

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 would like to begin by saying a fond farewell to Bishop Mark as he heads to his new role as Principal of The College of Resurrection, Mirfield, Yorkshire. Bishop Mark has been Chair of the DBE this year and has been a member of the Board since 2015. Many of you have commented at how encouraged you have been when you have met him or when he has visited you. At Church House we have found him very supportive and we will miss his calm and reassuring advice. He leaves us with our prayers supporting him and our fondest wishes. Plans for his replacement are well in advance and we will inform you shortly.

I hope the administration of Key Stage 2 SATS went smoothly and that your children came through the experience intact. Whilst there are still assessment processes being carried out in our primary schools, Please do pray for the students in our secondary schools beginning their GCSE and A Level exams. As you know these are crucial moments in the lives of our young people and we pray that God will see his purpose fulfilled in their lives. We also think of the staff and school leaders who desire so greatly to see their students fulfil their potential.

It was lovely to see the first tranche of The Headteacher Peer to Peer Mentoring Scheme begin on Tuesday 20 May. We believe this will be a programme that will be an active support for our headteachers, not only in the way it will help them manage their own pressures but also in the support they can offer others.

My visits to schools will slow down a little in the weeks ahead as we start to enter the season of Year 6 'Leavers' Celebrations'. This year we are holding 13 in six venues across the diocese and we expect to welcome over 3600 children. I aim to be at as many as I can and I look forward to seeing you and your children at these services across our diocese.

I hope you will have (or have had) a very restful half term.

Yours sincerely

Trevor Cristin
June 2019