

12 November 2021 (Issue 21)

**WELCOME** to the latest issue of B-Comms, for schools and academies in St Benet's MAT.

In this issue we include some fantastic good news stories from our academies; your usual operational updates, and a central calendar for training events across the Trust.

Don't forget to send in any news that you want to share, to the Editor at: [suzannah.kay@stbenets.org](mailto:suzannah.kay@stbenets.org).

## Good News Stories



Staff at **Diss Primary Academy Partnership** were praised by a grateful parent this week for their caring and professional attitude. We have been given permission to share excerpts from the email sent by a parent with children at both schools about her family's experiences with Diss Infant Academy & Nursery and Diss Junior Academy:

*"I know that people are quick to complain about things that are wrong or they don't like, but are not so quick to praise and give thanks for good service or performance. Please let me take a little bit of your time to let you know why I am so impressed with the two schools mentioned previously."*

*"Mrs Cerullo and Mr Hunt are very visible - what I mean by this is that they will be at the school gates at morning drop-off or afternoon pickup, they interact with the children and show interest in them, which is a great quality in leaders."*

*"First of all, Mrs Budgens and Mrs Partridge at Diss Infant School really are working miracles with my 4 year old son!...All of the work which Mrs Budgens and Mrs Partridge are doing with my son is so important for his progress, for his self-esteem, for his confidence, for his social interaction. I cannot thank them enough for actually caring about my son, for wanting to meet his needs, for putting the extra work in to help him."*

*"Diss Infant and Nursery School is very fortunate to have such experienced, talented, caring teachers who are still willing to go the extra mile to help the students, because they really do care about their students and want the best for them."*

*"This drastic change in my child is due to the amazing teachers and support which she received from Diss Primary Academy!! Mrs Harrison really takes on board what you say to her, she helps the children to feel listened to and shows them that their thoughts and feelings are important."*

*"[My daughter] also has spent time with Mrs Baggit who has really helped her work through some of her worries, this is an amazing resource that I am grateful that the school has!"*

*"...I just want to commend the Lollypop ladies!! What a huge blessing they are to our town!! They both are friendly, caring, lovely and the children love them!"*

We are so grateful to this parent for taking the time to write to the Diss Governors about her positive experiences—letters like this really do lift spirits and remind us all why teaching can be such a rewarding and unique profession.



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## Current Vacancies (across both St Benet's & DNEAT MATs, DoNESC and DoN)

- ◇ Academies Group Executive Principal—DNEAT
- ◇ Teaching Assistant—Open Academy
- ◇ Casual Invigilators—Open Academy
- ◇ Year 3/4 Class Teacher—Sandringham & West Newton
- ◇ School Secretary—Whitefriars CE Primary Academy
- ◇ Head of School—Little Snoring Primary Academy
- ◇ Support Teacher—Little Snoring Primary Academy
- ◇ Cleaner—Moorlands CE Primary Academy
- ◇ Teaching Assistant—Moorlands CE Primary Academy
- ◇ P/T Teacher—Colkirk CE Primary Academy
- ◇ Executive Headteacher—Unity Federation
- ◇ Caretaker—Sporle CE Primary Academy
- ◇ Class Teacher—Sporle CE Primary Academy
- ◇ Teaching Assistant—Swaffham CE Primary Academy

Please email your vacancies to [suzannah.kay@stbenets.org](mailto:suzannah.kay@stbenets.org) for uploading to both St Benet's and DNEAT websites.

## Prayer for the Day

The Church of England have an app called Time to Pray, which releases a new prayer twice a day as a short podcast for you to listen to. Today's prayer can be heard [here](#).



## HR Department Update

We are delighted to announce the appointment of two new HR Officers to augment the HR Department within DoNESC: **Ben Unger** started on 11 November and **Chloe Humphrey** will start on 6 December. Both bring a wealth of knowledge and experience with them to their roles and we welcome them warmly to the team.

## Reminders

### Press & PR

Our PR Officer, Kate Morfoot, should be your first point of contact for any press/media enquiries or if you have any good news stories from your academy which you would like to publicise. Her contact details are: **07803 590 728** (inc out of hours) and [press@stbenets.org](mailto:press@stbenets.org).

### Footprints

Footprints magazine is circulated to all Diocesan schools and is a wonderful tool for communicating good work done by your academy. The latest edition can be read [here](#). Future issues will cover the following themes: January 2022—pastoral care and chaplaincy; February—pupil voice/race and ethnicity; April—churches and schools working together; June—vulnerable groups; September—life in all its fullness.

If you would like your school to be featured in Footprints, please contact Holly Davy, PA to the Diocesan Director of Education, at [holly.davy@dioceseofnorwich.org](mailto:holly.davy@dioceseofnorwich.org).

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## Operational Updates

⇒ **FAO Headteachers, Designated Safeguarding Leads & Business Managers**

### **2021-22 Online Safety Calendar for Educators (Childnet International)**

Childnet International has an Online Safety Calendar for 2021/22 which offers teachers engaging ways of incorporating online safety advice into the curriculum. The calendar also highlights campaigns including Anti-Bullying Week, LGBTQ History Month, World Book Day and Mental Health Awareness Week – and the relevant online safety resources available.

Find the calendar here: <https://www.childnet.com/blog/check-out-our-online-safety-calendar-2021-22-for-educators>.

### **UK Theme for Safer Internet Day 2022 Announced (UK Safer Internet Centre)**

Next year, Safer Internet Day 2022 is on 8th February when the theme will be 'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online'.

From gaming and chat, to streaming and video, young people are shaping the interactive entertainment spaces they are a part of. Safer Internet Day 2022 celebrates young people's role in creating a safer internet, whether that is whilst gaming and creating content, or interacting with their friends and peers. More information and resources will be announced as the date gets nearer on the Safer Internet Day website here: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2022>.

### **Health and Safety Executive - DSE and Manual Handling Updates and Resources**

The HSE have produced Display Screen Equipment checklists and advice on risk assessment around DSE and manual handling in the workplace. Information can be found here: [https://www.hse.gov.uk/msd/index.htm?utm\\_source=govdelivery&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=guidance-push&utm\\_term=intro&utm\\_content=msd-22-oct-21](https://www.hse.gov.uk/msd/index.htm?utm_source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=guidance-push&utm_term=intro&utm_content=msd-22-oct-21).

### **Carbon Monoxide Monitors**

You may be aware that the DfE announced that there would be free provision of carbon monoxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) monitors for educational establishments. This was announced in a press release of 21<sup>st</sup> August 2021 (<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/all-schools-to-receive-carbon-dioxide-monitors>) and circulated as a link in the "23 August – Coronavirus – Update to all early years, children's social care, schools and further education providers" email.

Whilst there has been no further update on this provision it seems prudent to circulate a little good practice in respect of positioning any CO<sub>2</sub> monitors for when the DfE provision is made.

As implied by the name, carbon monoxide monitors will only measure the density of CO<sub>2</sub> in parts per million so they will need checking rather than providing any sort of alert to the build-up of carbon monoxide to initiate evacuation of the vicinity. The DfE article indicates that their monitors will be portable. For convenience and/or financial considerations you may also select to purchase portable monitors/alarms yourselves.

For advice on placement and use of monitors, please see <https://www.hse.gov.uk/coronavirus/equipment-and-machinery/air-conditioning-and-ventilation/identifying-poorly-ventilated-areas.htm>.



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## Training/CPD Calendar

DATE	TIME	EVENT/LOCATION	CONTACT
22 November	09.00-12.00	Maths Hub Day for Maths Leads—Embedding Mastery at Diss Junior	Laura Richardson l.richardson@diss.stbenets.org
23 November	09.00-16.00	English Subject Leader Update—Moderation Focus (HT to join 14.00-16.00) at Dickleburgh	Kelly Stokes mrskellystokes@outlook.com
20 January	13.00-18.30	Poetry Training at ASHS (all Teachers)	Kelly Stokes mrskellystokes@outlook.com
25 January	09.00-12.00	EYFS Teachers—SPAG & Poetry Planning at Newton Flotman	Kelly Stokes mrskellystokes@outlook.com
25 January	12.30-15.30	Y1/Y2 SPAG & Poetry Planning at Newton Flotman	Kelly Stokes mrskellystokes@outlook.com
26 January	09.00-12.00	Y3/Y4 SPAG & Poetry Planning at Garboldisham	Kelly Stokes mrskellystokes@outlook.com
26 January	12.30-15.30	Y5/Y6—SPAG & Poetry Planning at Garboldisham	Kelly Stokes mrskellystokes@outlook.com
03 February	09.00-16.00	Subject Leader Update—Focus: tbc (HT to join 14.00-16.00) at Alburgh-with-Denton	Kelly Stokes mrskellystokes@outlook.com
07 February	09.00-12.00	Maths Hub Day for Maths Leads—Embedding Mastery—location tbc	Laura Richardson l.richardson@diss.stbenets.org
21 February	13.00-15.30	Maths—Mastering Mastery in EYFS at Diss Junior	Laura Richardson l.richardson@diss.stbenets.org
28 February	15.30-16.30	Maths—Inclusive Mastery Practice (Newton Flotman, St Mary's, Tacolneston & Morley) at St Mary's Junior	Laura Richardson l.richardson@diss.stbenets.org
07 March	15.30-16.30	Maths—Inclusive Mastery Practice (Harleston, Alburgh-with-Denton) at Harleston Primary	Laura Richardson l.richardson@diss.stbenets.org
14 March	15.30-16.30	Maths—Inclusive Mastery Practice (Beacon Federation) at Dickleburgh	Laura Richardson l.richardson@diss.stbenets.org
15 March	09.00-16.00	Subject Leader Update—Focus: Moderation (HT to join 14.00-16.00) at Diss Infants	Kelly Stokes mrskellystokes@outlook.com
21 March	09.00-12.00	Maths Hub Day for Maths Leads—Embedding Mastery—location: TBC	Laura Richardson l.richardson@diss.stbenets.org
16 May	09.00-12.00	Maths Hub Day for Maths Leads—Embedding Mastery—location: TBC	Laura Richardson l.richardson@diss.stbenets.org
18 May	09.00-16.00	Subject Leader Update—Focus: tbc (HT to join 14.00-16.00) at St Mary's Junior	Kelly Stokes mrskellystokes@outlook.com
23 June	09.00-16.00	Subject Leader Update—Focus: Moderation (HT to join 14.00-16.00) at Diss Junior	Kelly Stokes mrskellystokes@outlook.com
01 July	09.00-12.00	Maths Hub Day for Maths Leads—Embedding Mastery	Laura Richardson l.richardson@diss.stbenets.org

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## Focus On Our People

**Darren Williams joined DoNESC, our services company, in July 2021 as Building Surveyor & Estates Manager. Here we learn about his career and plans for supporting our schools.**



Family changes meant that Darren and his wife started looking to move the family to Norfolk, which had been a favourite holiday destination (and place of his birth).

Darren was born at James Paget Hospital in Gorleston whilst his family, who lived in Kent, were on holiday there.

Darren started his Norfolk career at local accountancy firm Larking Gowen and was there for 2 years as Senior Facilities Adviser, before moving to DoNESC this summer.

He went to school in Medway in Kent and after school studied Public Services at Mid Kent College, with a view to following his Father and Uncle into the Police service. He followed this with sports studies but an unfortunate injury meant that sport was no longer an option for him as a career.

Darren is looking forward to getting into schools more as Covid restrictions allow and focusing on building compliance, working with contractors and making plans for our buildings and sites.

Darren worked for McDonalds for 5½ years whilst studying. During this time he was contacted by a local grammar school, Oakwood Park, and went to work for them as Assistant Facilities Manager. He stayed for nearly 5 years before moving to another education trust in Greenwich as their Site & Facilities Manager, with responsibility for 3 schools.

He is keen to remind schools that they can contact him for advice about contractors, projects or anything building and premises-related, however big or small.

Away from work, Darren and his wife are about to become parents for the second time, and when he has time he likes to watch Formula 1 and football.

We wish the Williams family all the best with their new arrival.

## And finally...

**Pupils at our two schools in Harleston were busy last week supporting their local community by planting up large floral displays in the town centre.**

Under the guidance of Laura Botwright, **Harleston Federation** SENCo and Carolyn Whittleton, SEND Manager at ASHS, pupils from ASHS A Team and some Year 6 pupils from Harleston Primary Academy worked together, using their horticulture skills to revamp and improve the planting boxes in the heart of the town.

Whilst undertaking the planting, several members of the public commented on how lovely it was to see the pupils working in this way, and how beautiful the planters looked when the pupils had finished.

***Well done to all our young gardeners!***

