

Head Teachers' Bulletin – 2nd Dec 2022

Events this week (week beginning 5th Dec)

Meeting the Millennial Need Session 1; Monday 5th Dec 3.30pm @ St Catherine's – This is the training that a number of you have booked on to. It is the rearranged session just for our schools as one of the planned sessions happened during the Sheffield schools Christmas break.

Events this week (week beginning 5th Dec)

School visits

St Thomas of Canterbury - Wed 14th Dec 1-2pm

Meeting the Millennial Need Session 2; Monday 12th Dec 3.30pm @ Niagara Centre Sheffield

New Updates (since last bulletin)

Senior Leaders' Group

The Senior Leaders Group (formerly known as Deputies Group) met on Tuesday and I was delighted to be invited along.

During the meeting colleagues talked about the work that is going on through the subject leader networks. There was particular feedback about some practice sharing work going on between the Science leads, Geography Leads and History Leads. The Writing leads are also planning to get some cross school moderation in place, which addresses one of the areas of priority that came from the Heads' Forum. I will include details of that work in a future bulletin.

There was then some sharing of the way in which the quality of teaching is developed in each school. Out of that conversation the senior leaders agreed some follow up sessions looking at some areas that were of interest to everyone:

- A coaching model being used at St Wilfrid's
- Curriculum focus groups being developed at St John Fisher
- The use of Step Lab as a tool for teacher development at St Mary's

I am sure that colleagues will not mind me thanking Lysie Tuplin for all her work with this group in her role as chair. As Lysie moves on to take up her secondment as Head Teacher at Sacred Heart, the group discussed how they will work. I will be working with Lysie and reaching out to other colleagues to see how we can support the work of this group. We will be looking to firm up a programme for the meetings through the remainder of the year, with some input drawn from the 'Aspiring Heads' Programme that used to run in the Diocese and a continuation of some of the practice sharing work that has been going on.

I will continue to highlight the work of this group through the bulletin so that you can ensure that senior leaders and subject leads can tap into these networks where it helps with your improvement priorities and with the support of those members of staff. We will also continue to liaise to make sure that the

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work of the senior leaders' group and Head's Forum is properly joined up.

If you have any questions about any of this work, or about the senior leaders' group, please do get in touch.

Notices

Notice from the Art House

St Matthew's CofE Church based in the centre of Sheffield runs a charity The Art House (<https://www.arhousesheffield.co.uk/>) which provides art therapy and wellbeing groups which are supported by its commercial Pottery and Art Classes. We have one of the largest pottery studios in the region along with an Art Room and Gallery.

We are reaching out to schools and academies to see if we can offer you pottery and art workshops that are tailor made or are appropriate for extra curriculum activities.

For example we are having a 'Live Animal Drawing Workshop' on the 3rd December where we will have Meercats, Snakes, Rabbits, Hedgehogs, a Fox and many, many more, which we would love to invite your students too as well.

If you have any questions or want more information please do not hesitate to contact Ben Clowes the Strategic Director at Ben.Clowes@arhousesheffield.co.uk

"Little Bits of God" artwork coming to the diocese – 10th Feb – 31st March 2023

We're delighted to reveal that the Little Bits of God mosaic commissioned by the Bishops' Conference will be in St Peter in Chains Church in Doncaster from 10 February – 31 March 2023. This Mosaic, as well as being beautiful, is a way of engaging the stories in the Bible. It provides a focus for prayer and reflection on the Scriptures. You can find out more here <https://art.godwhospeaks.uk/>

We would like to encourage wide engagement across the diocese and we would particularly like to include schools, both in the visit but also in the planning stages. The mosaic will provide an educational focus on the Bible and Art as well as being a good Lenten prayer focus for both Primary and Secondary students. Additionally, for secondary students, it will provide an opportunity to see a mosaic close-up and explore the theme of symbolism which will be useful for those studying the Tree of Life Mosaic (Eduqas Route B) or other routes looking at religious art and imagery.

The diocesan Formation and Mission Team is setting up a working group to co-ordinate the visit and is looking for people to be part of this. If you would be willing to be involved in the planning for the visit then please contact Kevan Grady kgrady@hallam-diocse.com or 07799 103274 before 29 November 2022.

Items copied from previous weeks' bulletins for reference

Head Teachers' Bulletin – 2nd Dec 2022

Heads' Forum – 22nd Nov at St Alban's

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend Tuesday's meeting and for Lindsey for hosting us and for sharing some of the work that has been happening to transform the physical environment at St Alban's.

With last week's bulletin, I attached summary notes and actions from our discussion on SEND and a compilation of the notes shared by each discussion group. Thank you to Fiona for her work in guiding us through discussion.

The next step agreed is to take some further time to tie down a picture of what provision is like at the moment and what we want it to look like. This will lead to a pledge that we will sign up to. The overall aim is to focus on what we can control and to make informed decisions about what we can do in our individual schools, but also what we can do through collaborative work in the Trust that will make a difference.

The next meeting will be on 24th January at St Marie's, from 9.30-11am. Please do make sure that this is in your diary.

Conference Update

I can confirm that I have booked the Principal Hotel in York (by the Station) for 23rd and 24th March. The majority of Heads are able to attend which is fantastic.

The theme will be the text from 1 Corinthians 12; 1 body with many parts. We have two organisational psychologists who are going to help us to develop what we want out of our work together and what that means for the way we work. There will be time too to step out of the hectic school life and to spend time on ourselves as leaders and human beings.

Costs will be covered by the management charge for schools already in the Trust. We will invoice schools that are not yet in the Trust later. Please do keep the date free.