



### **Diocesan Director's Update - Advent Newsletter 2015**

17th December 2015

Dear Colleague

On behalf of the Diocesan Board of Education and the Education Team, I would like to thank you for your leadership of your Church school over the past year. Your hard work and commitment to providing high standards of Christian education and serving your local community is greatly appreciated by the diocese.

### **Diocesan Schools Leadership Conference - Baroness Estelle Morris**

We are delighted to confirm two keynote speakers for our Leadership Conference in Friday 4th March:

- Baroness Estelle Morris - former Secretary of State for Education**
- Ian Rose - Paralympic Medallist & Judo World Champion**

'Early-Bird' Booking for the conference is now open with delegate places available at a reduced price of £100 (ex VAT) until 25th January. You can download a conference booking form below.

### **Foundation Governors & Clerks Annual Briefing Event**

Please pass on our thanks to your Foundation Governors and Clerks who attended this

event in November. It was very good to see so many governors attend the briefing. The slides from the presentation are available to download at the bottom of this newsletter.

### **Heads & Chairs Briefings - 28th & 29th January 2016**

The dates for next term's briefings are now confirmed as:

- **Thursday 28th January, 8.30am - Holiday Inn, Wrotham, Sevenoaks**
- **Friday 29th January, 1.30pm - Diocesan Offices, Rochester**

Please contact Teresa Spearink at the Diocesan Offices to book a place.

### **Church Schools Celebration Days - 14/15/16/17th June 2016**

We are very pleased to be able to announce that we will be able to host a series of 'new style' celebration days in 2016 in Rochester Cathedral.

This year some new changes will be introduced including:

- Schools will be invited from different geographical areas of the diocese to reflect the local initiatives already developed
- The format and emphasis of the day will be different with a range of activities focused on preparing the children for worship and participation in the Eucharist service in the afternoon
- Due to reduced numbers, schools will be invited on a 'rotation basis over a 2-3 year period in order to give every Church an opportunity to attend over this timescale - the Celebration Days will only be offered to Year 6 pupils

### **Foundation Governors Induction Training - 25th January 2016**

The next session for newly appointed Foundation Governors takes place on Monday 25th January starting at 4.30pm at the Diocesan Offices in Rochester. This is a good opportunity for new governors to explore and understand their roles and responsibilities as a Foundation Governor. The session is free to attend but we ask that you book a place with Teresa Spearink.

### **Childrens Road Safety Campaign**

One of our Church primary schools in Bexley, Christ Church Erith, is running a campaign to improve road safety outside schools. If you would like to support this online petition, details can be found here: <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/113570>

## **The Queen's 90th Birthday Celebration - National Society Competition**

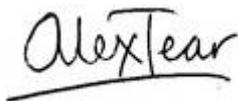
The National Society are running a competition for Church schools to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday celebration on 10-12th June.

To help promote Church schools have been invited to design a logo to be used for all the publicity surrounding these national Church of England celebrations which will communicate the link between church, schools and the birthday celebrations.

Logos designs should fit an A4 page with the name of the school written clearly on the back with contact details. For further details contact Jemma Adams at the National Society: [jemma.adams@churchofengland.org](mailto:jemma.adams@churchofengland.org)

It goes without saying that it would be fantastic if a Rochester Diocesan school was chosen for the winning design!

With warm wishes for a peaceful Christmas and New Year.



**Alex Tear**  
Director of Education

[Foundation Governor Annual Briefing - Presentation](#)

[Diocesan Schools Leadership Conference 2016 - Booking form](#)

[Diocesan Calendar of Events 2015/16](#)



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