**To           :              Headteachers; Chairs of Governors; Foundation Governors; Ex-officio clergy; Deputy Headteachers; RE Coordinators**

(and please forward widely to your contacts & networks)

**From     :               Jeff Williams**

**Date      :               3rd May 2022**

**Re           :              Fortnightly bulletin and resources from the Diocesan Education Team**

Dear colleagues

That famous sage, wisdom-endowed and philosophical donkey, **Eeyore,** once said ‘A little consideration, a little thought for others, makes all the difference’.

Over the Easter break I enjoyed reading the autobiography of **David Nott ‘War Doctor** **– Surgery on the Front Line’.** For over twenty years David Nott has taken regular unpaid leave from his job as a general and vascular surgeon in the NHS to volunteer in what have been the world’s most dangerous war zones. He is widely acknowledged to be the most experienced trauma surgeon in the world, experience he now passes to surgeons from every continent so that they too can save lives threatened by bombs and bullets. Recently he was featured in the news. On returning from Ukraine, a local doctor who had met him needed to perform an operation he had never seen or attempted. David Nott was able to view the procedure live on the medic’s iPhone, and talk him through the details.

A truly amazing, compassionate humanitarian, his life has been at risk numerous times. I was particularly struck by his recounting of open-heart surgery on a bomb victim in Syria. He was about to attempt to stitch the aortic vein in a patient when six men, armed with **AK47s** barged into his make-shift surgery. They demanded he stop instantly, and it was clear that these **Isis** fighters would have killed him if they’d known his origins.

A local doctor supporting him managed to calm the situation, during which David began trembling then shaking. He was unable to thread the needle and says ‘It’s very rare that I speak to God or pray, but sometimes in life you just have to. I said to God – **I’m sorry God but you don’t know me very well, and I don’t speak to you that much, but can you please stop my hands shaking’.** He notes that ‘remarkably’ his hands did stop shaking, even though his legs continued to wobble beneath him. He was able to save the Isis fighter’s life, and further reflects on the moral dilemma – if he’d known who he was treating, and the probable further carnage and destruction that fighter would go on to cause, would he have continued. His answer was yes, and he ponders ‘Maybe one day that Isis fighter might realise I was a Christian and had no malice against him and saved his life’. It’s an interesting philosophical but also pragmatic moral and ethical dilemma that may not face you or I, but is worth pondering.

The thing that kept coming back to me though was how amazing it must be to literally save hundreds of lives, and to be so impactful. Such thoughts humbled me as to how little I am achieving in his shadow. However, I remembered our diocesan project of a few years ago **‘Everyday Heroes’** – and indeed, the same theme that came through the headlines during the lockdowns.

I guess many of us don’t have a massive skill-set to match David Nott, or have such immediate impact, particularly in life-threatening dangerous contexts. However, I at least, take heart from Eeyore’s words above. **A.A.Milne** did not speak on matters religious, but we see in his works numerous references to God and how his own writing was influenced by Christian teaching. I’d like to think that somewhere, ‘The Golden Rule’ from Matthew Chapter 7 verse 12 may have crept into Eeyore’s brain and experience, reworded above, and might be a Gospel precept we can each display today at some point : **‘In everything, do to others what you would have them do to you’**

With best wishes for all you do, and who you are in your places of presence.

**Jeff**

**Summer Term - Briefings :** will be online, evening, afternoon and morning, to maximise engagement, and one in-person meeting. Agenda to follow. Please book an MS Teams invite with my pa Sam.powell@portsmouth.anglican.org Thank you.

**Wed 15 June evening  – 6pm online**

**Mon 20 June afternoon – 1.30pm online**

**Mon 27 June morning – 9.30am online**

**Thurs 30 June  – 2pm in person at St Katharine’s CofE Primary School, Rolls Drive, Southbourne, Bournemouth, BH6 4NA**

**Academisation Consultation Meetings :** further to my email with dates last week, we can now confirm the venues. It’s important that places are **booked in advance** – please contact my pa Sam.powell@portsmouth.anglican.org Thank you

**Monday 11th July,  10am-12pm, St Pauls Church, The Green, Tadley, Basingstoke, RG26 3PB**

**Wednesday 13th July, 10am-12pm – Cornerstone CofE School, Bader Way, Whiteley, Fareham, PO15 7JH**

**Wednesday 13th July, 2.30-4.30pm – St Barnabas Church, Fromond Road, Winchester SO22 6DS specific focus on Small Schools -** the most commonly used definition is ‘fewer than 210 = small school’ (i.e. smaller than one class of each year group) and ‘fewer than 105 = very small school’ (i.e. smaller than half a class of each year group). This is the definition which the CofE uses and the definition which the DfE seem to have last used in their guidance on academy funding.

**Wednesday 20th July 6pm-8pm – online**

**Thursday 21st July 6pm-8pm – online**

**Worship Resources –** attached are a series of Weather inspired and weather-related worship resources to complement our Ten Ten *#flourishing* booklet and focus. Great for all-school or classroom worship.

**Living Difference IV** The updated RE Agreed Syllabus for Hampshire, Southampton, Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight was launched at the end of 2021 and is available to download from the [HIAS RE website.](https://re.hias.hants.gov.uk/course/view.php?id=44)  If you missed any of the launch events, Hampshire are running a follow-up morning on 14th June, further details are available [here.](https://re.hias.hants.gov.uk/course/view.php?id=118) If you have missed any of the Diocesan training on the implications of LDIV for church schools, there will be a free on-line meeting on Thursday 12th May from 4:00 to 5:30. Please contact Jane Kelly for more information, or if you would like any support with updating your RE planning (Jane.Kelly@portsmouth.anglican.org) Please note that the new syllabus should be in place in schools by September 2022, but you should already have updated your website and policies to refer to Living Difference IV.

**Picture News** are offering a [free four-week trial](https://picture-news-online.co.uk/4-week-trial/) this half term for schools who would like to explore their resources. These have been updated to support church schools and each week’s materials are linked to Christian values and a relevant Bible verse or story. There is more information [here](https://www.picture-news.co.uk/).

**Chaplaincy : Toolkit I reminded colleagues at our Briefings that we have the endorsement and encouragement of both dioceses to promote and bless the development of Chaplaincy as an important role in our schools. I shared our thinking and work with you as part of our wider consultation last term. Please now consider how you might adopt, adopt or plan for this in your Governing Bodies and PCCs. Sue Bowen, Diocesan Education Advisor and I are supporting you with this work – please contact my PA** Sam.powell@portsmouth.anglican.org **if you’d appreciate a conversation, or a presentation & discussion with your PCC, FGB, Deanery, Parish Leadership Team or School Leadership Team. Attached is the ‘Toolkit’ I cited at the Termly Briefings, Clergy Breakfast Briefings, Area Deans’ Day, and other meetings. Feel free to share widely.**

**Global Neighbours** Congratulations to **Hordle CofE Primary School and St John’s CofE Primary School, Basingstoke**, who recently gained the Bronze Global Neighbours Award! We are delighted that **across all dioceses** - **Winchester Diocese is the only diocese so far to have 2 gold schools and also has the highest number of Global Neighbours schools overall – well done!!!!** This demonstrates our commitment to courageous advocacy in our schools. If you would like to find out more about how you can encourage your children to become agents of change, please visit the [Christian Aid Global Neighbours website](https://www.christianaid.org.uk/get-involved/schools/global-neighbours-accreditation-scheme), or contact Jane.Kelly@portsmouth.anglican.org who is happy to speak to your leadership team or staff meeting.

**Send My Friend to School** The CofE Education Office has always encouraged schools to support this charity, and they have a new campaign called [All My Friends Need Teachers.](https://sendmyfriend.org/?ecid=em__Education%20March%2022%20-%20Marketing%20-%207013Y000001zFwJQAU_981791_100014476_OxfamEducation__SalesForce-6f81d6f3-1c20-4b4f-8053-db9ebc2ac8b3_https%3A%2F%2Fwww.sendmyfriend.org___) Apparently **the world will need 69 million new teachers** if all children are to receive a decent education by the year 2030. You can download a resource pack by clicking on the link above.

**Platinum Jubilee - free resources  :** To celebrate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee and as part of ‘Thy Kingdom Come 2022’,  **500,000 free storybooks** for primary school children are available (incl free P&P). This small colourful book has a royal theme.  Orders can be placed at : <https://cheekypandas.com/free-book/>  Worship & assembly plans, activity packs, and take-home sheets are also available free. The book is linked to one of the **5 animated TV episodes** to resource children and families for this year’s ‘Thy Kingdom Come’. These programmes have been produced by BBC animators to help children and families grow in their faith and learn about the bible in a format that will engage them most at a critical age for faith formation. The TV series and accompanying resources will be released on [www.thykingdomcome.global/cheekypandas](https://url6.mailanyone.net/v1/?m=1nWYuP-0000FT-4k&i=57e1b682&c=wBj8YtrGYZEKwQXUExi3t-XK4L5P43w19eQoCHZqiO1tr0FfzcjjEtBOOUqMHaPw54_tEBZKYPX9HIpJjr7OsBVqETC5XeJumY8mam_GI8tyQc_iBFBJhkDt7nOAGCmdPOiwyNf6kqeWo4DiApwJWVBjNQHhUGjXn3CAuaLivIsZvDnf3mO4RPjUwS_jiLMn3SmrPJtvtzytsmDXvv0MmbAo5XN8WkvK46UXvLMzPLo) in time for Easter. [The Archbishop of York Youth Trust](https://www.archbishopofyorkyouthtrust.co.uk/projects/jubilee) has a Platinum Jubilee challenge for pupils in KS2 and KS3 to think about how they could make the world a better place in the next 70 years.  The [Platinum Jubilee website](https://www.theplatinumjubilee.com/learn/schools/) has resources for schools on themes such as spirituality, the environment and good neighbours. The Bible Society and Open The Book have a Jubilee Collective Worship called ‘The Queen who Chose to Serve’, which is  available [here.](https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/content/get_involved/open_the_book_2017/jubilee_competition/assembly_pdf_02.pdf)

Jeff Williams

Director of Education

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