Dear Headteachers, Executive Headteachers, CEOs, Consultants, Chaplains, Directors, Chairs of Governors, Vice Chairs of Governors and Foundation Governors

**Headteachers’ Conference – Happiness, Wellbeing, Resilience, Growing and Flourishing**

It was great to see so many of you at last week’s conference.  Further to all conference delegates receiving the Zoom recordings and slides on Friday, may I advise all Gold SLA schools that these are all now available to you, on request from Alex via [education@peterborough-diocese.org.uk](mailto:education@peterborough-diocese.org.uk).

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

Seats are going fast!  To be sure of securing seats for staff, governors and pupils in your schools, please contact Alex via [education@peterborough-diocese.org.uk](mailto:education@peterborough-diocese.org.uk).  Seats are being allocated on a ‘first come first served’ basis.

**Free Zoom Webinars Open to All**

***20th June 4.00-4.40pm Lyfta – Enhancing your curriculum with rich and diverse human stories from around the world***

This first [Lyfta](https://www.lyfta.com/) webinar with Serdar Ferit is for all Headteachers.  Lyfta invites students to explore real homes, workplaces and environments, and to get to know people from around the world through powerful and inspiring short films.  It is an impactful and captivating way for students to experience human diversity, and for teachers to nurture the vital skills and values children will need to thrive in our changing world.  To register, go to [lyfta.com/cofe](https://mailtrack.io/trace/link/f11bff3d5235f3233815b1b6016aedc30ad0cb91?url=https%3A%2F%2Flyfta.com%2Fcofe&userId=2680422&signature=4c9dbdf4e2991fc7).

***23rd June 4.00-5.00pm Raising Literacy Standards***

We would like to invite you to a free webinar that we’ll be hosting this term on raising literacy standards with [Clicker](http://www.cricksoft.com/clicker), a child-friendly word processor.  Hailed as ‘the gold standard of literacy software’, Clicker is used in thousands of schools around the globe to support children of all abilities, including children with special educational needs, reluctant writers and pupils learning English as an additional language.  To find out how Clicker will boost writing attainment and enjoyment across your school, please join Phil Hackett at our free webinar, exclusively for Peterborough Diocese Church Schools. [Sign up here](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_xvJk9x14Sn2o4v--_VX1lw).

***27th June 4.00-4.40pm Lyfta – Enhancing your curriculum with rich and diverse human stories from around the world***

This second [Lyfta](https://www.lyfta.com/) webinar with Serdar Ferit is for MAT CEOs.  Lyfta invites students to explore real homes, workplaces and environments, and to get to know people from around the world through powerful and inspiring short films.  It is an impactful and captivating way for students to experience human diversity, and for teachers to nurture the vital skills and values children will need to thrive in our changing world.

***29th June 4.00-4.40pm Showbie***

From assignments to collaboration, Showbie helps you bring your classroom together in one simple, easy to use app. For further details, please see [Showbie – Your classroom, connected.](https://www.showbie.com/)  Zoom link details will be emailed to all Headteachers in due course.

**SLA Training**

***Balanced RE:  Knowledge in the RE Curriculum 9.30am – 3.30pm, Tuesday 28 June*** *at Hayfield Cross CE Primary School, Hayfield Crescent, Kettering NN15 5FJ.*

This will be led by Gillian Georgiou and she writes: *‘Rooted in both the expectations of the Church of England Education Office and Ofsted, this session will explore the different types of knowledge developed through the RE curriculum.  It will engage with the latest thinking on teaching religion and worldviews and provide practical opportunities for curriculum design and assessing pupil progress in RE.  It will not only benefit RE Leads but will also be beneficial for other teachers of RE.’*  Gillian Georgiou is the Diocesan RE Adviser for the Lincoln Diocesan Board of Education. She is the co-author of the Balanced RE approach and is currently leading one of three teams nationwide to develop an RE framework based on the draft National Statement of Entitlement produced by the RE Council of England and Wales.

***Roles & Responsibilities of Church School Governors,*** *Wednesday 29 June 6.30pm – 8.30pm with Peter French via Zoom*

Peter is Deputy Diocesan Director of Education in Peterborough Diocese, following on from many years of service in Birmingham Diocese as Assistant Diocesan Director of Education.  Peter is also a NGA (National Leader of Governance), with extensive experience as a Chair of Governors and MAT Director, and he will lead you through the roles and responsibilities of being a Church of England school governor with panache, insight, encouragement and advice.

This is an essential session for all new Church of England Foundation Governors and for Foundation Governors who have completed four years of service and who now need to update and refresh their training; at the same time providing a valuable opportunity for experienced Foundation Governors to pass on the benefits of their experience to new Foundation Governors.

**DfE Funded Wifi Refresh**

Scott Bayley ([scott.bayley@stonegroup.co.uk](mailto:scott.bayley@stonegroup.co.uk)) from Stone Group has been in touch to say…  *‘Just reaching out to you to introduce myself as your dedicated contact here at Stone technologies Ltd, we are a full circular IT provider from manufacturer to Repair Centre and also ITAD (in house NOT 3rd Party).*

*I would also like to bring your attention to some Funding available from DfE for a brand new Wifi 6 Wireless refitting which you may be eligible for.*

*Please read the below and check your correspondence from DfE in case your schools are in the of the chosen few to benefit Primary Schools are receiving between £25,000 and £35,000 of funding, with Secondary and 6th Form establishments in receipt of £70,000 up to £160,000.*

*At Stone Group working with Cisco Meraki, we ‘Connect your Classroom’ with a robust / future-proof wireless infrastructure (Wi-Fi 6) which will meet the needs of Teachers and students alike and is supported over a 10-year period.*

*From initial design to implementation, the Connect the Classroom project is Managed by Stone’s in-house team to deliver an enterprise grade solution that will make a real difference to teaching & learning.*

[*https://www.stonegroup.co.uk/connect-the-classroom/*](https://www.stonegroup.co.uk/connect-the-classroom/)

*We also Performed an online Webinar with a guest speaker from one of our trusts who have had 10 such projects approved with ourselves at Stone, please take a look…* [*https://vimeo.com/719023014/82dc44ef26*](https://vimeo.com/719023014/82dc44ef26)

*What to do next?*

*Once you’ve had your funding approved in principle, so now it’s time to take the next steps to a connected classroom.*

*Complete the form at the top of this page to request a quote from our dedicated school’s team who can discuss your projects requirements in further detail.*

*Digest and send our specially curated quote to your DfE IT Adviser to carry out quality & specification compliance checks and ensure the design proposed by Stone and Cisco Meraki represents value for money.*

*Once this is project is approved by the DfE, you can choose your supplier. Our school’s team will then work with you to complete your order.*

*Our dedicated installation and support team will then take over, who will be professionally delivering your project, including a full site survey to finalise your design, acceptance testing and support from our internal teams.*

*Why work with Stone?*

* *Proven track record of Connect the Classroom*
* *Staffordshire based support team*
* *Dedicated Account Manager*
* *Cisco Meraki Premier Partner*
* *30 Years of Education experience*

*We have an abundance of reference site schools that i can happily put you in contact with from a small primary school securing £30k funding to a large secondary who secured £180K for their future-proof wireless infrastructure.’*

Some further details about Stone Group are attached.

**A Cost Free and Innovative Sustainability Solution for your School from Zellar**

Zellar is currently developing a ground-breaking approach for school communities, consolidating thinking and conversations, bringing everyone together with one focus to be more sustainable as a community and track their journey with data to show all stakeholders.  40 pioneering case study schools are currently being on-boarded and will be fully up and running by December:   
  
The Mead Education Trust Leicester   
The Rutland Learning Trust  
Uppingham Community College   
Oaklands Special School Leicester   
Oakham School   
Brooke Hill Academy Trust   
Evolve Church Academy Trust  
Innovate Multi Academy Trust  
Brooke Priory Prep School Oakham

If you would like to be part of the next wave of case studies in January, please sign up for one of the introductory webinars on 4th, 12th and 13th July.  Further details will follow in a separate email to headteachers and MAT CEOs later today.

**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.

**Croughton Church of England Primary School Headship**

Following Helen Goulder’s long and distinguished career, and forthcoming retirement, Croughton Church of England Primary School are now in the process of recruiting a new Headteacher for January.  Further details are attached.

**William Law Church of England Primary School**

I was delighted to visit William Law recently.  William Law is our largest primary school, located in Peterborough, and is now part of PDET.  Darren Epton-Smith, the Headteacher of William Law CE Primary School, has kindly shared a few details about his school, which I’m sure you will find interesting…

*‘William Law CE Primary school is located in Peterborough, to the north of the city in the suburb of Werrington.  The school first opened in 1987 and then expanded further in 2000 to become a 3-form entry primary school with an admission number of 630 pupils. This is one of the larger primary schools within the diocese.  In 2014, the school became a stand-alone academy and in June 2021 joined Peterborough Diocese Education Trust.  An unusual characteristic of the school is that it shares the school hall with Emmanuel Church as part of the parish of Werrington. This lends itself to strong church and school relationships.*

*The school’s vision is rooted in the Bible, ‘Jesus taught us to be like him as He is The Way, the Truth and the Life,’ (John 14 v6). This permeates through everything the school tries to achieve and applies to all who attend the school including adults.  The ethos of the school is tangible in the relationships observed between children and adults, the engagement in learning and the support that is offered for families.  At William Law we commit to “Learning, Living and Loving Together”.*

*The school was named after a local Christian scholar named William Law.  William Law, King’s Cliffe’s most distinguished son, was born in the village in 1686; son of the grocer, Thomas Law.  He was a fellow of Emmanuel College, Cambridge and took Holy Orders, but had to resign his Fellowship as he felt it wrong to take the Oath of Allegiance to George I.  He then became a leading “Non-Juror”.*

*William Law was an important theologian whose major work “A Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life” is still read today.*

*He retired to King’s Cliffe in 1740 – to the house that is now Hall Farm in Hall Yard – and established charitable foundations including schools and almshouses.  He died in 1761 and is buried in the Churchyard, overlooking Hall Yard.  His library of works is in the Northamptonshire Public Records Office and contains 187 books.*

*A project that the school has embarked on over the last two years jointly with the church, is the Growing Faith initiative supported by the Church of England. The principles behind the initiative are to create stronger links between church, school and families. The initial working group consisted of the Associate Vicar, Deputy Headteacher, Church Youth Worker and a parent of a child, who came to the school and was also part of church. Overtime, this has grown to include other members such as a member of the PCC, youth ministry team and an outreach worker for the church. The children and the school have already benefitted from a joint prayer space in the form of the ‘prayer tree.’ Around the tree prayer from the congregation and the pupils in school have been said, thought and shared regarding God’s presence in the natural world and our everyday lives but also for Ukraine. Unfortunately, due to covid, lots of our plans were put on hold, but in the next academic year there are plans for the vicar to attend EYFS induction events to inform parents about the church and school partnership, run a messy church club and for the school to participate in Education Sunday as part of the worship in Emmanuel. Working together has made us stronger together and supported pupils’ Christian education at the school.’*

**Thought for the Week**

May I share with you these wise, courageous and encouraging words from Mother Teresa, as you approach the week ahead…

*‘People are often unreasonable and self-centred.  Forgive them anyway.  If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives.  Be kind anyway. If you are honest, people may cheat you.  Be honest anyway.  If you find happiness, people may be jealous.  Be happy anyway.  The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow.  Do good anyway.  Give the world the best you have and it may never be enough.  Give your best anyway.  For you see, in the end, it is between you and God.  It was never between you and them anyway.’*

**Prayer**

Finally, may I share with you a lovely prayer for fathers, past, present and future, from this Sunday…

*Heavenly Father,  
We ask You to bless our earthly fathers  
for the many times they reflected the love, strength, generosity, wisdom and mercy that You exemplify in Your relationship with us, Your children.  
  
We honour our fathers for putting our needs above their own convenience and comfort;  
for teaching us to show courage and determination in the face of adversity;  
for challenging us to move beyond self-limiting boundaries;  
for modelling the qualities that would turn us into responsible, principled, caring adults.  
  
Not all our fathers lived up to these ideals.  
Give them the grace to acknowledge and learn from their mistakes.  
Give us the grace to extend to them the same forgiveness that you offer us all.  
Help us to resist the urge to stay stuck in past bitterness,  
instead, moving forward with humility and peace of heart.  
  
We ask your blessing on those men who served  
as father figures in our lives,  
when our biological fathers weren't able to do so.  
May the love and selflessness they showed us  
be returned to them in all their relationships,  
and help them to know that their influence  
has changed us for the better.  
  
Give new and future fathers the guidance they need  
to raise happy and holy children,  
grounded in a love for God and other people -  
and remind these fathers that treating their wives  
with dignity, compassion and respect is  
one of the greatest gifts they can give their children.  
  
We pray that our fathers who have passed into the next life  
have been welcomed into Your loving embrace,**and that our family will one be day be reunited in your heavenly kingdom.  
  
In union with St Joseph,  
whom you entrusted with Your Son,  
we ask Your generous blessings today and every day.  Amen.*

Wishing you every blessing!

Peter

**Peter Cantley**

**Diocesan Director of Education, Diocese of Peterborough**

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