

B-Comms



Diocese of Norwich
St Benet's
Multi Academy Trust

01 April 2022 (Issue 29)

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

B-Comms is our fortnightly newsletter that includes good news stories from our academies, operational updates, general information 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.

Message from the CEO

As Easter approaches and many of you will be looking forward to a well-deserved break, I want to pay tribute to the resilience and dedication of all our staff in St Benet's over the last term.

We have all experienced the consequences of the pandemic in recent months, either directly or indirectly, and I am keenly aware that staff absences due to Covid are extremely high and causing extra stresses and strains on an already stretched workforce.

People who have never worked in a school can find it hard to understand the particular challenges of keeping a school running, but the sacrifices that you have all made to keep your schools open and to manage them effectively so that teaching and learning is maintained for the children, do not go unnoticed or unappreciated.

I am proud to work alongside such professional and dedicated colleagues and hope that you will find opportunities over Easter to rest, relax and spend valuable time with your loved ones.

Richard Cranmer
Chief Executive Officer



Save the Date

Our colleagues in DoNESC are delighted to announce that they will be organising a sustainability conference for schools at The UEA Enterprise Centre on Monday 20 June 2022.

Many of our Headteachers saw the presentation at the last Heads & Chairs Forum given by Anglian Water and Sharon Brett from Cawston Primary, and that gave a small taste of the sorts of ideas and initiatives that will be shared with you in June.

DoNESC will be officially launching the conference, which is titled '**Your Actions: Their Future: Your Path to Carbon Neutrality**', after Easter but in the meantime please make a note of the date in your calendars.

Tickets will be limited and available via Eventbrite and we are looking forward to welcoming as many of you as possible to this exciting event.



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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](#).



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.

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: 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.

SAVE THE DATE

RE Teacher Conference—8 July 2022

- It is the first conference for several years and is to be heavily subsidised by SACRE so schools can send their RE Lead and someone from the SLT/Governing Body
- Booking will open shortly via the NCC booking system

Norfolk SACRE

Keep the date

#REsourceNorfolk

RE Teacher Conference 2022
8th July 2022 - The Enterprise Centre -
UEA - Norwich

Keynote speaker: Lat Blaylock



Vacancies

For vacancies at St Benet's MAT please visit: www.stbenets.org. Please email your vacancies to: robyn.redman@donesc.org.

For vacancies at DNEAT, DoNESC and the Diocese of Norwich please visit: www.dneat.org or www.dioceseofnorwich.org.

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Operational Updates

Office Move Update

Plans continue for the move of St Benet's, DNEAT and DoNESC office staff to a new location as we have outgrown Easton House.

The postal address of the new office is: **Orchard House, Hall Lane, East Tuddenham, Norfolk NR20 3LR**. Our registered address (for legal purposes) remains unchanged as Diocesan House in Easton.

The move will take place over Easter and we hope to be in-situ from 25th April. The Central Team's phone numbers will change as a result of this move: Suzannah's new contact number is 01603 550147 and you will be notified of other number changes when they go live.

Admin & Premises Network

The date of the next Admin & Premises Network meeting has been set for **Wednesday 22 June**. An agenda will follow in due course but the meeting will include a presentation from Richard Clarke, the MD of Leverstock, VOIP phone suppliers.

RHSE Support

NSPCC Learning have produced a number of posters and wallet cards which have been signposted to the Trust by Josie Rayner-Wells to support RHSE provision: <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/childline-posters-wallet-cards>

Governance Updates

The following policies have recently been approved by the St Benet's MAT Board, editable versions have been sent to academy Heads and offices and are now available in the staff resource hub area of the website.

Please ensure that these policies are personalised for your academy, adopted at the next LGB meeting and uploaded to the Academy website. Please also ensure that all staff are given a copy/made aware of the updated policies.

- S01 Trust Wide Accessibility Policy & Plan
- NS02 Online Policy (*previously named E Safety and IT Acceptable Use Policy*)
- NS06 Trust Wide Cleaning Policy

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Training/CPD Calendar

DATE	TIME	EVENT/LOCATION	CONTACT
25 April	09.00-12.00	TRG—Embedding for Maths Subject Leads Location: Newton Flotman Primary Academy	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: Review of action plans and strategy implementation—monitoring, updates, coaching/mentoring (HT to join 14.00-16.00). Location: St Mary's Junior Academy, Long Stratton	Kelly Stokes kelly.stokes@stbenets.org
19 May	09.00-11.30	The Role of a TA in a Mastery Classroom (Beacon Federation TAs) Location: Dickleburgh Village Hall	Laura Richardson l.richardson@diss.stbenets.org
07 June	09.00-12.00 12.30-15.30	Teachers/TA's—Learning to read, reading to learn, vocabulary, decoding, comprehension, academic reading preparation, gaps-social justice.	Kelly Stokes kelly.stokes@stbenets.org
09 June	09.00-12.00 12.30-15.30	Teachers/TA's—Learning to read, reading to learn, vocabulary, decoding, comprehension, academic reading preparation, gaps-social justice. Location: TBC	Kelly Stokes kelly.stokes@stbenets.org
13 June	09.00-12.00	Master in Action—Y1 & 2 Teachers Location: Diss Junior Academy	Laura Richardson l.richardson@diss.stbenets.org
14 June	09.00-12.00	Mastery in Action—Y3 & 4 Teachers Location: Diss Junior Academy	Laura Richardson l.richardson@diss.stbenets.org
15 June	09.00-12.00	Mastery in Action—Y5 & 6 Teachers Location: Diss Junior Academy	Laura Richardson l.richardson@diss.stbenets.org
20 June	09.00-12.00	The Role of a TA in a Mastery Classroom—KS1 TA's from Newton Flotman, Diss, Scole, Alburgh with Denton, Harleston, Tacolneston and Morley Location: Newton Flotman Primary Academy	Laura Richardson l.richardson@diss.stbenets.org
20 June	13.00-16.00	The Role of a TA in a Mastery Classroom—KS2 TA's from Newton Flotman, Diss, Scole, Alburgh with Denton, Harleston, St Mary's, Tacolneston and Morley	Laura Richardson l.richardson@diss.stbenets.org
23 June	09.00-16.00	Subject Leader Update—Focus: Moderation (HT to join 14.00-16.00). Location: ASHS TBC	Kelly Stokes kelly.stokes@stbenets.org
01 July	09.00-12.00	Maths Hub Day for Maths Leads—Embedding Mastery Location: TBC	Laura Richardson l.richardson@diss.stbenets.org

Would you like to attend an online Yoga Class?

If you are interested, please email Rachael Greenhalgh on: head@gayton.norfolk.sch.uk

The Yoga classes will start on Monday 9 May for 5 weeks. Each online session lasts 1 hour from 7.30-8.30pm. The cost is dependent on numbers. It is usually around £5 per session, payment is made via BACs. Classes are not held during half term or on bank holidays so the final session for this block will be 13 June.

Spotlight on Easter Eggs

Easter is the most important date in the Christian calendar.

Every year, Christians around the world remember Jesus' crucifixion and celebrate his resurrection on

Easter Sunday. An important part of Easter celebrations today is giving chocolate eggs, and in the UK we buy about 80 million Easter eggs each year!

But how did eggs become such an important part of Easter celebrations?

Throughout history, people have given each other eggs at spring festivals to celebrate the new season.

Eggs represent new life and rebirth, and it's thought that this ancient custom became a part of Easter celebrations.

In the medieval period, eating eggs was forbidden during Lent (the 40 days before Easter) so on Easter Sunday, tucking into an egg was a real treat. This was especially true for poorer people who couldn't afford to buy meat. Eggs were given to the church as Good Friday offerings, and villagers often gave eggs as gifts to the lord of the manor at Easter. Even royals got involved – in 1290, Edward I purchased 450 eggs, which were decorated with colours or gold leaf and given out to his household.

There were lots of superstitions about eggs at Easter too. Eggs laid on Good Friday were said to turn into diamonds if they were kept for 100 years, and if your egg had two yolks it was a sign you would soon become rich.



Some people thought that eggs cooked on Good Friday and eaten on Easter Sunday would improve fertility and prevent sudden death, and it became the custom for people to have

their eggs blessed before eating them.

In Lancashire in the 18th century, 'pace eggs' became very popular. Pace eggs were made from hard boiled hen, duck or goose eggs, with decorated shells dyed with bright colours – just like in the medieval period. They were given as presents at Easter, or to the actors at pace egg plays. Pace egg plays were medieval style mystery plays, with a theatrical fight between a hero and a villain. The hero character was usually killed, before being brought back to life to triumph over the villain. In many plays, the hero character was St George.



Pace eggs were also rolled along the ground in a race called an egg roll.

Children would roll a decorated pace egg down a hill, and see whose egg rolled the furthest without breaking. It's possible that these races started as a symbol of the rolling away of the stone from Jesus' tomb.

Egg rolling is a tradition that still continues in some parts of England, although today it is chocolate eggs being rolled down the hill. There is an egg rolling event every year in Preston, Lancashire, but the most famous egg roll

takes place in the United States of America, on the lawn of the White House, in Washington DC.



We wish all our staff a very happy Easter.