



LDBS SCHOOLS BULLETIN

January 2009

Website: www.london.anglican.org/schools

FROM THE DIRECTOR

As I hope most of you know (although not all emails get through), this will be my last term as Director of Education for the London Diocesan Board for Schools after 10 eventful and fulfilling years. The Bishop of London, who is President of the LDBS is inviting all Church schools to send representatives to a special service in the beautiful setting of St Martins-in-the-Fields Church Trafalgar Square on **Wednesday March 18 at 2.30pm** - partly to send me on my way rejoicing, but more importantly to celebrate and affirm the work of all that is done in the name of Christ and in the service of London's young people in our Church schools. It would be wonderful if all our church schools could be represented. Afterwards there will be a reception in the newly rebuilt crypt of St Martin's.

Please make a note in your diary and alert your governing body to this occasion. I look forward to seeing you at this celebration or at the headteachers' conference in Poole where we shall be 'telling stories'.

WELCOME TO...

Barnet	Monken Hadley	Rose Agu	Acting Deputy Headteacher
Enfield	Latymer All Saints	Toni Samuel	Acting Deputy Headteacher
		Kevin Sewell	Acting Deputy Headteacher
Enfield	St John's Clay Hill	Suzanne Barham	Assistant Headteacher
Islington	St Andrew's	Georgia Suttling	Acting Assistant Headteacher
Westminster	St James & St Michael's	Anneline Molo	Deputy Headteacher

LDBS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

3rd March 2009 - Reduced Tariff Inspections

LDBS advisors are running a special course on Reduced Tariff Inspections & One day Section 5 Ofsted Inspections for Primary School Headteachers and Deputy Headteachers. This will be a valuable course to learn about the Ofsted inspection process. The course is on the 3rd March 2009, from 10:00 -12:30 and will be at Diocesan House. For more information please see the enclosed flyer or contact Leanne Gowar on leanne.gowar@london.anglican.org

4th March 2009 – Using the Bible to achieve Outstanding RE Lessons

This course is part of the NQT Induction Programme, but all are welcome to join. It is being led by Maria James of St Mary's University, and runs from 1:30pm to 3:30pm on the 4th March 2009. Please see the enclosed leaflet for further details or contact Pat Regan on 020 7932 1162 or on pat.regan@london.anglican.org

11- 13 March 2009 LDBS Headteachers Conference – “Telling Stories”

There are a few places left for the next Heads conference being held at the Sandbanks Hotel from the 11 – 13 March 2009. Follow the link below to see the information about the conference. A flyer and booking form are enclosed. <http://schools.london.anglican.org/news.htm#events> and return to Mitch. **The draft programme is also inside the flyer.**

LDBS Headteacher Retreat

Liz Wolverson, Deputy Director LDBS is holding a headteachers retreat at Mulberry House near Epping on the 26th June 2009. The cost of the one day retreat is £30. For further details please see the enclosed flyer or contact Leanne Gowar on leanne.gowar@london.anglican.org

Annual Retreat for Heads of Church Schools in Southwark and London Dioceses

This is run by Susan Robinson, a former headteacher in Southwark Diocese, Headteachers from the Diocese of London are invited to apply for a place. It is held at Wychcroft, the Southwark Diocese Retreat, Training and Conference Centre in Surrey, from June 10 -12 2009. A flyer with more details is included in the mailing along with Susan's contact details.

LDBS Primary School Deputy Headteachers Conference

Liz Wolverson, Deputy Director LDBS is holding a primary school deputy headteachers conference at Mulberry House near Epping on the 5th June 2009. The cost of the one day conference is £30. For further details please see the enclosed flyer or contact Leanne Gowar on leanne.gowar@london.anglican.org

Helping Children Develop Language – A one day course for Foundation Stage and KS1 Teachers and Teaching Assistants

We are interested in holding a one-day course in the Summer term with the charity ICAN, the children's communication charity. The course is called 'Helping Children Develop Language' and will be open to all Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 teachers and teaching assistants. The course will look at speech and language development in children and will demonstrate techniques and ideas that can be used in the classroom setting 'to help children to become more confident communicators'. If you would like further details please contact Leanne Gowar on leanne.gowar@london.anglican.org or by phone on 020 7932 1159.

RE, COLLECTIVE WORSHIP AND SMSC

Diocese of London Christmas Resources Pack

In the last bulletin we mentioned the availability online of the Christmas Resource Pack which had also been sent to all our Primary Schools. One of the team behind the pack, Sam Donoghue the Diocesan Children's Adviser, is keen to know what you thought of the resource, whether you liked it, whether it was useful and how you used it. Please pass your thoughts to Sam by sending him an email to sam.donoghue@london.anglican.org or by phoning 020 7932 1255

Christian Aid Resources

Christian Aid has come up with some exciting ideas to teach children about global issues and active citizenship. It has devised the 'Supercake', a fundraising initiative which looks at how baking has helped children in Tajikistan and Angola.. Just call 08700 787 788, or go to http://learn.christianaid.org.uk/TeachersResources/primary/supercake_pack.aspx to get your free pack.

Other resources that Christian Aid has available from its website are:

- Assembly of the month: http://learn.christianaid.org.uk/News/ournews/assembly_month_2009.aspx
- Unit for Years 5 and 6 on Christian Aid and Islamic Relief: <http://learn.christianaid.org.uk/TeachersResources/primary/beliefs-and-actions.aspx>
- Chocolate Trade Game online : http://learn.christianaid.org.uk/TeachersResources/primary/choc_trade.aspx
- Trading Game online: http://learn.christianaid.org.uk/TeachersResources/secondary/trading_game.aspx
- Paper Bag game online: <http://learn.christianaid.org.uk/TeachersResources/primary/pbag.aspx>
- For anyone working with the post 16 age-group, Platform 2 could be worth promoting (upper 6th really as it's for 18 – 25 year olds.) www.myplatform2.com

Advice on Managing Death and Bereavement

Please find enclosed with this mailing a new set of advice and resources on managing death and bereavement in schools.

Faraday Institute for Science and Religion, St Edmund's College, Cambridge

The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion are holding a short course on Friday 3 – Sunday 5 April 2009. for teachers of science, philosophy or RE. It will give informed input on some of the latest thinking in the science-religion area and provide information about resources available to teachers, as well as tackling some of the thorny issues arising in the classroom. For more details including bursaries and discounts, see www.faraday-institute.org or contact Faraday.Administrator@st-edmunds.cam.ac.uk

GOVERNORS & GOVERNANCE

LDBS Governor Training & Training for Appeal Committees

Enclosed is a schedule for LDBS training courses available in the SpringTerm. To sign up to these courses please return your details on the enclosed booking form, or go to the following link on the LDBS website: www.schools.london.anglican.org/Calendar/calendar-index.htm Also enclosed is a flyer for a training course on Appeal Committees.

Admissions 2010

With thanks to those of you who have consulted us, and a reminder to those schools who have not consulted the LDBS prior to sending their admission policy and criteria to the Local Authority. You will recall that VA schools have a legal duty to consult their Diocesan Board BEFORE they consult anyone else. Although we have a good relationship with LA Admissions sections it should not be up to them to send your policies and criteria to us for consultation. It would be helpful if you could email details as soon as possible to penny.harvey@london.anglican.org.

LDBS Appointed Governors

We thought it would be worthwhile reminding governing bodies that LDBS governors are appointed by the Governors and Appointments Committee of the Board. The Committee, in trying to ensure a wider input into the governing bodies of their schools, is willing to consider anyone with a Christian commitment as a governor. However, they are also aware that a number of sections of the school and church community are already represented on governing bodies, and because of this do not wish to appoint staff or those who attend the local church. They will also not appoint parents unless the Instrument of Government stipulates that they should do so.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Overseas Teachers Registration - Sponsorship under the new Home Office Points Based System (PBS)

Overseas trained teachers now have to have a registered sponsor before they can work in schools. Local authorities, other bodies and perhaps some schools are registering as sponsors. We understand that not all local authorities have included Church schools under their sponsorship umbrella. However, the LDBS is now registered with the Home Office as an accredited sponsor and is therefore allowed to issue certificates of sponsorship. Any school wishing to use the LDBS sponsorship umbrella should contact Pat Regan on 020 7932 1162 or pat.regan@london.anglican.org. There will be a charge for each certificate but at least schools will not have to pay to register.

BUILDING MATTERS

School Buildings Maintenance Scheme

This scheme funds the governors' 10% contribution to the maintenance of school buildings. The remaining 90% comes from schools' devolved capital or from capital allocated to each local authority for Voluntary Aided schools. It also pays for the cost of consultants' annual surveys and for some of the LDBS overheads in supporting schools.

It is proposed to retain the subscription at £9 per pupil per term (£27 per annum) for 2009/10 but we anticipate it will be necessary to increase the subscription rate to £10 per term per pupil in 2010/11- unless the Government decides to cut back on investment in schools. Although we are keeping the subscription level at £9 per term per pupil, this will actually mean an increase in the net cost to schools/governing bodies. This is because for the past couple of years, we have been able to earn high rates of interest from the pooling of devolved capital balances. This interest has been passed back to schools as a rebate on subscriptions. So, unless there is a sudden increase in interest rates you should not count on a rebate this year.

Reducing Carbon Dioxide Emissions in LDBS Schools

Reducing carbon emissions is (or should be) high on everyone's agenda. It is estimated that every year an average school emits 2 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions for each member of staff and each pupil. If you want to check the figure for your school you can do so via the web site of the Carbon Trust www.carbontrust.co.uk – go to solutions section. The Trust site enables schools to measure their emissions and contains links to web-sites which offer energy saving opportunities, free surveys, ways in which pupils can become involved through the curriculum etc.

Inigo Woolf would like to hear from schools which have set up programmes to reduce carbon emissions, have measured their carbon emissions or are thinking about involving pupils. With 148 schools we have a

real opportunity to gather data, compare emissions between schools and work out a strategy for reducing emissions during the planned maintenance programme of our buildings. The sharing of information, which we would like to do through the LDBS web-site will enable schools to identify which strategies work in reducing emissions. The carbon trust reckons every school can reduce emissions by 5% without capital or revenue expenditure. Can you do better? I would like to publicise a list of 20 schools that can get below 2 tonnes of emissions per pupil. Are you up for the challenge? Inigo.Woolf@london.anglican.org

MISCELLANEOUS

Core Services subscriptions 2009/10

All the non-buildings support for Church Schools is provided through the School Support Service headed up by Liz Wolverson – we currently have seven former headteachers as well as other personnel providing a range of support. We ask schools to make a contribution to the running of this scheme. School contributions pay for the equivalent of one full-time adviser. For 2009/10 we propose to increase subscriptions from £1.26 to £1.32 per pupil per term for rolls up to 500 and from 76p to 80p for pupils in excess of 500 at a school. We still think this is very good value for money and judging by the comments you made in our survey and the many unsolicited but positive comments we receive, we believe that most of you agree!

The LDBS has relied on high interest rates to fund a lot of our activities and the drop from 5% to 1.5% in recent weeks means that we need to look at all our budgets. We shall do everything we can to ensure that the support we provide is not diminished.

City & Diocese of London Voluntary Schools Fund

This fund provides £17k per annum to pupils who seek financial assistance, mostly for school journeys. Although investment income is likely to fall, we are taking actions that will ensure that this budget is not cut in 2009/10.

LDBS Newsletter

Please send Mitch anything you would like included in the next schools newsletter. All events, pictures and poetry are welcome. You can send the information to Mitch through the post or by email to mitch.gallacher@london.anglican.org

Supporting Parents Supporting Children

St Paul's with St Michael's Primary School, Haggerston has developed a highly innovative approach to assist parents in their efforts to support their children's phonics acquisition. Each reception class parent is invited for an individual meeting with the headteacher during which the phonics programme for their child is explained in detail and materials for the parent to take away and use with their child at home. So far the feedback has been excellent and the children's phonics skills are developing at a much faster rate than previously. If you would like any further information on the pack and the rationale underpinning its use please contact the Headteacher, Tom Panagiotopoulos, at St Paul's with St Michael's School.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ...

Ofsted and Denomination Inspections

The following schools have been inspected since the last mailing, and judged to be good or outstanding:

St George the Martyr Primary School, Camden - Good

St Paul's Primary School, Hammersmith & Fulham - Good

Littleton Primary School, Surrey – Good

Clerkenwell Primary School, Islington _ Good (up from Satisfactory last time)

St Luke's Primary School, Islington – Outsanding (Again!)

Burlington Danes CofE Academy, Hammersmith and Fulham – Good (having been in and out of special measures, serious weaknesses etc for well over ten years, this is a particularly good result for the school).

St John the Baptist School, Hoxton, which has been awarded Silver Award level in the Food for Life Scheme for its participation over the last year. This has meant that they have been working with the children, food suppliers and the kitchens to improve all aspects of having a healthy diet and producing fresh food. For further information on the scheme, and to see the school receive its award from Prince Charles at The Royal Society of Arts, visit the Food for Life Website

All Souls, Westminster, which has been awarded Bronze at the Sustainable School Awards, and one of their pupils has also won the Westminster Faith Exchange Art Competition!