Dear Headteachers, Executive Headteachers, CEOs, Consultants, Chaplains, Directors, Chairs of Governors, Vice Chairs of Governors and Foundation Governors

**Academy & School News Update and Safeguarding Briefing**

Please find attached the most recent academy and school news summary from educational consultant Tony Stephens and a copy of the latest safeguarding briefing from Andrew Hall.

**Rural Teaching Partnership Introductory Webinars - a collaboration between Teach First, the Chartered College of Teaching and Peterborough Diocese**

The Rural Teaching Partnership will enable Church of England primary schools to access high quality trainee teachers, recruited, trained and supported by Teach First (an Ofsted - Outstanding ITT Provider and Early Career Framework Lead Provider).  Next week, there will be two significant webinars with Teach First about the Rural Teaching Partnership; one for MAT CEOs with Rhian Harris rharris@teachfirst.org.uk at 4.00pm on 9th May, and one for headteachers with Louise Hinton lhinton@teachfirst.org.uk at 4.00pm on 12th May.  This partnership has the potential to save schools tens of thousands of pounds and to strengthen staff teams with high quality trainee teachers.  If you would like to receive the Teams link for one of these webinars next week, simply email Rhian or Louise at Teach First.

**SLA Training Courses Coming Up Soon**

***Understanding Christianity:  Focus on Salvation Tuesday 10 May 9.00am – 12.00pm led by Adam Robertson, via Zoom***

This session will focus in greater depth on the theme of Salvation using Understanding Christianity. Adam helped to write the Diocese of Peterborough RE Syllabus.

***Roles & Responsibilities of Church School Governors Wednesday 12 May 6.30pm - 8.30pm led by Peter French, at Bouverie Court***

What are the special features of church school governance?  A session for new governors and those who have previously been governors looking at experiences and how you can develop your role.

***RE: Assessment / Ofsted Research Monday 16 May 1.00pm – 4.00pm led by Lat Blaylock, via Zoom***

How can school RE use the directions set by HIM’s RE report?

***Implementing the Understanding Christianity Resource Tuesday 17 May 9.30am – 3.30pm led by Lesley Pollard, via Zoom***

Specifically for primary teachers who are new to using the Understanding Christianity resource, but whose school is already trained in this programme.

***Termly Headteachers’ SIAMS Briefing Thursday 26 May 1.30pm – 3.00pm led by Jane Lewis, via Zoom***

Updates and feedback on inspections so far; a workshop to look at different self-evaluation approaches and to ensure your school is well prepared.

***Governor Briefing Session:  Tips on Recruiting Governors Thursday 19 May 6.30pm – 7.15pm led by Peter French, via Zoom***

To book a place on any of the above SLA training courses, please email: education@peterborough-diocese.org.uk.

**Headteachers’ Conference – Happiness, Wellbeing, Resilience, Growing and Flourishing, 16th June, 9.15am – 3.00pm**

Following the keynote address by Dr Bill Mitchell, Richard Crellin will speak about the Children’s Society ‘Good Childhood’ report.  Richard is the Policy and Research Manager for well-being at The Children’ Society, leading the team who produce the annual ‘Good Childhood’ report. This report provides the most authoritative snapshot of how children themselves feel about their lives in the UK and is a key source for national and local government and other professionals working with children and young people. Richard is an expert in a number of public policy areas relating to children and young people, including health, social care, education, social security and immigration. Richard has worked at The Children’s Society for seven years, formerly working for the Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts. He holds degrees from the London School of Economics and the University of Cambridge. He lives in Hackney in London and is Chair of Governors for Beatrice Tate Special School and an independent visitor for children in care.

**Picture News Free Trial**

27 of our primary schools now subscribe to Picture News, which provides resources to help educate children about topical events in the news, particularly in the context of collective worship and PSHE.  Katie Harrison help@picture-news.co.uk has been in touch to say that they are running a 4-week free trial this half-term for schools wanting to try Picture News for the first time.  Schools can register here to take part: [https://picture-news-online.co.uk/4-week-trial/](https://lkxyzt8p.r.eu-west-2.awstrack.me/L0/https%3A//picture-news-online.co.uk/4-week-trial//1/010b01806557c1de-f00f6cd9-514e-40b8-9993-79f67fe65cb3-000000/hNkgKIFPRq5sRlI-igQSvULIZcs%3D52).

**Heartsmart PSHE & RSE Resources**

We have previously had Heartsmart with us for a Headteachers’ Conference and a number of our primary schools now use their PSHE & RSE resources, which are closely linked to the SIAMS schedule.  Andy Ashford andy.ashford@heartsmart.school has been in touch to say that they have a free taster [video lesson](http://fslink.heartsmart.school/email/track/click?hash=eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJkYXRhIjp7Im11c3RoIjoiaHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuaGVhcnRzbWFydHYuY29tL3ZpZGVvcy93ZWVrbHktaGVhcnRzbWFydC1maWxtMSIsImxpb24iOiIyYmFkYSIsImdvcmlsbGEiOiIyY2QwNDA4NzkiLCJkZWVyIjoiMmNmMTE5NGZkIn0sImlhdCI6MTY0OTE3NDIyMn0.eZRS1yrszwXYCSmVzovRb1FWcovwYEa9dlvZfDOiJ6A~eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJkYXRhIjp7ImhvcnNlIjoic2FyYWguZ3JlZW5AaGVhcnRzbWFydC5zY2hvb2wiLCJjYW1lbCI6IjJkMGU3ODJkOSJ9LCJpYXQiOjE2NDkxNzQyMjJ9.uYHWhWPQRnEMfu_YJCp0bmowNktRU-f5_VXt2zP8S-E), as an example of how they are able to equip schools in developing resilience, wellbeing and healthy relationships.  They also have some free family resources and packages for schools, as detailed below:

Family Resource

* Free family fun, taking HeartSmart directly into the home
* Explore the HeartSmart High 5, games and videos
* [https://www.heartsmart.family](https://www.heartsmart.family/)

School Resource

* HeartSmart TV is our main RSE & PSHE resource for primary schools
* £250-£450 depending on the size of school
* <https://www.heartsmartv.com/browse>.

**PopUK**

Andy Silver andysilver@me.com from PopUK has written to say that PopUK has some free resources for Mental Health Week, this week, and to support Year 6 pupils with their transition to secondary school.  PopUK has [specially written songs and accompanying video lessons](https://55bcfff2-e9b0-44ef-9ec5-36be650b91b7.mailbutler.link/p2/8c84166c-a20c-4253-a694-c5fbdb47e25a/3769a007-2fa9-40fb-ad6a-56759f00108e). These resources help children **hold onto hope,** as they face challenges in their lives. The songs reinforce the Christian values they’ve learned and give them the confidence to look ahead to new opportunities the future will bring.  Schools can access them through PopUK’s [FREE Song Bank](https://55bcfff2-e9b0-44ef-9ec5-36be650b91b7.mailbutler.link/p2/8c84166c-a20c-4253-a694-c5fbdb47e25a/10956122-7899-4397-beeb-7be7e0eed93f).  All PopUK’s songs are:

*INCLUSIVE - written for all children whether they share a Christian faith or not*

*DISTINCTIVE - non-confessional lyrics that teach clear Christian values, appropriate for all to sing*

*RELEVANT - contemporary songs with themes that matter to children.*

**Bin Twinning**

The Bin Twinning charity makes it possible for every **£45 that schools raise to twin a bin with a sustainable project that is collecting people’s rubbish, disposing of it safely, recycling as much as possible, and promoting waste reduction.  It’s a great way to educate children and young people about sustainability, and the charity offers ready-made lessons and PowerPoint presentations which are available to download free of charge.** Here is the link about it:<https://www.bintwinning.org/group/schools/>.

**Beginning Tomorrow - Evening Online Christian Meditation Course - Establishing Peace in ourselves: becoming Places of Peace for the World** - **4th, 11th and 18th of May *–* 7:30pm *–* 9:00pm**

This series of online meditation events is a partnership between the School of Contemplative Life and Glastonbury Abbey, starting tomorrow.  As a direct, practical response to the need for peace in our lives, our communities and world, each of us can commit to the quiet, steady work of establishing peace in ourselves. This is perhaps the most important thing we can do.  Everyone around us will benefit from this peace.  So, in this three-week series of evening online workshops, the School of Contemplative Life and Glastonbury Abbey will explore meditation in the Christian tradition as a simple, but radically effective, path to establishing greater peace, well-being and community.

Through a series of short talks, meditation practice and conversation participants will explore:

* forming a new relationship with life characterised by greater compassion, freedom and wellbeing
* how meditation establishes peace in us and dissolves the illusion that we are separate from each other and God
* becoming places of peace in the world.

For further information and booking details:

[https://www.tickettailor.com/events/theschoolofcontemplativelife/656117#](https://www.tickettailor.com/events/theschoolofcontemplativelife/656117).

**A Prayer**

Finally, may I share with you a prayer from this Sunday, the third Sunday of Easter…

*Almighty Father,
who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples
with the sight of the risen Lord:
give us such knowledge of his presence with us,
that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life
and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.*

Wishing you every blessing!

Peter

**Peter Cantley**

**Diocesan Director of Education, Diocese of Peterborough**

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