

**Welcome to a new term and academic year!** I hope that the enjoyable summer holiday has refreshed and revitalised you and you are full of energy for the forthcoming year. Certainly the ATA is looking forward to working with schools and teachers to bring about the best for our pupils. We got off to a great start last term and we are ready to build on that success and put our plans into action. Remember, the ATA is here to work in partnership with you and so please let me know what you would like to see happening and how we can help.

## Recent Events

Our launch at the Towers Conference Centre on 11<sup>th</sup> June was a very successful and memorable occasion. Balloons, music and banners heralded our arrival and over 100 guests enjoyed hearing from the 6 strategic headteachers and Sir John Rowling who entertained his audience with humour and witty anecdotes while making serious points about approaches to education and our moral purpose as teachers. A warm thank you goes to Towers for their generous hosting of this event – not only was the organisation first class, the afternoon tea was delicious!

The ATA ITT teachers enjoyed afternoon tea and meeting each other along with the 6 strategic headteachers and Glynis Masters, the ITT Director, on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July at Brockhill. The new teachers were made to feel very welcome and said how much they are looking forward to taking up their positions and following their ITT training programme.

24 Year 1/2 teachers were brave enough to attend the ATA's first Teach Meet at Highworth on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July. There was plenty of chat and laughter as teachers new to the profession exchanged tips and experiences. The event was such a success that more will definitely be arranged – look out for dates!

## CPD

- Our 18 NPQSL candidates have enjoyed 2 sessions and are now ready to embark on their school projects.
- The OTP course run by Lady Joanna Thornhill, Wye is very highly thought of and continues to be very popular. Places are now being booked for the next round.
- After a successful pilot, the Building Inspiring Lessons course is being offered to secondary colleagues from September and primary from November.
- The ATA LDML course starts this term
- A programme for NQTs has been devised and all new teachers are urged to attend as many sessions as possible.
- A course for Clerks to Governors - Effective Clerking led by Michele Robbins is being held on 9 October 2013.

*Full details available on our website or contact Lesley Donald for further information*

**Lesley Donald**  
Director of ATA



## SLEs

Our 5 SLEs will receive their National College training in October and will then be able to offer their expertise to assist schools. Please make use of their skills and contact us for further information.

## Research and Development

The ATA has been selected by the National College to be involved in its Closing the Gap research project which is to do with disadvantaged pupils. If you would like to be involved, please contact [office@ashfordteachingalliance.co.uk](mailto:office@ashfordteachingalliance.co.uk).

Our focus for this year is Pupil Motivation and Ben White is planning to organise a Motivation Symposium with educationalist Alan MacLean in Nov/Dec. We hope that many schools will want to be involved – look out for details which will be coming your way.

## Contact Us

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