

Bishop in celebrations for Henley-in-Arden's new Church School

27th Apr 2010

18 April 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE USE

The Bishop of Coventry, the Right Reverend Dr Christopher Cocksworth, will join a day of celebration at Henley-in-Arden's Primary School on Tuesday 20th April 2010 to mark a new start in its life as a Church of England Voluntary Aided School.

The change in status adds a new dimension to the life of the school, which has served Henley for over a century, by formally recognising a Christian foundation and ethos of service and mutual support which includes and welcomes those of all faiths and of none.

The celebration of the school's reopening will start at St John's Church in the High Street at 11.00am led by the Rector, the Reverend John Ganjavi, with the Bishop of Coventry.

Following the service at approximately 11.45am, children of years 4 and 5 will process back to the school in Arden Road with the Bishop and the Rector.

After lunch the whole school will take part in a celebration presentation beginning at 1.45pm with narrations and singing.

At the end of this presentation, the Bishop of Coventry will formally open Henley-in-Arden Church of England Primary School by unveiling a plaque in the school's entrance hall.

Director of Education for the Diocese of Coventry, Linda Wainscot, said, "This will be a great and unique day in the Diocese of Coventry, with the opening of the first new Church of England school in my ten years as Education Director. Thanks to the vision and determination of the school's staff and governors, and the support of Warwickshire's education authority, Henley-in-Arden Church of England Primary School will be a beacon of faith in action through caring service to its pupils and the community around it."

ENDS

Media wishing to attend any part of the day's celebrations should contact the Head Teacher, Mrs Lindsay Nash, on 01564 792766. For further information contact Mrs Nash or Acting Diocesan Communications Officer Martin Sheppard on 07544 803160.

Notes:

* A Church of England Voluntary Aided School is founded by the Church, and the parish and diocese

nominate the majority of its Governing Body. Its purpose is to provide an excellent education for all within an ethos of mutual care and support, inspired and nourished by its Christian foundation.

* Henley-in-Arden becomes the seventy-fifth Church of England school in the Diocese of Coventry, which includes the County of Warwickshire and the City of Coventry.