

## **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

I hope this newsletter finds you well as we prepare for the Easter season. The message of Easter is so central to what we do as church schools and it really enables us to help our children have that "life enhancing encounter with the Christian faith and the person of Jesus Christ." (Going for Growth 2010). We are praying for you and your school communities at this time.

### **Quiet Day**

I had the privilege of spending part of the day on 8 March at the Annual Headteachers' Quiet Day. As a headteacher I never managed to attend one of these days but having now done so I can only recommend it to you very highly. Archdeacon Martin Lloyd-Williams led the day and gave us a real chance to stop and reflect on our roles, our lives and our work with God. I really do commend this to you all in future years. For somebody who likes to live life "constantly on the go" I found it a genuinely empowering and restorative experience.

### **SIAMS**

We have carried out the first of our inspections under the new 'Schedule' in recent weeks. It is fair to say that it has been a challenging experience for schools. The new schedule is demanding and sets a whole new emphasis on the Christian foundations of our School Vision. This is the key drive of the inspection and it calls us to highlight the difference between a good school and a good "Church of England School". We are asked to define what the essence of our distinctively Christian ethos is. Some schools will find articulating this a challenge but it is crucial if schools are to achieve the higher grades. Our team is here to support you and the next training is available on:

**2 May at Battle and Langton C of E Primary School 16.00 to 18.00.**

Unfortunately our July training is now full. You can also use your DEP to support you in this

### **Health and Safety**

Following a tragic incident at a secondary school in Brighton and Hove, I do need to remind you all to ensure that your "Working at Height" procedures are fully up to date and in place. You need to ensure that your risk assessments are compliant and have been actively shared with all relevant staff. It is worth recording that the process of information sharing has been carried out.

### **Closing Remarks**

I really enjoyed seeing many of you at the Headteachers' Conference last Friday. It was a valuable time for us all to be together.

This term we say farewell to:

Michael Davies – Little Horsted CE Primary School, Alison Sturgeon – Albourne CE Primary School, Anne Radford - South Ashdown Schools Federation

We are very grateful for their service and we send them into a life of new opportunities with our prayers and best wishes.

Lastly, I'd like to say a big well done to Netherfield who achieved an Outstanding grade in their recent Ofsted. We are all fully aware of how hard this is to achieve and we share their joy in the recognition.

I hope you all get a good restful break over Easter.

Yours sincerely

Trevor Cristin  
April 2019