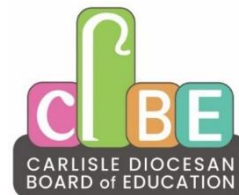


Weekly Communication: 25th April



www.carlisle-diocese.org.uk/education

If someone has forwarded this communication to you and you would like to be added to the distribution list to receive one every week, please email: charlotte.tudway@carlisle-diocese.org.uk

Reflection:

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

1 Peter 5: 6-7

I'm sure that, like me, many of you will have been reflecting on the legacy left by Pope Francis following his death earlier in the week. I have always been struck by the way he modelled humility in his leadership. Did you know this started just hours after being elected leader of the Catholic church back in 2013? Rather than travelling by papal limousine, he jumped on the bus with the other cardinals!



THE KNOWLEDGE You may remember, from previous editions of the comms, that I find The Knowledge a really helpful summary of global news. Today I read ...

During the last 18 months of his life, Pope Francis had a "nightly routine", says [The Independent](#): calling the only Catholic church in Gaza. For the 450 or so Palestinian Christians who took refuge in the Holy Family Church, these daily video conversations with the pontiff were an enormous source of hope and strength. George Antone, head of the church's emergency committee, says Francis would call even when sick or hospitalised, making sure to speak not only to the priest but to everyone in the room. "He used to tell each one: I am with you, don't be afraid."

The following prayer was written by pupils at Grayrigg School for the Board of Education. A wonderful reminder to be our authentic selves and strive for the flourishing of all. Thank you!

Dear God,

Help us to support and enable our diocese, in particular our education team, to create places of belonging where school leaders and all involved in our family of schools can bring their true authentic selves - sharing their joys, successes but also their concerns, anxieties and unfulfilled hopes for their schools without judgement. Give us wisdom, integrity and courage to make decisions and ensure support is provided so all are enabled to flourish. Amen

NEW THIS WEEK!

SOLD OUT!

#FLOURISH
Annual Conference for School Leaders
with special guests including:
[Mary Myatt](#) • [Nigel Genders CBE](#) • [Elizabeth Olulari](#)

10th June 2025, North Lakes Hotel & Spa, Penrith

CBE
CARLISLE DIOCESAN
BOARD of EDUCATION



New to the Team

We are delighted to announce that **Maggie Cole** has joined our team of school advisers. Maggie, as some of you will know, is currently co-head at St Thomas'.

Headteacher Vacancy

- NOR: 64 including Nursery
- Contract: Permanent
- Work pattern: Full-time
- Salary: Group 1, Leadership Pay Range L6 to L13, £56,316 to £66,919.
- Closing date for applications: 4pm on Monday 28th April 2025
- Employer: Westmorland and Furness Council
- Start date: 1st January 2026 (or sooner if available).
- Hours: The role is permanent full time with up to 0.25 FTE teaching Commitment



Following the announcement of our current headteacher's retirement, the Governors of Flookburgh C of E Primary are looking to appoint a caring and inspiring leader to further develop our school within the community. We seek a visible leader who will carry the school community forward, building on our current strengths and who is not afraid to introduce incremental change in an inclusive manner. It will be essential to ensure that a balance is maintained between the school management role and the teaching commitment.

We encourage prospective applicants to visit and get a feel of our school. Visits to the school are welcome by appointment on Tuesday 22nd or Wednesday 23rd April 2025 when the current Headteacher will be available. Please email admin@flookburghcumbria.sch.uk with 'School Visit Appointment' in the subject bar.

Application packs can be obtained from the school website:
<https://www.flookburgh.cumbria.sch.uk/current-vacancies/>

Applications should be submitted on the Westmorland & Furness Council Application form by email to lprescott@flookburgh.cumbria.sch.uk (Lyn Prescott, Clerk to the School Governors)

The deadline for applications is 4pm on Monday 28th April 2025. Shortlisting will conclude on Wednesday 6th May 2025. Interviews will take place on Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd May 2025. Flookburgh C of E Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare and wellbeing of its pupils, engages with young people and staff in policy and practice developments and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. Our recruitment process follows the Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance. Offers of employment will be subject to the following checks (where relevant):

- Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)
- Childcare disqualification
- Prohibition from teaching
- Satisfactory references
- Suitability to work with children
- Right to work
- Medical
- Online and social media

UNDERSTANDING SYSTEMIC RACISM IN CHILDREN'S BOOKS, IT'S IMPACTS & YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES



Ruth's reading reflections...

I have recently been doing some reading around the book 'The Colour Monster'. If you would like to know more you will find some further info attached to this week's communication. Do get in touch if you would like a conversation about this.

Christian Aid Week

11-17 May 2025

Christian Aid Week

Will you help fund vital tools and training, so farmers can support their community to escape hunger?

Christian Aid are excited to share some new resources ahead of Christian Aid Week. They have produced 5 reflections which could be used in an assembly or collective worship and a PowerPoint story linked to this year's focus country, Guatemala.

Click [here](#) to download the resources

School Leavers Service

An opportunity for our Year 6 pupils to celebrate their primary years together with other Church of England schools. Services will be held in Kendal Parish Church on 9th June at 11am and in Carlisle Cathedral at 11am and 1:30pm on 11th and 12th June. Spaces are limited so please book quickly if you have a preference on which day you'd like to attend.

Book your tickets using the following links

Kendal Parish Church - <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/ETCF>

Carlisle Cathedral - <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/ETCG>



Training Schedule

We have a variety of training sessions running each month. Most of the sessions are online and are cost-free if you are part of the partnership agreement.

Want to attend a session but can't? Please get in touch and we can arrange for it to be recorded for you.

You can find a copy of the training schedule [here](#). Booking is quick and easy just click the link and follow the on screen steps.

Any queries then email Anna – anna.lea@carlisle-diocese.org.uk



Governor Zone



New online governor network

Sustainability Governor Network



A new online network for governors with interest in or responsibility for sustainability issues has been launched. The network and its discussions and interactions is being hosted on [LinkedIn](#) so users will need a LinkedIn account/profile.

"This group is proudly managed by Governors for Schools, an education charity, with sponsorship from Deloitte."





Emma Harris ✓ • 2nd

Head of Partnerships and Programmes, STEM Governor Programme Le...

★ Admin • Admin • 1d •

+ Follow

Welcome to the Sustainability Governor Network!

This group is a hub for anyone passionate about driving climate action in schools through effective governance.

Whether you're an experienced sustainability governor or just beginning to explore leading on sustainability within your school board, this network is here to:

🗨️ Share best practices.

🏠 Direct you to valuable training and resources.

🌍 Equip you to guide your school towards net zero from a strategic perspective.

"In addition to this online space, we'll host regular virtual networking sessions where you can discover the support available to help you succeed as a governor. Stay tuned for event details, which will be shared here"

Diversity for Governors training session – All welcome!

Diversity for Governors - Thursday
15th May 2025 - 6:30pm-8pm -
Cartmel Priory School



Education Office Team

As always, if you have any questions about any of the information contained in this week's communication, need any help or support or want to arrange a visit, don't hesitate to get in touch



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Contents ([Press Ctrl and click to read the article](#)):

New This Week	2
SOLD OUT!	2
	
New to the Team	2
Headteacher Vacancy	3
Ruth's reading reflections...	4
Christian Aid Week	4
School Leavers Service	4
Training Schedule	5
Diversity for Governors training session – All welcome!	6
In case you missed it	9
Question of the half term	10
Do you subscribe Picture News?	10
The second of our 'long read made short' series focuses on this recently published DfE report.	11
The Lord's Prayer song	11
DfE launches consultation on 'narrowing the digital divide'	12
Do you have a sustainability lead and action plan yet?	12
Sustainability Leadership in Education 30 Apr Online	12
2024/25 Islam Training Courses for Primary Schools	13
Imran Kotwal	13
Governors	14
For clerks and governance professionals	14



Growing Faith Foundation

Church of England

Question of the half term

The Question of the Half Term is a tool the Growing Faith Foundation are using to listen and respond to the voices of children and young people. Throughout the year, they are asking six key questions in a quick, easy-to-share format.

The question this half term is: **Does Music help you to feel closer to God?**

You can submit your responses by clicking the following link

<https://churchofengland.tfaforms.net/4904219>

Do you subscribe Picture News?

Picture News – Funding News for Carlisle Diocese Schools!

We are very excited to announce that we have recently received funding which we are using to help embed Picture News in a limited number of schools. We are offering this initially to all Carlisle Diocese schools.

Full details, and express your interest [here](#).



The second of our 'long read made short' series focuses on this recently published DfE report.

Please see the attached PDF for the write-up.

[This report](#) examines the relationship between attendance and academic achievement for pupils in state-funded mainstream schools during the 2022 to 2023 academic year at the end of:

- key stage 2
- key stage 4

The study, which builds on previous research from 2016, uses a regression model to account for various factors that could influence attainment, such as prior performance and pupil characteristics. It uses recent data to look at how similar pupils with different attendance rates perform, isolating the impact of attendance on the likelihood of achieving successful outcomes at each key stage.

The link between attendance and attainment in an assessment year

Research Report
March 2025

The Lord's Prayer song

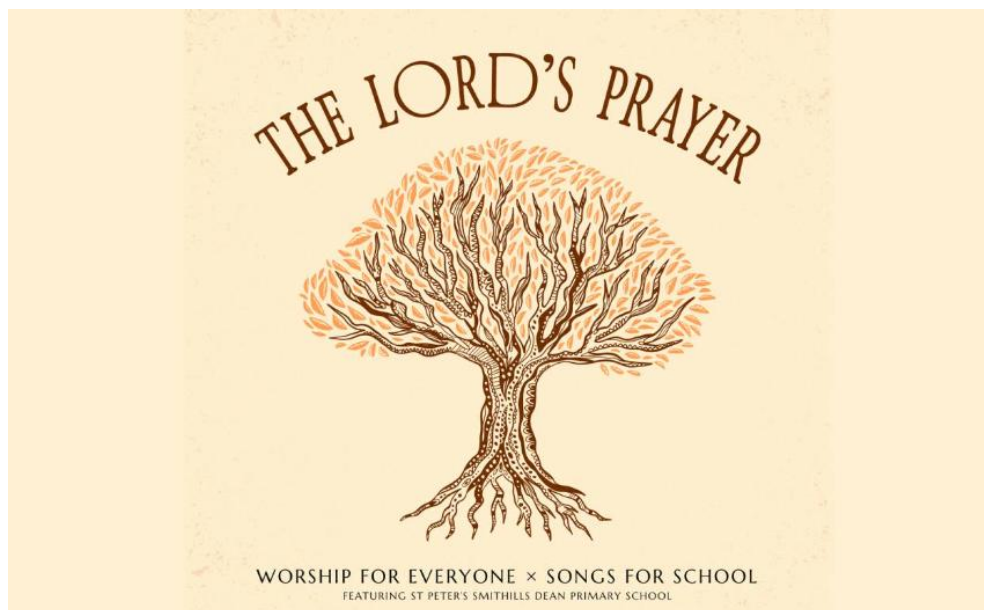
[New music resource for schools](#) brings 'The Lord's Prayer' to life

Nick & Becky Drake, the creative duo behind [Songs for School](#), are delighted to announce an original song inspired by The Lord's Prayer. Designed to be accessible and singable, this new resource aims to bring a timeless prayer into the hearts and voices of the next generation.

Nick and Becky have focused on:

- Making the theology of the prayer accessible and engaging for children while staying true to its meaning.
- Ensuring the music flows naturally with the original text.
- Crafting a piece that's fun and easy for young voices to sing

To learn more, visit faithinthenorth.org or follow @songsforschool on social media



DfE launches consultation on 'narrowing the digital divide'

The Department for Education (DfE) [launched a consultation](#) on 21 March, to gather views on a long-term ambition for all schools to meet 6 core digital standards by 2030. This consultation is open until **23 May 2025**.



Do you have a sustainability lead and action plan yet?



The [sustainability and climate change strategy for education](#) states: "By 2025, all education settings will have nominated a sustainability lead and put in place a climate action plan". This includes early years settings, schools, multi-academy trusts, colleges, and universities.

Read more here - [Sustainability leadership and climate action plans in education - GOV.UK](#)

Sustainability Leadership in Education 30 Apr | Online



This webinar will give an intro to sustainability practices and provide an understanding of how they can be practically applied. It will help sustainability leads meet DfE targets coming into force later this year and show how to reduce your carbon footprint, waste and costs.

[£25 - book now!](#)



Dear RE advisers/friends



I hope you had a peaceful summer break. I would greatly appreciate it if you could share the valuable training courses I am running this academic year (listed below) with your primary schools. These courses enhance subject knowledge and teacher confidence in teaching Islam.

2024/25 Islam Training Courses for Primary Schools

We will run 12 courses as live webinars (recordings are also available) during the academic year, providing a convenient and accessible way to enhance subject knowledge and teacher confidence in teaching Islam. A link is provided below to book a course / see prices, and for more information.

23rd May 4 pm - The Holy Qur'an

2nd June 4 pm - Hajj / Pilgrimage to Mecca

19th June 4 pm - Diversity in Islam - Sunni & Shi'a

To book a place / see the price list, please click [HERE](#) or copy this link:

<https://zfrmz.com/PqQDypl5mnNEF2qBHCYo>

Thanks

Imran Kotwal

Governors



For clerks and governance professionals

The following “HOT TOPIC” on **Processing New Appointments: What Governance Professionals Need to Know** has been taken from the weekly newsletter of the National Association of School and College Clerks:



“When processing new non-executive directors (Trustees or Governors and even Members), remember that the term of office starts from the date of appointment—whether by election, Member resolution, or Board approval—not when pre-appointment checks are completed. To stay compliant and maintain momentum:

- **Request DBS ID documents within 14 days** of the individual agreeing to take on the role.
- **Submit the DBS application promptly**, and log that the outcome may affect eligibility under your Articles.
- **Don't delay appointment** for DBS clearance if your meetings are virtual or after-school hours with no pupil contact—but ensure they are **not invited to any in-school activity where pupils are present** until clearance is confirmed.

With many DBS results coming back in under a week, the risk of delay is low—but make sure you're logging everything clearly and updating your records swiftly.”

In the case of Foundation Governors, who are appointed by the Diocese Board of Education, this means that the *appointment date* is the date of PCC approval of the person's nomination. This is to ensure that all the dates of publicly recorded documents tie together and help us fulfil our 'Safer Recruiting' responsibilities.

It is possible for schools to then arrange a *start date* to suit their own contexts if they wish.

Get Information About Schools

