

Romans 15 v13

'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the holy spirit'

Dear Colleagues

It's certainly been a busy few weeks as I have settled into this new role. It is very varied and I am getting to meet many new people. However, as time unfolds I am acutely aware of how the relationships I am building need to have a purpose and impact on our children. It is really important to me that you see the Diocese and the Education Team as a valuable resource and a place where you will find valuable expertise and caring support. We are here to help our schools be successful,**thriving and loving communities** and I hope you are sensing the spirit of partnership we are seeking to build. That partnership is not only with us as a central organisation but also amongst yourselves as a group of church schools being 'deeply Christian – serving the Common Good'.

There are many challenges in our current educational environment but it has also been genuinely inspiring for me to see how many schools are also embracing the many opportunities open to us. As I sit writing this I have visited over 20 schools in my first few weeks. There has been joy and encouragement in each one as they seek to do all they can for the children in their care. It has been a real privilege to be able to come into your schools, meet your children and celebrate all you are doing. It is very much my aim to get to as many of you as I can in the months ahead.

It has also been good to meet some of you at our briefings. Some of these have been very well attended but others less so. It is so important to us that we engage as a family of schools. The briefings are far from being the only way to do this but they do give you a chance to meet us, hear our plans for the year, be updated, share your concerns with us and build relationships as we seek to move forward in a new way of working together. If you have not attended then there are some opportunities remaining as we are holding our last few briefings at:-

Steining Grammar School	Tuesday 30th October	4pm – 5pm
St Catherine's College, Eastbourne	Tuesday 6 th November	4pm – 5pm
King's School, Hove	Thursday 8th November	4pm – 5pm
Arundel CE Primary School	Tuesday 13th November	4pm – 5pm
Heene CE Primary School	Wednesday 14th November	4pm – 5pm

If you missed the briefing held in your deanery, feel free to come to a different one. The most important thing is that we get the chance to meet you. It really would be good to see you.

I do hope you have had a good break over half term. This next half of the term is always demanding on you and your time so do take care of yourselves.

Yours sincerely

Trevor Cristin
Director of Education

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Learning with meaning and purpose: to know God and shape the world