

14 January 2022 (Issue 24)

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

*You will notice that B-Comms has been refreshed for 2022 but still includes 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

**Alburgh-with-Denton Primary School, an Associate Member of St Benet's MAT, were delighted to launch their new Nurture Hub recently.**



The school already offers Forest School but as their Headteacher, Mrs Hayley Sonnex, explains, they felt they needed something extra, *"We took one of our Ekklan-trained Teaching Assistants out of class and she set up the Nurture Hub in September."*

The Hub is open to children from 8.30am-3.30pm each day and will help to ensure that pupils have full support in all areas of speech, language and communication.

Social, emotional and mental health is also at the forefront of the school community, with children able to receive support, time to talk, time out to deal with emotions, anxieties and general wellbeing. The Hub includes Friendship Circles, nurture and 1:1 sessions involving Sensory Play and Art Therapy if needed. Pastoral support is also provided to parents/carers and families as well.



Pupils from the **Beacon Federation schools (Garboldisham Primary and Year 6 from Dickleburgh Primary)** enjoyed a trip to the theatre last week, when they attended the Theatre Royal Norwich pantomime 'Dick Whittington'.

This trip is the first time the schools have been able to do something together as a Federation. Tickets and interval snacks were organised and paid for by both PTAs from the academies.

The trip was truly a joint effort and very much enjoyed by all.



Beacon Federation pupils waiting for the pantomime to begin

# B-Comms



Diocese of Norwich  
St Benet's  
Multi Academy Trust

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## Vacancies

For vacancies at St Benet's MAT please visit: [www.stbenets.org](http://www.stbenets.org). Please email your vacancies to [robyn.redman@donesc.org](mailto:robyn.redman@donesc.org).

For vacancies at DNEAT, DoNESC and the Diocese of Norwich please visit: [www.dneat.org](http://www.dneat.org) or [www.dioceseofnorwich.org](http://www.dioceseofnorwich.org).

## 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 and Finance Department Updates

**Human Resources**—the new DoNESC HR team is now in place and St Benet's will be supported by **Chloe Humphreys** (07542 849822) and **Ben Unger** (07542 850283) as HR Officers, and **Robyn Redman** (01603 550162) as HR Administrator.

**Finance**—the Finance Department have a new email address for all your general finance queries: [finance@donesc.org](mailto:finance@donesc.org). This address is monitored by members of the team.

## Reminders

### Healthshield

Don't forget that your free coverage from Healthshield includes many great offers, including the chance to get quick GP appointments, access counselling and have dental and optical care covered. Check your online account for details or contact **Robyn Redman** on [robyn.redman@stbenets.org](mailto:robyn.redman@stbenets.org) for further information.

### 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: 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

### Reminder to Liaise with IT Support Providers

There can be adverse consequences to disconnecting your mains power from IT servers and systems without advance notice to your IT support providers. We therefore emphasise the importance of consulting and liaising with your IT support partners *in advance* of:

1. any planned power shutoffs (to allow for your servers, and therefore data and work, to be backed up to avoid any losses).
2. any consideration of systems dependent upon your IT infrastructure and/or internet connection speeds (so that you do not end up paying for something that will not work).

### Sepsis - Resources for Schools (UK Sepsis Trust)

Approximately 25,000 children are affected by sepsis in the UK each year. To raise awareness, the UK Sepsis Trust (UKST) has developed a bank of PSHE resources for schools so that staff and children better understand the dangers of the condition.

UKST's teaching resources have been designed in collaboration with volunteers across each of the five Key Stages; each lesson contains:

- A lesson plan
- An accompanying PowerPoint presentation
- Teacher notes for every slide detailing additional information, topics to discuss and questions to ask
- Embedded videos to help engage the students
- Case studies of young adults who have recently suffered from sepsis (KS4/5 lessons only)

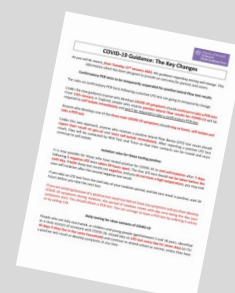
You can access the SEPSIS UK resources here: <https://sepsistrust.org/about/about-the-charity/our-current-campaigns/schoolsresources/>

### Spotting Sepsis in Children

UK Sepsis Trust's Spotting Sepsis in Children leaflet will help you to spot the signs and symptoms of sepsis in children and can be found here: <https://sepsistrust.org/shop/>

### Lateral Flow Test Guidance

One of our colleagues in DNEAT has kindly created a 1-page reference sheet for the new rules surrounding Lateral Flow Tests. If you would like a copy, please contact: [suzannah.kay@stbenets.org](mailto:suzannah.kay@stbenets.org).



## Training/CPD Calendar

DATE	TIME	EVENT/LOCATION	CONTACT
03 February	09.00-16.00	Subject Leader Update—Focus: tbc (HT to join 14.00-16.00) at Alburgh-with-Denton	Kelly Stokes kelly.stokes@stbenets.org
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 kelly.stokes@stbenets.org
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 kelly.stokes@stbenets.org
23 June	09.00-16.00	Subject Leader Update—Focus: Moderation (HT to join 14.00-16.00) at Diss Junior	Kelly Stokes kelly.stokes@stbenets.org
01 July	09.00-12.00	Maths Hub Day for Maths Leads—Embedding Mastery	Laura Richardson l.richardson@diss.stbenets.org

### Diocesan Training - New Year Update

All training courses have been moved online for the foreseeable future. There are still spaces on the following courses. To book a place, visit: <https://www.dioceseofnorwich.org/schools/training/>

**17 January** - Are You SIAMS Ready?

**2 February** - Big Questions

**7 February** - RE Local Leaders

**9 February** - Introduction to the RE Quality Mark

**21 February** - Collective Worship Network – Distinctively Anglican and Prayer Spaces

**8 March** - Understanding Humanism – a Curriculum Resource in RE

**16 March** - Global Neighbours – An Introduction to this Quality Mark

## Spotlight on You

**The new HR Team in DoNESC that supports St Benet's schools has grown rapidly in the last few months, and the latest appointment is Robyn Redman, who some of you may already know from her time in the Finance Department.**

Robyn is a native of the beautiful country of South Africa



and was born in Durban, also known as Kwa-Zulu Natal. Durban has a tropical climate with wet summers and moderate winters, so Robyn was able

to enjoy going to the beach all year long when she was growing up.

Robyn grew up in an area called The Bluff and attended local primary schools and then Grosvenor Girls High School. When asked if she had any career plans when she was at school, Robyn replied *"I always wanted to be a Teacher, maybe because I was a bit bossy!"*

However, after matriculating at 18 Robyn joined a local branch of NedBank as a Bank Clerk and was there for 4 years. Following that she worked as an Administrator for a local company for 3 years and then joined Chep South Africa as Marketing Secretary. Robyn left work when her first child, a daughter called Hannah, was born.

At this point, the family moved to Johannesburg for her husband's job. Despite being a long way from the sea, Robyn enjoyed living in Jo'burg and found the people very friendly. It was here that her second child, a son called Matthew, was born.

In 2016, her husband's job brought the family back to Durban and Robyn started a new job as Bursar at Hillcrest Primary School.

In December 2018 the family enjoyed a long holiday in the UK and USA. When she returned home to South Africa Robyn started considering what would be best for the family in terms of education and future job opportunities,



and started to seriously think about emigrating to the UK, where Robyn's husband already had family ties.



Despite expecting the bureaucratic process of emigration to be very lengthy, Robyn was surprised that everything moved very fast and in August 2019 the family moved to Norfolk, where her husband had secured a role working for a firm in Thetford.

Robyn describes how welcome she was made to feel as soon as they arrived and how friendly people have been to the whole family.

After a short period working part-time in Thetford, Robyn was made redundant due to the Covid pandemic but applied for a role as Finance Assistant at DoNESC and started working with DoNESC in 2020. In January 2022 she moved from Finance to the HR Department and will be supporting St Benet's schools as HR Administrator.

Despite not enjoying the same tropical climate as in Durban, the Redman family still enjoy being outdoors, with mountain biking a particular hobby for her husband. Both Robyn's children are settled at Hethersett Academy and despite missing their friends and the beach lifestyle they understand that the move to the UK was the best thing for them as a family.

Robyn says she has been humbled by how accepting everyone has been, commenting that, *"People hear our accents and want to know where we are from and what our story is."*

She adds that she feels privileged to be here and that, *"There is not one day when we have regretted our move to the UK."*

**For all your HR enquiries, Robyn can be reached on [robyn.redman@donesc.org](mailto:robyn.redman@donesc.org) or 01603 550162.**