

Share a pencil day 23rd May 2018

<https://www.hope.co.uk/share-a-pencil-day/>

This year the Church of England Education office are collaborating with the charity Hope; Education for a better life on 'Share a pencil' day and are encouraging all Church schools to consider getting involved on or near Wednesday 23rd May 2018.



This is an awareness raising event not a fund-raising event. The only cost is £9.95 to purchase 50 special Share a pencil day pencils (you can use any pencils) and we thought many churches might like to gift those to the school?

Share A Pencil Day is primarily to raise awareness of the educational issues that many children face globally. Schools and teachers will be provided with lesson plans, films and posters to support learning on the day.

- This is an opportunity for schools to explore one of the 4 elements of the Church of England vision for education; Community and living well together. It will also link directly to the New SIAMS evaluation schedule.
- The day also provides an opportunity for schools to explore 'companion links' with Dioceses overseas and at the end of this document Revd John Ford has kindly produced some information about our companion link in the Diocese of York that schools can use.

Proceeds from the special Share a Pencil Day pencils go towards Hope's Bright Futures mission in partnership with Plan International UK, supporting the charity's education projects worldwide. Projects supported could include transforming the lives of girls in Kamuli, Uganda; helping children in Pakistan get an education, and the training of 275 female teachers in Sierra Leone.

Share A Pencil Day is most suited to children in years 5 to 10 but anyone can take part.

Once teachers have registered their interest at www.shareapencilday.co.uk they can access a host of resources to help them plan their Share a Pencil Day including lesson plans, short films and posters.

This year's event will take place on Wednesday 23rd May, 2018 the week following Yr 6 SATs exams.

"Had we known what a success this was going to be we would have scheduled an extra lesson to cover all the topics and ideas raised. Share a Pencil day reinforces so many of our core values as a Church of England school in an engaging and interactive way." Said one Year 5 PHSE Teacher

Evan Lewis the founder of Somerset based Hope, the organisation behind Share a Pencil Day, said: *“Education is the single most important thing a child can have to lift themselves and their families out of poverty and lead a better life. However, millions of children around the world are missing out on an education, and many more have to share even the most basic tools for learning, like pencils.*

Share a Pencil Day is a fun, interactive way for schools and children in the UK to get involved. Not only does this make children aware of the difficulties faced by others, but teachers also have to work around the constraints this creates.”

Hope Education for a brighter future:

Millions of children the world over dream of the chance to attend school but simply do not have that opportunity. Natural disasters, war and conflict and extreme poverty are the main reasons. Hope is a social enterprise which has been set up by Evan Lewis with the sole purpose of raising awareness and funds for children who do not have access to education. By supporting projects worldwide through the sale of Hope pencils we want to give children that chance to shine bright again.

“One child, one teacher, one book, and one pen, can change the world.” Malala Yousafzai
www.hope.co.uk @hopepencils #ShareAPencilDay

Where Hope began...

In September 2014, Evan Lewis purchased a pencil making machine which, at first, could make, and sell, about 2m pencils each year. Through some small alterations and machine improvements, the machine capacity reached around 3 million pencils a year. This made us ask ourselves, “What can we do with the spare 1 million pencils the machine now produced each year?” This is how the idea behind Hope was born...

ONE machine, ONE million pencils, ONE mission: to educate EVERY child.





Share a Pencil Day
23rd May 2018



An Opportunity to Make More
of our Diocesan Companion Link
with the dioceses of Cape Town,
False Bay and Saldanha Bay in South Africa

My purpose is to give life, life in all its fullness. John 10:10

You are members of God's very own family, citizens of God's country, and you belong in God's household with every other Christian. Ephesians 2:19

In February this year at General Synod this motion was carried:
That this Synod affirm the companion Links between the Church of England's dioceses and other parts of the Anglican Communion; encourage the Diocesan Companion Links to maximise their contribution to the hospitality programme prior to the Lambeth Conference;

God's Church for God's World and call upon the parishes, deaneries and dioceses of the Church of England to make international links a central part of their strategy for mission and discipleship, drawing on the resources of the Diocesan Companion Links and the Mission and Development Agencies.

In his forward to The Church of England's Guidelines for Companion Links - Rt. Rev Colin Bennetts writes: *Diocesan Links are a means by which people in dioceses of the Communion can grow to know each other, learn from each other and encourage each other in their worship, witness and mission.*

Share a Pencil Day on 23rd May offers an excellent opportunity to make this a reality for children and young people in every parish, deanery and diocese.

Share a Pencil Day focuses on UN Global Goal #4: *Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning.* The 8 key concepts of the Global Values, taken together and understood through Christian perspectives, demonstrate gospel values at work in the world.

The following information has been collated in order to use Share a Pencil Day May 23rd 2018 as an opportunity to look at life for school children in Companion/ Overseas Links Dioceses, teachers and church children's & youth group leaders and church service planners will need information which can best be supplied by the diocese and companion links groups.

Share a Pencil Day has the potential to act as a springboard to raise awareness of companion links, Christian community living well together and courageous advocacy in our schools and parishes for justice issues surrounding education and other areas of life.

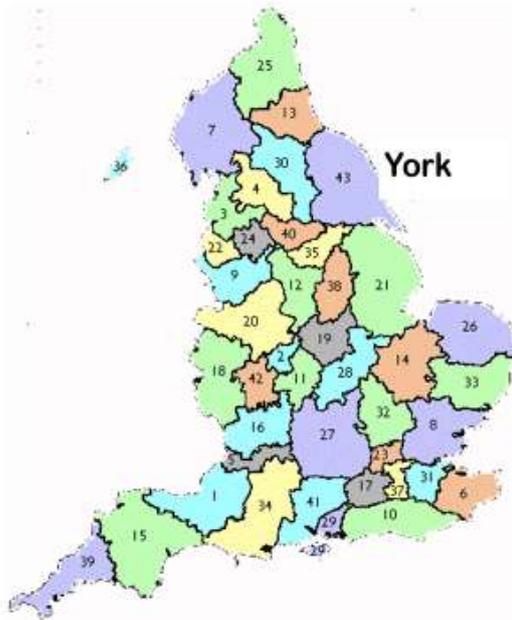
The Diocese of York Companion Link Diocese are in South Africa for more information please see <http://dioceseofyork.org.uk/people-and-places/south-african-link/> or contact The Revd John Ford, chair of the Companion Link committee: revjohnford@sky.com





The Diocese of York is linked with three dioceses in the Anglican Church of Southern Africa, Cape Town, False Bay and Saldanha Bay, which grew from the diocese of Cape Town in 2005.

York Companion Link Dioceses



United in the Lord



The three dioceses are diverse and range from central Cape Town with its business district, through affluent suburbs and very poor informal settlements to deep rural communities. Schools vary from exclusive private fee paying schools to very poor schools operated by the state.





St Michael's School is in the heart of Khayelitsha and is typical of the schools, which were originally a Christian foundation but were taken over during Apartheid by the state, the playground is sand which is littered with stone sand glass and although there was a library (situated in a container) it contained about 100 books for the whole school.



The children who attend St Michael's school are lucky, they all had school uniforms and their parents were affluent enough to provide paper and pens and pencils. However, they still go to school surrounded by a barbed wire fence to keep out intruders.

