**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      :               20th July 2022**

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

Dear colleagues

Let me drop you an ear-worm. Feel free to sing (out loud or in your head, whatever is appropriate!) Stevie Wonder’s song : I just called, to say, I ……………..

Meanwhile, two questions :

1. Is it acceptable for the newly appointed Under Secretary of State for Education, on leaving Number 10 Downing Street with news of her appointment to turn and use the offensive middle finger gesture to the media and bystanders, subsequently being seen with viral sharing on social and other media?
2. Is it acceptable for a Wimbledon men’s finalist to audibly use the ‘F’ word, and be seen repeatedly “f’ing” on camera during primetime scheduling, and daytime viewing in the UK and worldwide?

With family and friends, at the time and subsequently we’ve debated how such examples of behaviour and complete lack of awareness (or indeed, full awareness of) their behaviour being instantaneously seen by literally, millions and millions of people – including impressionable children and young people.

In the last Bulletin, I reflected on the Greek translations of the singular English word ‘Love’. Wimbledon was referenced then if you re-call, but with a little question about the difference between zero and love. It seems odd that in my last communication with you before the summer break, I reflect on hate – again with Greek references.

Oh, and by the way, if you haven’t made the connection between Stevie Wonder’s song ‘I just called, to say, I love you’ and my introduction of the word ‘hate’, you might like to listen to (or not, preferably) the song that is daily being played on the radio – Anne-Marie and Latto’s parody of Stevie Wonder’s music with their lyrics : I just called to say, I hate you……………

I don’t hate, in the English understanding of the word, Andrea Jenkyns (the Under Secretary of State for Education) or Nick Kyrgios (this year’s Wimbledon finalist)  or Anne-Marie and Latto (who use Stevie Wonder’s song with a different message) for their recent multi-million observed and heard behaviour/words. ‘Hate’ appears between 60 and 90 times in The Bible, depending on the translation and understanding. You may recall I mentioned last time that the various versions of the word Love appears 361 times. Hate can speak of a spectrum of different emotions, from intense hatred to simply loving something less than others. In Psalm 5 the word used for ‘hate’ means ‘to have an aversion, unwilling or unable to put up with; to dislike intensely. And here, God is in His perfect righteousness and holiness, unwilling to put up with evil.

So to my family, friends and colleagues who ‘hated’ Nick Kyrgios’ language, ‘hated’ Andrea Jenkyns’ gesture and ‘hated’ Anne-Marie & Latto’s twisting of Stevie Wonder’s song, I agree. Yes, I agree. I agree, using the translation of the word that I have a deep aversion to such behaviour and language, especially in front of impressionable children and young people.

Meanwhile in our schools and parishes, you daily live out and exemplify how love conquers evil, and how love overcomes hatred. Thank you.

As we approach the end of term, I hope your farewell and ending worship with your children, families and communities is blessed, and that you have a good break, rest and time of recuperation.

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

**Jeff**

**Invitation from Jeff, Catherine and Peter : Large Scale Art Installation at Winchester Cathedral**

I’m delighted to be working with Catherine Ogle, Dean of Winchester and Peter Walker, artist-sculptor and am keen to promote a new and exciting large-scale art project. We encourage and warmly invite your CofE or Community school to take part.

**Light of Hope** is a **mass participation project** that will invite messages of hope from across the region. The project will culminate in what will be a stunning **temporary installation of The Light of Hope Star inside Winchester Cathedral** next year. I’ll be sending details of services and live stream viewing of the Star, but importantly will also be delighted if many of you will be there with your families and friends in person.

**To get involved :** please email me and copy my pa Sam.powell@portsmouth.anglican.org in a fresh email with Light of Hope in the subject line, and we will provide **FREE digital resources** for use anytime in the Autumn Term, including a full education pack with supporting materials and guidance.

Using the resources, we’d like your pupils and students to create their own simple Light of Hope and decorate it with a message or drawing. Once completed we’d like you to use your students’ Lights to create a display in your school setting, photograph the display and share it with us to join the celebration.

This is a great opportunity as well for parishes to engage with children and young people in creating the Light of Hope.

Have fun, and be part of a project that will involve lots of people and organisations. To see some of Peter’s spectacular projects please visit [www.peterwalkersculptor.com](http://www.peterwalkersculptor.com)

**Celebration Edition Newsletter & Photographs : Ten Ten *#flourishing***

Attached is our Celebration Edition newsletter capturing some of the ways our schools engaged in our 2023 Project and the Year 6 leavers’ Days at the cathedrals. The stories and large number of photos are well- worth a look – do please share! The attached is also on our websites at : <https://www.winchester.anglican.org/education-and-schools/newsletters/>   and  <https://www.portsmouth.anglican.org/education/newsletters/> Don’t forget the project booklet contains lots of ideas you can continue to use – this can be found at : <https://www.winchester.anglican.org/education-and-schools/resources/projects/>    and         <https://www.portsmouth.anglican.org/education/resources/projects/>

**The Dirt is Good Schools Programme  : FREE!**

[The Dirt Is Good Schools Programme](https://url6.mailanyone.net/scanner?m=1oBY9D-0009xx-3t&d=3%7Cmail%2F14%2F1657702200%2F1oBY9D-0009xx-3t%7Cin6l%7C57e1b682%7C11094928%7C7440907%7C62CE886BE5B8B74C802B73BB24D5EF7C&s=PvhpEiJBnhQXPvT9FyWajwDTvck&o=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.dirtisgoodproject.com%2Fuk%2Fabout) is a free programme which empowers students aged 7-14 to unite in compassion and get stuck in on the social and environmental causes they care about. The purpose is to help young people to overcome the *mis*perception that it is unusual to be the person who cares about social and environmental issues. By championing compassionate values and enabling collective action, Dirt Is Good helps students grow into confident Changemakers, empowering them to play their role in making a difference for a better world. Throughout the programme, students, as Changemakers, will explore and identify their values, before uniting with their peers to create a project that aligns with their interests and one of more of the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals. The programme really is all about connecting young people across the globe, by showing them that local action has a global impact. Alongside developing a student body of compassionate Changemakers, teachers will also receive a framework of sessions and activities that can be used to support Sustainability and Climate Change teachings.  [Read more about the programme.](https://url6.mailanyone.net/scanner?m=1oBY9D-0009xx-3t&d=3%7Cmail%2F14%2F1657702200%2F1oBY9D-0009xx-3t%7Cin6l%7C57e1b682%7C11094928%7C7440907%7C62CE886BE5B8B74C802B73BB24D5EF7C&s=9IAfl-zCBdxdsIdy0-aY-7kuS54&o=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.dirtisgoodproject.com%2Ffiles%2Fuk_dig_overview.pdf)

**Watch this space! 2022-23 Diocesan Education Project – ‘Everyday Ubuntu : Growing & Developing Together’**

Next year’s project will be launched in October. But if you want a taster, we are using Desmond Tutu’s reconciliation theology as a basis – clearly not ‘go-to’ reading for children, but what will appear in our podcasts, videos and project in age-appropriate, inspirational and exciting activities and opportunities. In addition to the project booklet, packed with ideas and off the peg packages, a new feature this year will be podcasts, seminars and other activities for adults.

**Advance notice of some of our Training Events next Term – for teachers, governors and parishes (Church Schools and community schools relevance)**

There will be more training events publicised early in the Autumn, but a heads-up of those already in our plan – please email my pa Sam.powell@portsmouth to register for details

**All Are Welcome**   : 27th September & 9th November , 4:00 – 5:00   Online training to launch our new diversity project, based on a selection of  picture books. It is aimed primarily at Y2 children, but can be adapted up or down.

**Supporting RE in primary schools**  : 5th October, 10:00 – 12:00 or 11th October 1:30 – 3:30       Training for clergy or Children & Family Workers, including an introduction to Understanding Christianity.

**Global Neighbours**  :13th October, 4 – 5:30    Online training for school leaders and governors on how to develop and embed global learning in your school.

**Kindertransport workshops**  7th November, 3:30 – 5:00 (Northern schools) or 10th November, 3:30 – 5:00 (Southern schools)  A practical workshop for Y5 / 6 teachers with activities and resources to teach their pupils about the Kindertransport and the lessons we can learn from history. Ideal for use on Holocaust Memorial Day January 27th 2023.

**New RE Leaders**15th September, 4:00 – 5:30        An online session for RE subject coordinators on RE leadership in a CofE school, including Understanding Christianity and SIAMS.

**Introduction to Understanding Christianity**  20th September, 4:00 – 5:30  An online session for teachers who are new to teaching RE in a church school, or who would like a refresher on how to use Understanding Christianity as a resource to support the local syllabus.

**RE Network Meetings** Weeks beginning 3rd October and 10th October, dates and venues to be confirmed.    An opportunity to meet up with other RE coordinators to share ideas and resources.

**Joint school parish eco projects** 15th November 4-5.30pm A session to inspire and encourage joint eco projects between parishes and schools

**Induction training for recently appointed foundation governors** 20th September and 15th November 6.30-8pm

**Training for clerks who are new to clerking in Church schools**. 20th September 6.30-8pm

**Collective worship training for foundation governors** 5th October  and 30th November 6.30-8pm

**Year 6 at Portsmouth Cathedral**

You can read a report of the Leavers’ Days in Portsmouth at <https://bit.ly/3n7q25r> and lots of photos from the workshops and worship here: <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?vanity=CofEPortsmouth&set=a.8123025564404058>.

**New Admissions Appeals Code – wef October 2022**

VA HTs and Governors – please would you note that a new Admissions Appeals Code is coming into force from October 2022:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-admissions-appeals-code#:~:text=The%20Draft%20school%20admission%20appeals,admission%20appeals%20at%20this%20time.>

This document summarises the outcome of the consultation that was run on the proposed changes:

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1083196/20220615_ConsultationResponse_ChangesToAdmissionAppealsCode.pdf>

The main purpose of the revised code is to allow for appeals to be heard remotely via video conference and in limited circumstances by telephone conference.

**‘Teaching RE is such a privilege’**

Beth Feltham is Head of RE at the Bay C of E School in Sandown, and also chairs the Isle of Wight SACRE. She enjoys it so much that she commutes in from Weymouth to work! Find out what excites her about teaching at [https://bit.ly/3IxRpzl](https://bit.ly/3IxRpzl?fbclid=IwAR2_v3gF-Y0O0f_2qLxf1R9NFuWDP2Ge1Emim_LEenZMqxdbBttsin6MsWQ)

**Global Learning  Wall Planner**

This is a useful free resource for your staffroom noticeboard, which will help you mark global events such as World Oceans Day, World Refugee Day and others. Find out more [here.](https://globaldimension.org.uk/resources/2022-23-global-learning-wall-planner/)

**Rise Theatre – interactive performances and workshops**

Rise Theatre are a Christian theatre company offering interactive performances and workshops for primary schools. They are currently taking bookings for next year for their new production *God’s Planet* and you can find out more on their website [here.](https://www.risetheatre.co.uk/godsplanet)

Jeff Williams

Director of Education

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