

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 half term was a restful time for you.

I would like to begin by updating you on some staffing changes. You should have received an email last week informing you that Chris Kronda and Jon Gilbert will be joining us as School Effectiveness Officers. Chris begins work this week and will be working on a part time basis. Jon will be joining us in September. They will both offer a lot of experience, wisdom and care to our schools and will widen the influence and range of our Education team. We are very excited about their arrival.

Sadly, we are saying farewell to Sally Collins on 12 March. Sally has been our Capital Asset Programme Manager for over eight years. She has served with care, skill and dedication and we shall miss her. She moves to an excellent opportunity at Bromley Borough Council which is much closer to where she lives. She goes with our gratitude for all she has done and with our prayers for the future.

It is remarkable how quickly the school year passes in the busy world of education and I hope that you are finding the time to pause and rest amidst all you have to do. This is probably a good time to mention the opportunities we are offering to help you do this. On 5 June 2020 at West Dean College we are holding our Annual Quiet Day for Headteachers. Having attended this last year, I can speak for its inspirational and restorative impact. It is usually quite a small group and this year we will be led by Archdeacon Martin. Do consider joining us. It is a unique and powerful opportunity to re-focus and reflect.

Secondly, we are preparing to run our second Peer to Peer Headteacher Mentorship Scheme. This has been a successful project which has drawn very positive feedback from the headteachers on the current cohort. We are looking for headteachers who have been in post for at least two years. We have found the project has been excellent in offering support to our Heads but they have also valued sharing their own experience and advice within a relationship that allows time for each person to be both mentor and mentee. If you would like to register your interest or find out more please contact Lesley Hurst lesley.hurst@chichester.anglican.org.

Our Headteachers’ Conference takes place on Friday 27 March and we will be looking at how churches and schools can work closely together in partnership. We have some great speakers:

- Murray Wilkinson, Growing Faith Enabler, Church of England and
 - Revd Rob Dillingham, Growing Faith Champion, Diocese of Chichester
- } **Growing Faith**

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

- Jack Carter, Educational Network Developer – **Transforming Lives for Good** (TLG)
- Jill Rowe, Oasis Ethos and Formation Director
- James Cary, Comedian, Writer and Lay Member of General Synod

The venue is also a lovely place for us to come together. There are a few places still available but numbers are limited so any final bookings need to come in before Thursday 5 March. It will be great to see you there.

We have included several items of news from our schools this month. Please do keep us informed of what you are doing as it is so encouraging for us and it is a joy for us to share it with others.

Thank you for all you continue to do in your communities – we continue to pray for you.

Best wishes

Trevor Cristin
March 2020