

Newsletter— Wednesday 10th January 2018

Message from CEO

Message from Diocesan Schools Commissioner

Welcome back, I hope you had a good Christmas and also had a chance to rest after all the festivities.

Having passed the role of Interim CEO to Karen Cook from 1st January, this message is in my role as Diocesan Schools Commissioner. Our regulators have been insisting that it is inappropriate for one person to combine both the roles of Interim CEO and Diocesan Schools Commissioner, so I am delighted that in addition to appointing Raymond Friel as our next CEO, the board have also appointed Dr Karen Cook as the Interim CEO until he takes up his appointment in July, (some additional support for the Finance Office has been provided to facilitate this).

We had a positive meeting with representatives from the office of the Regional Schools Commissioner and the Education, Skills and Funding Agency yesterday; however whilst they accept that our plans are fit for purpose they are still worried that our current rate of change is such that we are will struggle to meet the deadlines they have set. Clearly 2018 promises to be as busy as 2017, if not more so.

I am very grateful for the professional way in which everyone has approached the voluntary severance programme; it is clearly an unsettling time and your help and support is greatly appreciated.

With my best wishes and prayers for the year ahead.



Kate Griffin



News from our Schools



Christ the King, Bournemouth

The children (and staff!) at Christ the King School love to sing!

Our School Choir has over 70 members and were very busy over the Christmas season. As well as singing in school at the School Carol Service and at a party to entertain local Senior Citizens, they also went out to sing to a local club for elderly people (which the Choir do once a term) and had a memorable time singing at a local Nursing home. Both staff (school staff as well as Nursing Home staff!) and residents were moved to tears by the children's singing and it was a magical time for all concerned.



The other highlight for the children was singing at Kingston Lacy, our local National Trust Property. We sang there one chilly Saturday afternoon just before Christmas and everyone thoroughly enjoyed singing in such an amazing place, which was very Christmassy and full of atmosphere.

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Newton Abbot

EPIPHANY CELEBRATIONS

On Friday 5th January, our school community came together to celebrate our Epiphany Mass with Father Victor and Deacon Tim. After Mass, we were able to present Mrs Mary Shepherd, a Trustee of the Catholic Children's Society, with our Crib Appeal money boxes. Our families supported the Crib Appeal during Advent, and we were overwhelmed with their generosity.



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News and Events



Training Dates

Head Teacher Briefings:

West Area	-	9th January 2018	St Austell Conference Centre
Central Area	-	10th January 2018	St Nicholas School, Exeter
East Area	-	11th January 2018	Christ the King, Bournemouth

God Matters Writers Group

18th to 19th January 2018 at the Langstone Cliff Hotel, Dawlish

Early Years Working Group

18th January 2018 at St Boniface House, Ashburton

PWP Training Day for Central Schools

Tuesday 20th February at St Nicholas School, Exeter

Heads & Deputies Conference

22nd to 23rd February 2018 at Mercure Exeter Southgate Hotel, Exeter

Please book your place via the Website calendar <http://www.plymouthcast.org.uk/web/calendar>

If you have any queries regarding any of the above events, please contact Debbie Beech on events@plymouthcast.org.uk or telephone 01364 645401



Date of Next Newsletter – Wednesday 24th January 2018

Please remember to email items for inclusive in the newsletter so that we can share the Good News stories across the Trust.

Articles for inclusion should be emailed to Helen Moram at helen.moram@plymouthcast.org.uk