

Easter 2009

Dear Friends,

I am writing this during 'Lent' when yesterday it was sunny and spring-like whilst today it is windy and cold! How things change!

My 'Lenten Bible Study Notes' this year powerfully remind me of how quickly circumstances changed for Jesus as He approaches the cross, His death and glorious resurrection. A friend recently shared with me the old adage, "The only thing that never changes is the fact that change will always happen."

You, as head teachers, are certainly at the forefront when it comes to managing change and all that you do is greatly appreciated!

- One of our schools has recently experienced the new 'OFSTED' no-notice inspection.
- A high number of our schools have recently appointed or are in the process of recruiting new head teachers.

Clearly, for some, all of this is very stressful. Please know that we are here for you and will help in any way we can.

The 2009-2010 Diocesan Service Agreement document and CPD brochure have recently arrived in schools. We strive to do more and more to support you, your staff and governors and encourage you to book for courses and training opportunities.

One particular date for your diary is: **Thursday 15th October 2009 - Head Teacher Conference**

"The Vision to Inspire: A Model for Church School Distinctiveness" at Ardencote Manor.

Please prioritise this event as we hope to provide you with a day of wellbeing and professional stimulation.

This prayer is taken from 'Prayers for Education' by Rupert Bristow. You might like to use it at the end of the summer term:

"Almighty God

We give thanks for all that has been achieved in our school this year.

We remember our successes in competitions, as members of teams and as individuals. We recall the special occasions during the year when we went on visits, took part in a school production, involved visitors and contributed to a fun project.

Let us not forget the new things we have learnt during the year and the friendships we have made.

Prepare us, Lord, for all that the next school year will bring by granting us and our teachers and everyone in our school a great holiday.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen"

I pray that you will embark upon the summer term with hope and strength.

May God bless you.



Mrs Linda Wainscot
Diocesan Director of Education