**Director: Mr Trevor Cristin**

Dear Colleague,

We are more than aware that the pace of this term has been extremely rapid for you all and it is hard to believe that we are soon approaching Lent. These "shorter" half terms are a blessing in some ways but they also mean that the same amount of work needs to be fitted into a shorter time. I do hope you are pacing yourselves well. We are so excited to see and hear about so many wonderful opportunities for our children in your schools. As ever, we are so grateful and respectful of the ongoing effort and huge levels of commitment that you and your teams show each day. Half term is approaching and I very much hope you will all enjoy a restful and refreshing break.
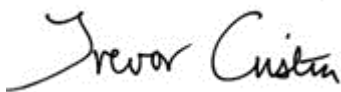
There are two main events I would like to remind you of:

- Our termly briefing takes place on Wednesday 28 February at 4.30pm and can be accessed via this link. This will contain the usual updates which I think are particularly relevant given the higher number of Ofsted and SIAMS inspections we have been enjoying in recent weeks. As ever, there will be a range of other features relating to the work that you are all doing

- Our Headteachers' Conference is almost fully booked. We are now down to a handful of places, so if you would like to join us on Friday 15 March at Ashdown Park Hotel we would ask that you sign up soon to avoid disappointment. It is lovely to have so many of you with us. We expect the programme to be an interesting one, but this is also a hugely valuable time for us to come together as a family of schools so that we can enjoy each other's friendship and support.

Planning for our Leavers Celebration Services is progressing well and we will be putting information and music resources for our services on our website after Easter.  Keep an eye out for those.

To conclude, thank you for your ongoing work. The difference you are making to your communities is so appreciated. You all remain very much in our prayers.

Best wishes

Trevor Cristin
Director of Education

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