Debbie (email: debbie.jordan@ely.anglican.org)

with the name of the teacher wanting to make the link, and the year group(s) of the class involved.

From our Schools

World Book Day



Children at Wilburton Primary School celebrated Character Day by coming to school dressed as their favourite fictional characters.

On World Book Day, March 5th 2009, the children enjoyed a

visit from writer Laura Watson who helped the children create dramatic "freeze frames" on the theme of Fantasy World.

Children have been learning about fairies, goblins, monsters and giants as part of their day-to-day curriculum.



Reddy for action

Red Nose Day was a great success as children from across East Cambridgeshire took to ever more enterprising ways of funding raising.



Sutton Primary School gathered in their school hall dressed in pyjamas and red noses ready for their school dance known as the 'Wake and Shake' where £300 was raised.

In **Little Thetford** Primary School they raised £200 by dressing up as their favourite superheroes.



For Governors

Newly appointed Governors

New (or re-appointed) Foundation Governors:-

- ◆ **James Humphrey—St Andrew's Church of England Primary School, Soham**

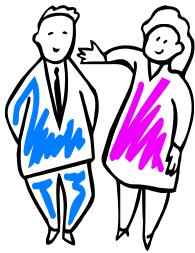
May I ask all Clerks to keep a check on the **terms of office** of all Foundation Governors and advise me of any re-appointments.

Thank you,

Debbie



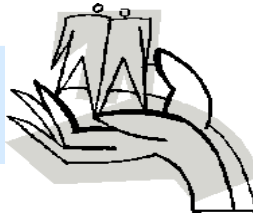
Hellos and Goodbyes



Dates for the Diary



In our Prayers over the next month



Day	School
2nd April 2009	Thriplow CE Primary School
15th April 2009	Bury CE Primary School
18th April 2009	Holywell CE Primary School
20th April 2009	All Saint's Inter-Church School, March

Headteachers' Conference	27th March	Bishop Woodford House
RE Liaison Group Meeting	26th Mar 4.15-5.15	Linton Infant School
Praise Party (with Scripture Union)	15th May 2009	Ely Cathedral
Eucharists in Schools	2nd June 2009	All Saints School, March
900th Anniversary Year of the Diocese Service	21st June 2009 5.30pm	Ely Cathedral
East Anglian Collective Worship Conference	26th June 2009	Diocesan Office, Ely
Church Schools Garden Party	29th June 2009	Bishop Woodford House, Ely
Rave in the Nave	10th July 2009	Ely Cathedral
Children's 900th Celebration Service	19th Sept 2009	Ely Cathedral
Church School—Cathedral Days	6th&7th Oct 2009	Ely Cathedral
Community Schools—Cathedral Days	14th&15th Oct 2009	Ely Cathedral
Interfaith Week	15-th-21st November 2009	

Vacancies

SCHOOL	VACANCY	CLOSING DATE
Wilburton Primary School	Headteacher	24.4.09
Elton Primary School	Headteacher	9.4.09
Orchards Primary School, Wisbech	Headteacher	8.4.09
Oakington Primary School	Headteacher	8.4.09
Swaffham Prior Primary School	Headteacher	7.4.09

SIAS Reports

Inspection Reports (Ofsted and Statutory Church School Inspection) were published recently for the following schools:

Nothing to report this issue

These Inspection Reports can be read directly via the link on our website.
Click on:

“Information about Individual Schools” on the Ely

Contact details for all schools can be found on our website:
www.ely.anglican.org/education/schools/Info/Sch