

## Director's Jottings


### New Bishop of Huntingdon

The identity of the new Bishop of Huntingdon was revealed on Monday and it was a delight to greet once again a person whose company I had last enjoyed some thirty years ago when we overlapped for a year at college in Cambridge!



"Long time no See!"  
Tim Elbourne greets the new Bishop of Huntingdon, Dr David Thomson

The Ven Dr David Thomson is currently Archdeacon of Carlisle and Residentiary Canon of the Cathedral and will be consecrated in Southwark Cathedral on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Dr Thomson, married to Jean and a father-of-four, grew up in Sheffield, and is a graduate of Keble College Oxford where he completed a doctorate. After graduating he taught at a college before going to Cambridge to read theology and train for ordination at Selwyn College and Westcott House. David is no stranger to church schools after a varied parish ministry that has taken him to Maltby in S. Yorkshire, Banbury in Oxfordshire and Cockermouth in Cumbria.



A number of our schools in East and South Cambridgeshire are adjacent to schools in Suffolk affected by forthcoming re-organisation.

There will be a Consultation and Information Meeting for the heads and chairs of the nearby church schools of this Diocese on 23rd June at 4pm at Swaffham Bulbeck CofE Primary School.



John Cox, Director of Education for our neighbouring diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich writes:

The Ven John Cox Following a lengthy consultation process, Suffolk County Council decided in 2007 that in future all of its schools should be in a two tier system. In a County where nearly half of its schools operate in a three tier system, this decision is to have a very significant effect on the education of thousands of children.

It was always realised that such a major reorganisation would be impossible to achieve in one go. The process is therefore being undertaken in three phases. The Forest Heath area around Newmarket and Mildenhall is in the second phase. A stakeholders' group is currently producing various ideas of how schools might best be organised in the area without the existing Middle Schools. The main options will then be open to public consultation in the autumn. Among ideas being explored is the creation of a church secondary school in the area, providing a choice to those parents who wish to have their children attend a church school and who are not able to avail themselves of the church schools in Cambridge and Bury St Edmunds.

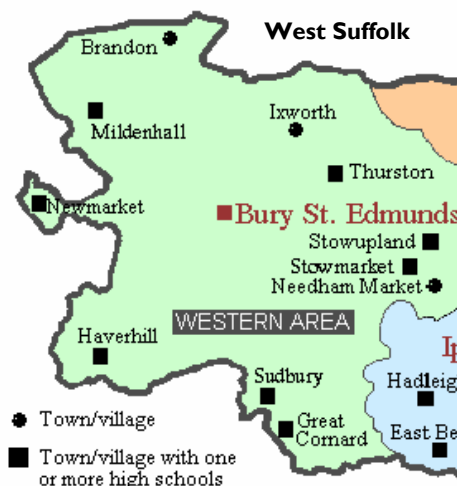
All this will inevitably have some impact on schools in the areas most immediately bordering Suffolk although it is not easy to predict exactly how pupil numbers in the various schools either side of the border will be affected. The driving consideration throughout the reorganisation has been the desire to raise standards across the county.

### New School Competitions

The Diocesan Board of Education has resolved to enter the competitions to establish the secondary school and first primary school in Northstowe.

The bids must be submitted by the last week of June. The Board's secondary school offer will be for Cambridgeshire's first Academy and is being prepared in partnership with Edison Schools. At the heart of the offer will be a combination of innovation and rootedness, designed to contribute positively to the cohesion of the whole community as it gradually establishes itself.

### Suffolk Re-organisation



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The Schools Bulletin is published fortnightly in term. We are pleased to publish news and notices. Please send details and pictures (.jpeg) and we will try to include them. Send to: [debbie.jordan@ely.anglican.org](mailto:debbie.jordan@ely.anglican.org)

### *A Taste of France*



Village primary school children had a taste of France with a day dedicated to learning more about the country and its culture.

Nearly 100 pupils at Cheveley Church of England Primary School joined in with teachers and staff.



**Pupils enjoy the French cuisine**

The youngsters ran their own French café with Year 6 pupils as the waiters and waitresses.

French bread and cheese was supplied locally.

Pupils also had the chance to paint pictures in the style of French artist Georges

Seurat who is know for this pointillism—dotting—technique.

French teacher Corrine Blandin, who runs a French club at the school called Petit Appetit helped to organise the day.

Julie Zak, Headteacher said “The children were very enthusiastic and enjoyed practising their French—particularly in the café.

The idea of the day was to experience the culture of France and understand more about the country”.



### *Farcet Church of England Primary School*

These beautiful banners were created by Farcet Church of England School. The initial idea for the banners was to create something which marked the school's close association with St Mary's Church.



A competition was launched in 2006 where each child drew a picture for a design to illustrate a favourite Old Testament story. Each class had a different story to illustrate.

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The school's art coordinator picked out the designs that lent themselves to interpretation in fabrics and stitches and laid them out with the help of the designers. Large pieces were glued in place and then began the long and challenging task of adding stitches and additional smaller details.



This was a true community effort with help provided by ladies of the community, including the headteacher's mother! In parts this was difficult sewing – some areas are very thick and required good muscle power!



However, the ladies worked with the children so that by the time each hanging was completed every child had added at least one stitch to the finished work.

On completion the wall hangings then developed a life of their own! They formed part of a display of local school's work at Peterborough Cathedral, where they looked very fine and were enjoyed by many.



Their next port of call was to be on display in St Ives at the launch of the new Cambridgeshire syllabus for RE.

There was then a special service at the Church where Father David blessed the hangings and shared them with school families. Eventually, following some later work to add waterproof backing (just in case!) the banners were hung in their final positions.

They look wonderful and brighten the Church as some of the sparkly threads catch the light. During a service at St Mary's it is lovely to be surrounded by the hard work, love and affection that went into their production.



## From the Schools Team

### *Award Helps Breakdown Religious Prejudices*

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough schools have won £5000 to engage in inter-faith dialogue, understanding each other's cultures and work to break down prejudices and ignorance about other religions and cultures.

The money comes from NASACRE – the National Association of Standing Councils for Religious Education – and will help children from six small, rural primary schools in Cambridgeshire work with pupils from two large city primary schools in Peterborough.



The award will help create webcam links between the schools to create opportunities for children to talk to others from different races, creeds and social backgrounds, to encourage mutual respect and understanding of each other's cultures and beliefs. The bid was put together by Sue Ward, Religious Education Advisor for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough SACRE and Dennis Marshall from St. Anne's C of E Primary School.

It is hoped to produce a DVD, with the pupils involved in much of the selection of materials, videoing, interviewing and raising questions about religious beliefs and practices, alongside examining each other's lifestyles, assessing how their differing backgrounds impact on values and beliefs. The DVD – which will be made by children for children about the things that interest them – will be a teaching and

learning resource for other schools in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and possibly further afield. The project will also include exchange visits to each other's schools, letter writing and e-mailing, together with on-going video conferencing through the schools' ICT departments. The community will also benefit, as parents and children will understand various religions, creeds and practices better, thus working towards cementing community cohesion and respect for the county's rich and diverse population.

Coun Tony Orgee, Chair of Cambridgeshire SACRE and Chairman of Cambridgeshire County Council said: "We are delighted with this award, and my congratulations to those who put the successful bid together.

"Headteachers from a cluster of small, isolated, rural primary schools identified a need for their children to have the opportunity to meet and engage in dialogue with children and adults from different cultural and religious backgrounds, to break down prejudices about people who are perceived to be different.

"In recent times, headteachers have reported more parental fears being passed onto their children and encouraging negative attitudes towards people of different ethnic and religious backgrounds, particularly Islam. This innovative and exciting project will go a long way towards breaking down those barriers."

### *"Christian Assemblies" - Optimus Education*



Many schools locally purchased a copy of the bestselling "Christian Assemblies" folder from Optimus Education several years ago – you will be pleased to hear that volume two is now available. The folder is a collection of 40 complete acts of worship around ten significant times in the Christian calendar, including Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Holy Week and Pentecost. Each section contains four acts of collective worship (two whole school, KSI & KS2).

The worship is set in an Anglican framework, with liturgical greetings and a strong Biblical base, the worship also encourages pupil participation. The acts of worship are particularly appropriate for church schools, as they were written by a team of Diocesan Advisers and church school Headteachers.

#### **Special Offer!**

As Shirley is one of the contributors, schools in Ely Diocese can purchase Christian Assemblies II at the special offer price of £41 (a saving of £18). We have placed a copy of the special offer order form on line if you wish to take advantage of this.

Log on to: <http://www.ely.anglican.org/education/schools/08DCADlowres.pdf.pdf>

## For Governors

### **Welcome to newly appointed Foundation Governors**

New (or re-appointed) Foundation Governors:-

- ◆ Anne Ugur – Barton CE Primary School
- ◆ Cathy Martin – Barton CE Primary School
- ◆ Janice Hawkins – St Paul's CE Primary School

May I ask all Clerks to keep a check on the **terms of office**

of all Foundation Governors and advise me of any re-appointments.

Thank you,

**Debbie**



## Hellos and Goodbyes



**Alex Hope** has been appointed as the new Deputy Head at William de Yaxley Primary School

## The Back Page



## Dates for the Diary

### In our Prayers over the next month



Day	School
5th June 2008	Hilgay CE Primary School
9th June 2008	St John's CE Primary School, Huntingdon
18th June 2008	Marshland St James CE Primary School

### Vacancies

SCHOOL	VACANCY	CLOSING DATE
Bourn CE Primary	PE Teacher	17.6.08
Sutton CE Primary	KS2 Class Teacher	13.6.08
Park Street CE Primary	KS1 Class Teacher	12.6.08
Oakington CE Primary School	Acting Headteacher	16.6.08
Barrington CE Primary School	KS1 Class Teacher	6.6.08
Swaffham Prior CE Primary School	KS2 Class Teacher	12.6.08
Duxford CE Primary School	Lower KS2 Class Teacher	9.6.08
St Bedes Inter-Church Comprehensive School	History Teacher	9.6.08
Elton CE Primary School	KS2 Class Teacher	6.6.08
Barrington CE Primary School	Acting Headteacher	12.6.08
William Marshall CE Primary School, Welney	Headteacher	16.6.08

Contact details for all schools can be found on our website:  
[www.ely.anglican.org/education/schools/Info/Sch](http://www.ely.anglican.org/education/schools/Info/Sch)

RE Meeting— "Learning from Religion"	5th June 4pm- 5.30pm	Farcet School, Nr. Peterborough
RE Meeting— "Learning from Religion"	11th June 4pm- 5.30pm	Thriplow School
RE Meeting— "Learning from Religion"	18th June 4pm- 5.30pm	All Saints School, March
RE Meeting— "Learning from Religion"	19th June 4pm- 5.30pm	Wormegay School, West Norfolk
Consultation Meeting about West Suffolk School Re- organisation	23rd June 4pm	Swaffham Bulbeck CE Primary School
RE Meeting— "Learning from Religion"	26th June 4pm- 5.30pm	Linton Infants School
Headteachers' Conference	14th July 1.45pm- 5.15pm	Bishop Woodford House
Church Schools Garden Party	14th July 6pm- 8pm	Bishop Woodford House Gardens

### SIAS Reports

Inspection Reports (Ofsted and Statutory Church School Inspection) were published recently for the following schools:

#### Teversham CE Primary School

These Inspection Reports can be read directly via the link on our website. Click on:

**"Information about Individual Schools" on the Education or Schools homepages**

We're on the web!

[www.ely.anglican.org/  
education](http://www.ely.anglican.org/education)