

Words from CEO

Cidari Connect: Learning together

Last Friday our Head of Operations Matt Mclver and I attended a 'Marketing and Communications' training day as part of the Future Leaders Executive Educators Programme at Outwood Grange Education Institute in Doncaster. Sessions focused on strategies to promote the work of the Trust and our academies, how to make the best use of social media and how to deal with the press during a crisis and when things are going well. Facilitators emphasised the importance of developing a Communications Strategy and carrying out Competitor Analysis. We have done both of these things. It was an enjoyable and informative day and we will disseminating elements of this CPD at network meetings during the summer term.



Cidari Connect: Working in partnership

As a Trust we continue to work in partnership with our Local Authority colleagues for the benefit of our children. On Monday our Head of Education, Peter Ashworth and I met with Blackburn's Director of Children's Services, Linda Clegg and Julia Coleman from the School Effectiveness Team to exchange information and identify common ground. Meetings with Blackpool and Lancashire Local Authorities will take place later this term.

Cidari Connect: Spiritual And Pastoral support

On Wednesday the Reverend Terry Dyer, Chair of Governors at Darwen St James Primary School – A Church of England Academy and I met to explore how the Trust can provide additional spiritual support for members of our Cidari family. Terry had several good ideas that I will be taking forward during the next few weeks.

Cidari Connect: Worshipping together Eucharist

We were looking forward to sharing a Eucharist with you all on Thursday 28th April. However, we were informed this week that staff at the Cathedral Café will now be busy preparing a farewell buffet for The Dean, The Very Reverend Christopher Armstrong and therefore they will not be able to provide breakfast for us following the Eucharist.

Given that the Eucharist was planned for 8.10am we have decided to reschedule it until after the SATs on Tuesday 17th May. We are awaiting confirmation of this date from the Cathedral and will update you as soon as possible. We send our best wishes to The Very Reverend Christopher Armstrong as he takes up his new post.

Cidari Connect: Condition Improvement Fund

Following our successful bids bringing in excess of £500k capital investment, Matt Mclver has been liaising with our Academies and consultant to progress the next stage of our CIF projects.

Cidari Connect: Exploring Opportunities

On Tuesday, 12th April, Matt Mclver attended DFE session outlining the processes and benefits of Free School provision. With presentations by various providers, hosted by Vicky Beer – Regional Schools Commissioner; the session provided a valuable insight into the challenges, risks and benefits of free schools and the Governments strategy for delivering their objectives in this area.

