



The Vine



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

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FOLLOWING:

CAFOD

DATES FOR THE NEW

ACADEMIC YEAR

RESOURCES FOR USE IN THE CLASSROOM

Autumn Term 2014

A Message from the President

for all those working in Catholic Schools and Colleges in England and Wales

www.catsc.org

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

May I begin by wishing you all a **Happy New Academic Year**. I hope that you all are now settled really well into the new school year and that all the pupils and students are settled into their new environments having passed through their initial period of change which always comes at this time. I am sure that all your planning for the year is complete and the year is up and running!

As always, there are once again a host of new initiatives which the government wants schools across all sectors, to implement either during this school year or in the next. A few to mention this time include; SEND, 2 year olds being offered funded places in nurseries, The new National Curriculum (but not for Yr2 and Yr6), the GCSE changes for grading in 2017, and the fact that pupils will remain in education or apprenticeships until they are 18 years old unless they have a job. Of course there are the inevitable changes to the Ofsted Framework and the tightening of expectations surrounding the behaviour of pupils.

Education has always been changing and this year is certainly no different to many, many others. Yet despite this teachers continue to work hard and do a great job in **EDUCATING** the children in their care.

Please remember that CATSC is here to help and assist in any way which it can. Please look at the website, tweet and keep in touch by emailing the web-site manager and myself with your suggestions and any requests for support you have. Most of all remember that **PRAYING** really does **HELP IN LIFE!**

May I also draw your attention to what Pope Francis tweeted in June **"THANK YOU TO ALL TEACHERS: EDUCATION IS AN IMPORTANT MISSION WHICH DRAWS YOUNG PEOPLE TO WHAT IS GOOD, BEAUTIFUL AND TRUE."** How reassuring it is to all of us to have a leader of our Church who understands education and appreciates the work which we do as teachers!

May I remind you that we have the Secondary Leaders' Conference in January, the Annual Study Conference in February, will have a stand at the Education Show in March, be represented at the RE Council and at the WUCT Annual meeting of representatives.

Please feel free to contact any member of the Council to share ideas or questions and remember that we operate a dedicated Helpline for all members. Finally may I wish you all a very holy, happy, successful and safe school year.

God Bless,

Mary Sainsbury

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NEWS UPDATE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It was with a great sense of sadness that we all heard of the death of Mr Jim Dobbin M.P. As many of you will remember he spoke at the Annual Study Conference in April and provided us with clear insight into how complicated life can be as a Catholic MP. He spoke passionately about all the different groups he was involved with and showed how dedicated he was in promoting Catholic Social Teaching . On behalf of the association I have written to his wife family and to his Office Staff offering our prayers and condolences. A Mass will be said for the repose of his soul at St. Herbert's Church in Chadderton, Oldham.. May he rest in peace and receive the rewards of eternal life.

At the last Executive Council meeting in June we sadly received the resignation of Mary Atterbury from St. Paul's School for Girls in Birmingham who had been our secondary school representative on the Executive Council for a number of years. Consequently may I on behalf of the association welcome Mr. Paul Bryce from the Salesian School, Chertsey who is to become the new Secondary Representative . I would also like take this opportunity to formally thank Mary for her superb support and help whilst on the Council. Without her unstinting efforts the association would not have grown in the way that it has in the last few years. So Mary- THANK YOU!

In my role as President of CATSC I wrote to all the Bishops in England and Wales during the summer term. I informed them of all the work which the Association does and how many schools are now members. I asked for their continued support and blessing for the Association and for teachers throughout the country. There was an overwhelming response of goodwill and blessing from the bishops which should make all teachers feel even more supported in the work which they do!

Finally may I congratulate our two new episcopal appointments firstly Bishop Marcus Stock of Leeds and Bishop John Arnold of Salford.



DATES FOR THIS YEAR

Would all members please insert the following dates in their diaries for the new Academic Year

Executive Council Meetings

Saturday 18th October 2014 Newman College Birmingham	10.00a.m.
Saturday 7th February 2015 St. Mary's University College Twickenham London	10.00a.m.
Saturday 13th June 2015 St Joseph's Catholic & Anglican School Wrexham	10.00a.m.

Annual General Meeting

Saturday 13th June St Joseph's Catholic & Anglican School Wrexham

Conferences

Secondary Leaders Conference
Thursday & Friday 29th 30th January London
Annual Study Conference
Saturday 28th Feb & Sunday 1st March 2015



CATSC ANNUAL STUDY CONFERENCE

Main Speaker-Fr. EAMONN MULCAHY

C.S.SP (Congregation of the Holy Spirit)

28th February-1st March 2015

CROWNE PLAZA- CHESTER



CAFOD UPDATE

Would all members please support CAFOD this term and take note of the following resources they have available for use in schools.



This term there are resources to help children to join in the Big Silly Share Project and for young people to engage in the Come Dine with CAFOD Project. This includes assemblies and films in order to enable all children to learn about issues concerned with food poverty.



CAFOD are looking for a group of young people to blog or video blog on a monthly basis throughout 2015 on issues of climate justice as part of the new One Climate One World campaign. Please see the website for details of how to apply



CAFOD has produced two new resource packs for the new primary geography curriculum KS2 focus on Salvador and includes a photo pack, films and a map. KS1 is on Bangladesh and includes PowerPoint of images, lesson ideas and an accompanying big boo, A day with Musa, to explore life in

Bangladesh

Finally CAFOD'S NEW Peace Education resources are also available. These include school assemblies and workshops which focus on peace this term. For primary schools the liturgy looks at conflict in Gaza and Israel, and a film is available to accompany the assembly. For young people there is a film, PowerPoint and session to explore the conflict further

All these resources can be found on the CAFOD website at www.cafod.org.uk



CATSC & CES



Secondary Leaders' Conference

Would all members please note in your diaries the date of this important conference which takes at the London **Thistle Hotel at Marble Arch on Thursday and Friday 29th & 30th January 2015.**

As there is to be a General Election next year the Planning Group have invited representatives from all the main political parties to attend and explain their policies for schools should they be successful and form the next government. So please consider coming in order to participate in the question and answer sessions with them.

Resources to use in school



Many of you will be familiar with the prayer of St Theresa of Avila and will no doubt have used it on many occasions with children and young people in your schools. During the course of this year one of our members

forwarded to me an updated version of it based upon the fact that we all use so many modern forms of communication with which touch the world. I have reprinted here with the permission of Brendan Duffy the Deputy Director of the Salford Diocese. Perhaps you might use it in assembly with the children and young people you work with.



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Back to School Humour

A wise school teacher sends this note to all parents on the first day of school: "If you promise not to believe everything your child says happens at school, I'll promise not to believe everything he says happens at home."

A school teacher injured his back and had to wear a plaster cast around the upper part of his body. It fit under his shirt and was not noticeable at all. On the first day of the term, still with the cast under his shirt, he found himself assigned to the toughest students in school. Walking confidently into the rowdy classroom, he opened the window as wide as possible and then busied himself with desk work. When a strong breeze made his tie flap, he took the desk stapler and stapled the tie to his chest. He had no trouble with discipline that term.

A Personal Message of thanks

May I take this opportunity to thank all those members of the association who sent either myself or members of the family, mass cards and words of condolence following the death of my father in law in September. They were all very much appreciated by us all.