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.

**Ascension Day & Thy Kingdom Come**

This Thursday is Ascension Day, and it marks the beginning of Thy Kingdom Come 2022.  Resources are available from: [Cheeky Pandas | Thy Kingdom Come](https://www.thykingdomcome.global/cheekypandas), [Youth | Thy Kingdom Come](https://www.thykingdomcome.global/youth) and [Videos | Thy Kingdom Come](https://www.thykingdomcome.global/videos).

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

In the spirit of the Starship Enterprise, the last session of our conference will boldly go where we have never gone before at a conference.  Chris Whittington will lead an experiential workshop, introducing you to meditation in the Christian tradition, as a simple and radically effective path to greater peace, wellbeing and community.  It will be a very chilled and unobtrusive experience, which could be just the tonic you need, so do stay with us until the end of the conference.  Chris Whittington is the founder of the School of Contemplative Life. He was introduced to meditation at the age of 19, during a period of formation at a Benedictine monastery, after which he studied at the Dalai Lama’s monastery in India.  Chris regularly delivers talks, workshops and training across the UK, and has introduced meditation to the leaders and staff of hundreds of schools. Chris is also Head of Education Law at Anthony Collins Solicitors, a unique social purpose law firm working with schools, academies and dioceses across the country.

**Annual Service of Dedication and Thanksgiving for All Diocesan Schools at Peterborough Cathedral – 29th September, 2.00pm**

I am delighted to be able to announce that the Rt Revd Donald Allister, Bishop of Peterborough, will be the speaker at our Annual Service of Thanksgiving and Dedication for all Diocesan Schools on 29th September at Peterborough Cathedral.  Primary schools are welcome to bring a whole KS2 year group or two year groups if you have two year groups in one class.  Secondary schools are welcome to bring the equivalent of about one class, whether that be all your student leaders, a cohort of Pupil Premium students or another group of your choosing.  We would encourage small schools to explore whether you might be able to share coach travel.  Seats can booked via education@peterborough-diocese.org.uk.

**SLA Training Courses Coming Up Soon**

***Non-religion world views for KS1 and KS2 Tuesday 7 June 2022 9.00am – 12.00pm led by Lat Blaylock, via Zoom***

Ideas for great learning and progress: Non-religion world views including Humanism.

***Managing Challenging Conversations Thursday 9 June 2022 10.30am – 3.00pm led by Definitely HR, at Bouverie Court, including lunch***

When, how and why to have a difficult conversation.  The session will provide the skills you need and improve your communication and listening skills.

***Safeguarding for Governors Monday 13 June 6.30pm – 8.30pm led by Peter French, via Zoom***

What is meant by safeguarding in school for new governors or for those who have not received training in recent years.

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

**Queen’s Jubilee Resource**

Katie Harrison from Picture News has been in touch to share the attached PP resource which can be used for collective worship with a whole school or in classes (KS1 and KS2), and which would also make a great interactive display!

***Story*:**2022 marks 70 years of Queen Elizabeth II’s service and Buckingham Palace has revealed the celebration line-up marking the Platinum Jubilee that will occur during June’s four-day Bank Holiday weekend.

***Question*:**How important is it for us to have a sense of duty?

***Picture News virtual assembly*:** [www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://lkxyzt8p.r.eu-west-2.awstrack.me/L0/http%3A//www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss/1/010b0180e14d2c51-717e715e-5d84-41f8-8942-5f49020c775c-000000/Xoo3rwq4qef7uGt7ctPNGKZqhgU%3D55).  This could provide the basis for further educational activities, suggested in the recording, and be framed within a time of collective worship, with a word of welcome and introduction at the beginning, singing the National Anthem ([National Anthem: United Kingdom - God Save the Queen [Remastered] - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xm7CZvvsC64) ), after the Picture News item, and then having a time of reflection and prayer.

**Time for Recreation & Creation**

I hope you have a great half-term holiday, a well-deserved break and some time for recreation and creation.  With this happy prospect in view, may I share with you this reflection from the writer and speaker J John on creativity…

*‘Creativity is not as honoured as it ought to be. It can be seen as a threat, both by cynics who sneer that nothing will change, and by conformists who command that nothing must change.*

*And because creativity is a delicate flower that needs light, space and encouragement it is all too easily suffocated.*

*There are at least two good reasons why we should encourage creativity. The first is this: the opening page of the Bible which tells how God created the universe also states that human beings are made in God’s image. Being creative must therefore be part of what it means to be human ... a gift from God.*

*The second reason is much more down-to-earth. The history of the human race is largely that of creativity: without it we would still be wearing skins and shivering in caves. The mind once stretched by a new idea can never return to its original dimensions.*

*An essential part of creativity is not being afraid to fail, to allow ourselves to make mistakes and to learn from them. So let’s step out and be courageous in our own creativity, and encourage others on their creative journey.’*

**A Prayer**

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

*God our redeemer,*

*you have delivered us from the power of darkness*

*and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:*

*grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life,*

*so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy;*

*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**

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