

# DBE Schools Bulletin

July 2021

Being deeply Christian and for the common good,  
our schools will be communities which are:

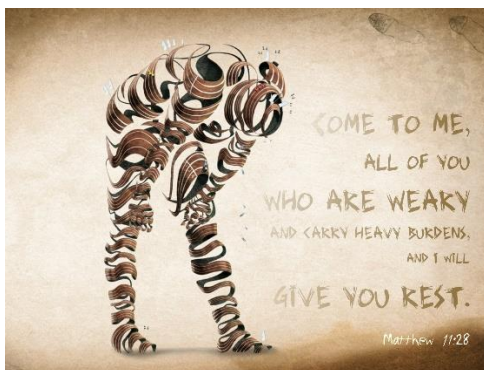
**LOVING**  
in relationships

**AMBITIOUS**  
in aspirations

**BOLD**  
in actions

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**Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.**

**Matthew 11:28**

## A year like no other

As we enter the month of July and the final few weeks of the school year, it is worth taking a moment to look back over the last twelve months (and beyond) and reflect on just how much our schools have overcome. We are so proud of each of our church schools and all that you have achieved this year, in the face of adversity.

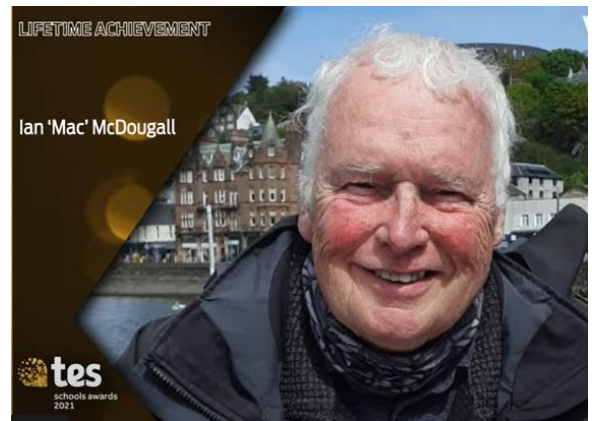
You have successfully navigated through the challenges, overcome the barriers and adjusted the curriculum to continue to provide our children and young people with a high quality education and creative encounters and experiences that enable them to flourish. This has not been easy and has required an extra special effort from all concerned. Never before has a summer holiday break been so much needed and so well deserved!

One key highlight at the end of the school year is our Year 6 Leavers' Service, taking place on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July at 9:30am and being live streamed with contributions from a number of our primary and secondary schools. We hope schools across the diocese will join with us for this special service. It is also an opportunity to express our thanks and gratitude to colleagues across our family of schools who are retiring or moving on to new roles. Thank you for your dedicated service to the children and young people across our family of schools and we send our best wishes for all that the future holds.

Wishing you all a wonderful and restful summer break.

## Lifetime Achievement Award

Many congratulations to Ian 'Mac' McDougall, who has been awarded the Lifetime Achievement award in the TES National School Awards. Mac will be known to many of our headteachers, having previously been headteacher at St Berteline's CE Primary in Runcorn and has also been one of our diocesan consultants for a number of years. The nomination was made by his previous colleagues, including current headteacher, Julie Barron, who wished to acknowledge his outstanding contribution to the school over a number of decades. The award summary stated,



*Judges were highly impressed with the culture McDougall had fostered in the school, commenting that it "oozes loveliness" and that its happy atmosphere was a tribute to what he had achieved there. McDougall set up St Berteline's in his early thirties. He built the school up from 22 pupils to 300, establishing a vibrant community with a strong focus on the importance of outdoor learning. He helped pupils to see the value of taking care of their environment, putting a stop to vandalism in the 1970s and 1980s, as well as visiting pupils' homes to ensure they came into school if there were difficulties. He led trips to the Lake District and whole-school outings to the beach alongside parents, with groups squeezed into double-decker buses....Colleagues describe his enthusiasm for learning as infectious, and he regularly incorporated performances on his guitar in his humorous assemblies. His commitment to high expectations ensured that the school has continued to be inclusive and supportive of all pupils. The positivity of St Berteline's culture is to his credit and for this reason, the lifetime achievement award is richly deserved.*

Mac continues to work with the Diocese, creating the Y6 Leavers' Service and has led the worship group for these services at the Cathedral and at St. Mary's, Astbury prior to the pandemic. In his retirement, Mac has also continued to provide support and lead worship at his local church school of Huxley Church of England Primary. On behalf of the DBE, we wish to extend our own congratulations and appreciation to such a worthy recipient. You can see the announcement of the award and the tributes from his ex-colleagues through this link starting at 14m38s [Tes Schools Awards 2021 - YouTube](#)

## Headteacher of the Year Award



Congratulations also go to Bev Scott-Herron, headteacher of Sir Thomas Boteler CE High School who received a certificate of excellence for the Headteacher of the Year, as part of the Pearson National Teaching Awards. In nominating Bev for the award, Chris Kinsey, Deputy Headteacher) wrote,

*"A number of staff worked together to complete the application. Of course the evidence was easy to come by given Bev's character, vision, how that vision is implemented and perhaps, most importantly, how Bev leads day in day out with a focus on each member of our Boteler family...Continuing to put staff and students first coupled with facing the biggest challenge Headteachers have faced in decades is testament to Bev's leadership."*

## Local Matters Annual Conference

Led by the University of Manchester and featuring schools from Chester Diocese. The conference is **FREE to attend** and will share the impact of the teacher led research programme on tackling poverty and disadvantage in schools. This includes real life examples and experiences from the schools involved across the North-West over the last two years. It is a project that has been supported by and subsidised by our Diocesan Board of Education. A further cohort of schools are set to undertake the project in the autumn.

The conference is **on-line** and takes place on **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July between 1pm and 4:30pm**. The details of the conference, an overview of the schedule and the link to book a place can be found below:

[Local Matters Conference Flyer](#)

[Local Matters Conference Schedule](#)

*Places can be also be booked directly through the Eventbrite page:* [Local Matters – North West Poverty Research Network Conference 2021 Tickets, Tue, Jul 13, 2021 at 1:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)



MANCHESTER  
1824  
The University of Manchester

The first Local Matters annual conference led by Dr Carl Emery and Louisa Dawes focuses on the impact of a teacher research programme on tackling poverty and disadvantage in schools. The theme of the day is 'Why Local Matters matters?'

The event provides a professional development and research capacity building opportunity for teacher practitioners and educators. The conference brings together an expert audience who have already engaged with the programme and will share their experiences to date. The conference will also offer insights from district leads, colleagues from Manchester Institute of Education (MIE) at the University of Manchester and showcase some of the methodology of the Local Matters programme.

**Local Matters**  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2021

**Tuesday 13th July 2021**  
**1:00pm to 4:30pm (BST)**

A FREE ONLINE EVENT

*The research has had a profound impact on our awareness of poverty. Access to resources from East and London.*

## Leavers' Service 2021



We are delighted to give you some information about the 2021 Year Six Leavers service.

Our year six leavers' service online, **premiers on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July at 9.30am** through a secure YouTube link. The theme this year will be Hope. Details of the log in will be sent out in the week of the service.

**Learning Songs** – we would appreciate it if your year six could learn the following two songs.

Greater by Mercy Me [MercyMe - Greater \(Official Lyric Video\) - YouTube](#)

The second song 'New, New Day' is signed in Makaton so even if we can't sing along we can sign the song together.: [It's a new new day - Makaton signed by Becky George](#)

**Prepare for our time of prayer** - Prayer forms a key part of our Leavers' Service, and this year is no exception. In our space for prayer, we are encouraging our young people to take their hopes for the future to God, trusting that he is the one guiding the path that lies before them and gaining strength to move on. **Each person attending will need a length of ribbon or string in which to tie some knots, all will be revealed closer to the time.**

## CDAT to deliver the new NPQs

We are delighted that our Diocesan MAT, Chester Diocesan Academies Trust (CDAT), has been selected as one of the delivery partners working with the Church of England Foundation for Educational Leadership (CEFEL), to offer the revised suite of National Professional Qualifications to teachers and school leaders from September 2021. Being selected as a delivery partner by CEFEL is a real achievement for CDAT, and an affirmation of the quality of leadership and school improvement expertise within the trust.

The NPQs are the nationally recognised suite of qualifications for teachers and school leaders at all levels - from those who want to develop expertise in high quality teaching practice to those leading multiple schools across a trust. They have been significantly redesigned this year, with three specialist NPQs introduced to replace the old 'middle leader' level. CDAT's role will be to lead on the delivery of two of these programmes - the National Professional Qualification in Leading Teaching (NPQLT) and the National Professional Qualification in Leading Teacher Development (NPQLTD) - while supporting partners in the region to deliver the rest of the NPQ suite.

Further details of all of the NPQs can be found on the CEFEL website: <https://www.cefel.org.uk/npq/>, and **applications are now open** for cohorts starting in November and February.



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
EDUCATION OFFICE

FOUNDATION FOR  
EDUCATIONAL  
LEADERSHIP



## Church School Governors Conference

An opportunity for Church of England School Governors from across England to begin the new School Year together.

### Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell

A great advocate and supporter of Church Schools he is an author of more than 20 books including 'Hit the Ground Kneeling - Seeing Leadership Differently'.



*Theme: Pause, reflect and be envisioned*



**Speakers include:** Archbishop of York - Stephen Cottrell, Rev Nigel Genders (CofE Chief Education Officer), Dr Margaret James (National Director of SIAMS), Rev Mary Hawes (National Growing Faith advisor) and Cheryl Govier (GO Team Advisor, Diocese of Bath & Wells)

**During the two hour conference there will be opportunity for some discussion in breakout rooms.**

**Wednesday 22 September 2021, 6pm - 8pm**

Places are **FREE** - please click [here](#) for further details and to book your place.



## Admissions

### Important information for Voluntary Aided schools and academies – immediate action to be taken.

As indicated in previous bulletins a new admissions code is due to come into force on 1<sup>st</sup> September. The draft code is currently laid before parliament and is expected to have final agreement by 1<sup>st</sup> July. We will update our guidance appropriately with most changes coming into effect for admission arrangements and process for 2022 and 2023 however there is an immediate change required for both **2021** and **2022** admission policies with regards to Looked After Children. From 1<sup>st</sup> September Paragraph 1.7 of the new Code will require that highest priority is given to **“looked after children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted”**.

The wording used in the code that can be cut and paste into your arrangements is: **Looked after children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order).**

This new provision will necessitate variations to determined admission arrangements to take effect from 1 September 2021. **Admission authorities will need to vary their admission arrangements for 2021/22 (which would have been determined by 15 February 2020) and their admission arrangements for 2022/23 (which would have been determined by 15 February 2021).** Without these variations, admission arrangements that have already been determined will no longer comply with the Code from this date. This means it will be in place for any in-year admissions for 2021 and may impact waiting lists if any children on the list come under this category.

Therefore, the DfE expect **admission authorities to hold a meeting sometime between now and 31 August 2021 to determine the necessary variations to admission arrangements for 2021/2022 and 2022/2023.** Variations will be conditional on the Code passing through its Parliamentary process (i.e. a date on or around 1 July 2021). If any variations are agreed before then, they must be expressed to be conditional on the Code passing through Parliament (as set out in the Board minutes). As this is a requirement there is no need to consult or request a variation through the schools adjudicator. All such variations should come into effect on 1 September 2021.

### Other amendments

Other changes to the code that do not require variation but will need action to be taken include:

- In-year admissions – LAs may co-ordinate in-year admissions and admission authorities have the choice as to whether or not to use the LA. Schools must inform the LA by 1<sup>st</sup> October this year and 1<sup>st</sup> August in every subsequent year whether or not they are going to use the LA's co-ordination scheme. If schools choose not to then the application process must be published on the school website with all relevant forms required. All schools must publish on their website by the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021 and 31<sup>st</sup> August every subsequent year how in-year admissions will be managed.

- Schools must inform the LA of any places in their schools regardless of whether they use the LA to co-ordinate in-year admissions or not.
- Parents must be notified of the outcome of the application ideally within 10 school days but no more than 15 school days (a reminder here that unless there is a place available with one application and the child must be admitted – decisions on admissions must not be undertaken by a single individual but by the governing board or admissions committee).
- There are changes to the Fair Access Protocol which means that it may only be used where it has been difficult to place a vulnerable and/or hard to place child (this now comes with clear definitions) in-year. No school is expected to take a disproportionate amount of such children.
- All admission authorities must participate in the Fair Access Protocol once agreed.

Alongside the changes suggested by the Church of England Education office following the OSA exercise last year (highlighted in the previous bulletin) and the new code this is a good opportunity to reflect and review on your policy for 2023; to ensure it fits your vision and the community you serve. Many policies have continued as they as they have been inherited but may not serve your current context. Considering this now gives time for the required consultation period in the autumn term. This is also a reminder that policies should be sent to the DBE **before** they go out for consultation. This is a requirement of the code but is also a good opportunity for the policy to be checked to ensure it is compliant.

We will update the admissions guidance as soon as possible but if you have any further queries, please contact [sue.noakes@chester.anglican.org](mailto:sue.noakes@chester.anglican.org)

## Global Images of Christ – schools invited to take part



Chester Cathedral is hosting an art exhibition from the end of September through October during Black History month on Global Images of Christ. The exhibition will feature images of Christ and other Biblical characters from around the globe and they want schools to contribute to this exciting exhibition.

Schools are being encouraged to look at global images of Christ either during RE or art or any other part of the curriculum and then to create images themselves either based on images they felt spoke to them or simply 'what's your view of Jesus?'. These can then be sent to the cathedral and be displayed alongside the exhibition. This is a great opportunity to explore the global nature of Christianity, a key area for SIAMS, and to celebrate the artistic skills of your pupils.

We would encourage as many schools as possible to get involved. This is for all ages, nursery to sixth form and the cathedral would love to get as many images as possible displayed. Please send your images to Jeremy Dussek, Canon Precentor at Chester Cathedral, by 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021 and for any more information please contact [sue.noakes@chester.anglican.org](mailto:sue.noakes@chester.anglican.org)

We would also encourage you to visit the exhibition once it is open and resources are being developed for schools to use.

## Create a Psalm 23 Garden in Your School

At this year's RHS Chelsea Flower Show, which will take place between 21 and 26 September, Bible Society will be sponsoring a garden on the theme of Psalm 23, 'The Lord is my Shepherd'. Award-winning designer Sarah Eberle has created a garden that will bring Psalm 23 to life.



To help schools to create a Psalm 23 garden of their own, or to give new life to an existing garden, free videos and downloadable resources are available by clicking [here](#):

- A **gardening guide**, which sets out how to create a Psalm 23-inspired garden on any scale, from a just a couple of planters to a larger space.
- An **assembly** in which children can learn more about Psalm 23 and reflect on what it means for them.
- Some **resources for lessons** about Psalm 23 and gardens in the Bible
- An opportunity to obtain some **FREE trees from the Woodland Trust** to get the garden started.



'He makes me lie down in green pastures'



'He leads me beside still waters'



'Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil'



'You prepare a table before me'

**Let them know how your Psalm 23 garden is progressing at** [education@biblesociety.org.uk](mailto:education@biblesociety.org.uk)

## Christingle Celebration at Chester Cathedral

Primary school children are invited to come and sing, dance, and celebrate the magical event of Christingle. From human Christingles to live music, inspiring talks, and dramatic performances – children will love being involved in our fun and theatrical celebration in the beautiful Chester Cathedral.

Help to give children across Cheshire and the rest of the UK hope for a brighter future.

**Each school is invited to bring one KS2 year group.**

**Wednesday 26 January 2022, 1.30pm - 2.30pm at Chester Cathedral.** (arrival time of 1.00pm to ensure everyone is seated and ready to join in at 1.30pm) For further details and how to book please click [here](#).



**The  
Children's  
Society**

## July 2021 Courses

DATE	COURSE	STATUS
01/07/21	<a href="#">Headteacher Wellbeing Follow Up Session for Governors &amp; Headteachers</a>	ON-LINE
08/07/21 <b>**CANCELLED**</b>	Spiritual Development in a Church School & Prayer Spaces <b>**CANCELLED**</b> PLEASE SEE 2021-22 CPD PROGRAMME FOR 2021-22 DATE.	FOXHILL CONFERENCE CENTRE
14/07/21	<a href="#">Chairs Clinic &amp; Networking Group</a>	ON-LINE

## CPD Programme 2021-22

**We are delighted to launch our 2021-22 CPD programme for the new school year.**

The programme reflects the needs of our schools and offers a range of courses for leaders at all levels. The [programme booklet](#) provides a list of courses under the sub-headings of school and leadership roles. Each course title has a hyperlink that will take you directly to the booking page, where you can find out more information about the course and book a place. The [calendar view](#) provides an overview of the programme, both can be found below:

[CPD Programme 2021-22 – Booklet](#)

[CPD Programme 2021-22 - Calendar Overview](#)

It includes an Early Career Framework programme **\*\*new for this year\*\*** delivered over two years and builds on materials from our successful NQT programme. We are also running our RQT programme again and have courses for middle and senior leaders, including a **new course**, 'Stepping into Headship' for aspiring headteachers.

Responding to your feedback, the programme will feature a range of on-line and face to face sessions, with some of the details still to be confirmed due to the current situation.

***I am pleased to confirm that prices for both our Family of Schools' membership and course fees for 2021-22 have been frozen for a further year.***

[Booking pages are now open](#), enabling you to begin planning your CPD needs and securing your places in readiness for the new academic year, invoices for bookings are sent out following the course (except for our multiple session programmes.)

## National Thank a Teacher Day

### Delamere C of E Academy



As part of 'Thank a Teacher' day on 23<sup>rd</sup> June, the Department for Education showcased some examples of where teachers had found fun and creative ways to engage their pupils. Among the many stories featured, teacher Miss Bate from Delamere Church of England Academy, part of the North West Academies Trust, was featured. Miss Bate took to the skies to teach multiplication tables - using her drone to show factor pairs of 24. You can click on the link below to watch the video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JrNjBv4U6N4>



## Celebrate Harvest with Send a Cow



Send a Cow is working alongside farming families on the very front line of the climate crisis. We teach families practical techniques to help reverse the devastating effects of erratic weather, so they can grow enough to feed their families and protect the land for generations to come.

This autumn, use our free church and school resources to get your congregation and pupils excited about holding a Harvest celebration. We

have plenty for you to choose from: **a reflection from our patron Bishop Ruth of Taunton, an all-age service, youth resources and classroom learning resources for KS1 and KS2 all about becoming global citizens.** Whether you are celebrating physically or virtually, bring your classes and congregations together and make a difference.

£105 could train six families to farm their own land, helping them to grow more and stand up to the climate crisis in rural Africa.

[Sign up today to receive our free Harvest resources](#) and start planning your Harvest celebration!

### Special Invitation - Send a Cow Talks: 'Climate Crisis'

[Reserve your free place today here](#)

For any further information about **Send a Cow's Harvest Appeal 2021** please contact Ann Hatton (Church Development Executive) at [harvest@sendacow.org](mailto:harvest@sendacow.org) or 01225 874 222

#### Send a Cow Talks: climate crisis

**Date: Thursday 16th September**

**Time: 6.30pm**

**Media: Zoom**



**Meet Titus Sagala, Country Director for Kenya.**

- **Find out how the climate crisis is impacting harvest for families in rural Africa.**
- **You'll also have the opportunity to ask questions about our work.**

**Reserve your free place today!**

## Headteacher Cluster Meetings

Date for your diaries, the autumn term cluster meetings have been set. Joining instructions will be sent out nearer the meeting date. For any queries, please contact [sandra.reynolds@chester.anglican.org](mailto:sandra.reynolds@chester.anglican.org)

CLUSTER GROUP	DATE	TIME
<b>AUTUMN TERM DATES 2021</b>		
Nantwich/Congleton HTS	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	1.30pm -3.30pm
Northwich HTs	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	1.30pm -3.30pm
Rural Chester HTs	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	1.30pm -3.30pm
Trafford HTs	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	10am -12pm
Warrington/Halton HTs	Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	10am-12pm
Macclesfield HTs	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	1.30pm -3.30pm
Stockport/Tameside HTs	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	10am -12pm
Chester HTs	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	10am -12pm

## DBE Officer Contact Details

Contact details for members of the DBE team to enable schools to contact officers by phone or e-mail.

<a href="mailto:chris.penn@chester.anglican.org">chris.penn@chester.anglican.org</a>	Director of Education	07540 722667
<a href="mailto:sue.noakes@chester.anglican.org">sue.noakes@chester.anglican.org</a>	Deputy Director of Education	07540 722668
<a href="mailto:mark.whitehill@chester.anglican.org">mark.whitehill@chester.anglican.org</a>	School Effectiveness Officer	07540 722669
<a href="mailto:jenny.mcilveen@chester.anglican.org">jenny.mcilveen@chester.anglican.org</a>	Christian Character & CPD Officer	07581 245812
<a href="mailto:simon.geddes@chester.anglican.org">simon.geddes@chester.anglican.org</a>	Buildings & Finance Officer	07564 901986
<a href="mailto:sandra.jones@chester.anglican.org">sandra.jones@chester.anglican.org</a>	School Assets Administrator	07549 109589
<a href="mailto:charlotte.somers@chester.anglican.org">charlotte.somers@chester.anglican.org</a>	Director's PA & Administrator	07549 109578
<a href="mailto:sandra.reynolds@chester.anglican.org">sandra.reynolds@chester.anglican.org</a>	Governance & Administrator	07549 109590

## News from Schools

### Astbury St Mary's C of E Primary School

Children at Astbury School had a special visit from Candy and Buster. The two dogs attended school for the day to support children's mental health and well-being and were excitedly received by all. The children enjoyed playing with the dogs and showing them around the school. They took turns to hold their leads and



looked after them, showing great care and attention. Both Candy and Buster were incredibly well behaved and their positive impact on the children's emotions was wonderful to see. Mrs Hambley and Mrs Hart, the dogs' owners, both said how successful the day had been and that Candy and Buster had had a very happy day with the children at Astbury School. Miss Blythe, Head teacher, said that not only had the dogs been well received by the children, but that the staff had really enjoyed having the dogs visit their classrooms too. Both Candy and Buster had created such a positive atmosphere and the impact on both children and staff was lovely to see.

### Bridgemere C of E Primary School



Bridgemere C of E Primary School are very proud to announce that Jack Kent in Year 5 is the overall winner of the Primary section of the Dot Art Competition 2021. His amazing piece of artwork 'Dandelion Seed Burst' impressed the judges with its movement and energy, awarding him first place out of over 1000 entries.

Jack went to the Port of Liverpool Building for a special prize giving and to see his picture on show in the gallery. He was awarded with his prize and certificate by the Lord Mayor of Liverpool, his painting will be displayed in the gallery until June 25th.

Everyone was so pleased for Jack who loves his art so much, he said his day in Liverpool was amazing, the best day of his life. A big thank you to Mrs. Smart who has supported Jack's development in art this year. It has been so lovely to see the children develop their individual talents, well done Jack, keep up the fantastic work.





## Chester Blue Coat C of E Primary School



After an already extraordinary year due to the global pandemic, staff at Nursery decided to make it even more momentous by agreeing to the Nursery building being demolished and rebuilt during term time.

They thought the opportunity for a brand-new building in the summer holiday was lost due to COVID-19, but when new Headteacher Matthew Hover spoke to EYFS Team Leader Jacqui Jaworski a few weeks before October half term, they grabbed the chance immediately. Previous headteacher Vincent O'Brien had bid for the venture and it was to be his final parting; it will stand as a mark of his time at Chester Blue Coat CE Primary School.

After much packing and sorting, staff went off for a well-earned half term break, having said farewell to a drafty and very creaky old building, full of memories for so many families and staff. Upon their return a huge gaping hole was in its place and the children had relocated to the much smaller Sunshine Nursery building for a cosy half term of learning and fun. The building work was completed by a company called Moduplan, who worked behind transparent wire screening, so the children could see all the machinery and the work, much to their fascination and growing excitement. The Moduplan team talked to the children about what they were doing when quizzed and were very co-operative returning balls which frequently ventured into the foundations.



When schools finally fully re-opened in the spring, children moved into their brand new, open-plan Rainbow Nursery. It is light and airy and there is so much space for their provision. The building includes sheltered areas for outdoor learning, a brand-new playground and a covered parents waiting area. There is also a parent's room (for when everyone can meet face to face again) which also doubles as a much-needed place for staff to have their lunch. A brand-new shed tops off the high-quality Nursery space.



The staff and all our Nursery families would like to say a huge thankyou to the Diocese for making this happen and giving the children a building that they deserve and love. Out of such a challenging year, an amazing gift has been given to our community and it is very much appreciated by all.



### Eccleston C of E Primary School

Everyone was delighted to open the new open-air Theatre. A warm welcome was given to Matt Baker who helped perform a song written by the children during lockdown.



### Hoole C of E Primary School



One of the exciting projects for this term was preparing for The Tatton Show. This year everyone is designing and building a 3m x 3m garden on the theme Coming Together. The children have used the school verse, 'Let your light Shine' as the starting point for the design.



They have adopted the words we are all in the same storm, but we are in different boats. The children have woven a Willow Lighthouse

which will hold tiers of plants and each class has designed and made a boat for the Sea of Hope which was created by planting seeds for blue flowers which the Year 5 horticultural groups have potted.

The design on the backdrop incorporates the words of the song that has been adopted as a school from Rend Collective, "My lighthouse, shining in the darkness I will follow you. You will guide us safe to shore."

Pupils had a wonderful year 2/3 school sleepover as their planned residential was sadly cancelled. Everyone enjoyed the Fire-Pit singing in forest school, cooking crispy cakes and snuggling down in distanced groups in every classroom. After a very good night of sleep, the children enjoyed an outdoor breakfast of croissants and fruit.



**Pott Shrigley Church School**

Reception and Year 3 children were presented with their Bibles by Reverend David at St Christopher’s Church, Pott Shrigley.



This happens annually as a gift from the Church to the children and is always a lovely celebration.



All staff and pupils would like to extend their thanks to Reverend David and the Church Community, it was wonderful to be able to hold the presentation in St Christopher’s.

**Shocklach Oviatt C of E Primary**

It was a real privilege to welcome Bishop Mark to Shocklach for a very special outdoor worship recently.

They explored the theme of creation, and the Eco Council proudly shared their current initiatives and work towards The Green Flag Award. Bishop Mark’s warmth, kindness and humour were much appreciated by pupils and staff alike.



Everyone breathed a sigh of relief when school dog Ronnie behaved so well for his blessing and indeed throughout the whole service.



Unfortunately, morning rain prevented Bishop Mark from arriving on his motorbike, but he came armed with walking boots and enjoyed a tour of the school by the wonderful ambassadors, Cian and Izzy.

**Making the G7 Summit relevant**

Pupils enjoyed exploring the recent G7’s policy agenda themes including Pandemic Recovery, Prosperity for all through Fair Trade, Climate Change, Shared Values as well as Exploring and Aspiring to Leadership.

The children enjoyed discussing fast fashion in light of Carrie Johnson’s choice to rent her outfits for the summit. Pupils have also





been inspired to bring in old jeans or denim jackets that are destined for landfills. These will be re-purposed and given a new lease of life.

Everyone enjoyed making the summit relevant to our children's young lives.

### Stockton Heath St Thomas' C of E Primary School



This beautiful feather display in the school hall was a collaborative effort from all the children at St Thomas', as part of the We are One Whole School Project.

In each class, all pupils created a feather using colour mixing skills.

Just like each pupil, all the feathers were individual and beautiful, but when they were put together, they created something wonderful.

The wings signify unity and the strength of working together as a school.

***He will cover you with His feathers and under His wings you will find refuge - Psalm 91:4.***

### Tarporley C of E Primary School

Year 1 and Year 2 children have been learning about the bees and how important they are. As a result of this children asked if they could march in a peaceful protest and encourage everyone to Save the Bees.

Miss Helen Maddocks (deputy headteacher) said "They really were an inspiration to us all, they even came up with their own

chant 'Save our bees, they pollinate our trees'."



There has been a lot of bee life-saving going on at lunch and playtime with some remarkable success.

## Tushingam -with-Grindley C of E Primary School

Tushingam -with-Grindley C of E Primary School is a happy place to learn and work, and everyone has enjoyed being back together as the Tushingam family.

However, many families in the school community have experienced loss and sadness over the last few months and indeed the last year. Therefore, as a school they felt it would be right to create a simple art project that gave an opportunity for the school community to support one another and to demonstrate visually their vision statement **'Let us love one another, for love is from God.'** *1 John 4:7.*

Therefore, each child was asked to create a colourful heart, which are now displayed in the windows at the front of the school. Although no names are written, the children were encouraged to reflect, as they created the hearts, on family members they missed, as well as members of the school community who they knew who had experienced sadness in the last year.



Entitled 'The Hearts Project', the hope is that the resulting display will enable everyone to reflect as a school community and show tangibly their support and love for one another.

## Woodchurch C of E Primary



After months of preparation, Wednesday 23rd June 2021, was the day everyone welcomed Cressida Cowell to school to formally open the brand new, remodelled 'Gold Standard' library.

The magical space is where the books look like 'Sweeties in a sweetie shop rather than Brussel Sprouts' - Cressida.

The children had a magical experience that will stay with them for a long time.

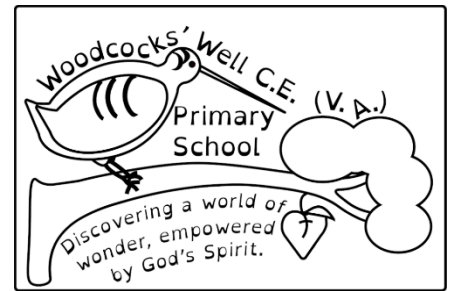


### Woodcock's Well C of E Primary

A member of the Ethos Council took inspiration from their reading book to organise a Climate Change Awareness week.

The whole team led Collective Worship and planned activities for every class, every day. The week ended with a presentation from every class about the work and issues that they had focussed on.

Year 4/5 demonstrated Goodness as they recently took part in a climate change competition, in which they had to think about how they could make a change to combat climate change. Their ideas were: meatless Mondays, a paper recycling machine for school and some children designed lesson plans for a 'switch it off day'.



### What does the Bible tell us?

#### God Asks Us to Take Care of His Creation

In the Bible, God commands man to look after the environment.

#### Genesis 1:26

"Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.'"