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Please ask for: John Harris

8<sup>th</sup> May 2006

Email: [john.s.harris@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:john.s.harris@norfolk.gov.uk)

Dear Colleague,

**National Small Schools' Week – 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2006**

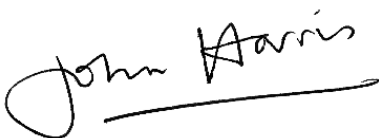
I am writing to remind you about the forthcoming National Small Schools' Week. This is the third such event (the first was in 2002) and will be taking place all over the country during the week beginning 19<sup>th</sup> June. The aim of the week, which is held biannually, is to raise awareness of the contribution that small primary schools make to education and to their communities.

Nationally, a number of key events are being held. For example, the annual conference of the National Small Schools Forum will take place (at Missenden Abbey) on 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> June. A meeting is to be held at the Houses of Parliament, hosted by Matthew Taylor MP (Lib Dem) and addressed by Deana Holdaway HMI, Professor Maurice Galton and, we hope, Fred Corbett. Further information about the week's events can be found on the NSSF website – [www.nssf.org.uk](http://www.nssf.org.uk). The address for applications is NSSF Conference, 23 Wymering Road, Aylesbury, Bucks .HP21 9BP.

Locally, we are encouraging all small schools to mark the event by taking some simple action which will raise their profile in their communities, and maybe beyond, and to provide a platform for celebrating their success. This is, of course, a particularly busy time of year, but the event does not have to be something extra. During the last Small Schools' Week many schools just took an event from their normal summer term calendar (for example, book fair, sports day, concert, open day) and redesignated it as a National Small Schools' Week event. Or you could invite a local dignitary to the school and seek publicity for the visit. Ideally, of course, the event should fall within the right week, but even this is not essential. The NSSF website has some examples of how small schools chose to mark the week in 2002 and 2004.

If your school is able to mark National Small Schools' Week in any way, I would greatly appreciate you letting me know about your event by e-mailing me – [john.s.harris@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:john.s.harris@norfolk.gov.uk)

Best wishes,



John Harris  
Primary Adviser – Small Schools



# The National Small Schools Forum

Conference 22/23 June 2006

*Part of National Small Schools Week 2006*

*Programme begins 4pm Thursday 22nd June, finishes 4pm Friday 23rd June*

**Collaborate : Federate : Network or . . . ?**

**Featuring...**

**Pie Corbett, Bill Laar  
and Christine Pfaff**

***Find out more about collaboration, federation  
and partnership***

***Sharing knowledge and experience from all  
over the country***

## Workshops

Andrew Penman and the Five Island School : Simon France and The Dunbury School : Estelle Smith and the Winfrith and Lulworth Schools : Kate Nash with an International Perspective, Sally Hughes from Akeley and Chackmore, Buckinghamshire, Simon East - Norfolk Partnerships.



This years' conference is being held at Missenden Abbey.  
A 12th Century Abbey conveniently positioned just 30  
miles from the centre of London with good rail links.

**For more information visit us at [www.nssf.org.uk](http://www.nssf.org.uk)**

# Conference highlights

## Speakers include:

**Pie Corbett** Best selling Author of 'Jumpstart' Literacy Games, The Story Maker's Chest and other publications to support teachers during the Literacy Hour. Pie will be leading one of our main sessions on 'Story Telling and Story Making in Mixed Age Classes'.

**Bill Laar** will be our after dinner speaker on the first night. Bill was a former school inspector in Westminster and is now an educational consultant. Bill brings a wealth of experience (and humour) from the world of education.

**Christine Pfaff**—formerly Head of a federation in four villages, is now an Independent Education Consultant who specialises in working with groups of schools who wish to join together in informal and formal ways, helping them to make those changes. She was awarded a Churchill Scholarship to research Leadership and Management in Sparsely Populated Areas in Europe.

## Workshops include:

**Andrew Penman and the Five Island School**—Andrew is the head a federation of five schools on the Scilly Isles. This school consists of four primaries and one secondary centre with the children boarding from the age of eleven, and transferring to the mainland for the sixth form. All of this with the added complication of water in between every building!

**Simon France and The Dunbury School**—Simon France is the head of The Dunbury School which has been a federation for twelve years. During this time it has undergone many changes, from all age sites to key stage sites, from a first school to a primary school and has now been reduced to three sites with multiple new buildings.

**Estelle Smith and the Winfrith and Lulworth Schools**—Estelle Smith is the head of two separate schools with children aged 4 – 9 on each site. The governing bodies work together, and Estelle and all of the staff work to ensure that the children work and play together on a weekly basis, and link through the curriculum.

**Kate Nash with an International Perspective**—Kate Nash is the headteacher of Silver Hill Primary School. She visited the Netherlands with the NCSL where the majority of schools are federated or wanting to join a federation. She has also been to New Zealand and brings an international perspective to the changes happening in England.

**Sally Hughes, St James and Chackmore Church of England Schools**—Sally is the substantive head of Chackmore School and, currently, Acting Head of St James, Akeley. The schools are two miles apart and were both, formerly first schools who retained Year 3 or Year 4 pupils. The Governing Body of both schools are looking to enlarge Chackmore to become a full primary school across two sites with one school (St James) being the early years/KS1 site and Chackmore being for KS2. This arrangement is currently under formal consultation and statutory notices are due to be published soon.

**Simon East Norfolk Partnerships** Headteacher of two rural schools in Norfolk (Heavingham and Marsham). Norfolk has developed its own system of 'partnership' – neither 'Collaboration' or 'Federation' which are legal terms

**This is just a taster of what is on offer at this year's NSSF Conference.**

... watch the website for more information



**Visit us at  
[www.nssf.org.uk](http://www.nssf.org.uk)  
for updates and information  
about the conference and to  
book online**

**Visit us [www.nssf.org.uk](http://www.nssf.org.uk)**

# Application Form

Sign up for:	Number places	Price pp	Total
<input type="checkbox"/> Day Attendance Only	<input type="text"/>	£145	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Day Attendance and Overnight Booking	<input type="text"/>	£195	<input type="text"/>
Non NSSF Members please add £10 to cover membership			<input type="text"/>
Total payable			<input type="text"/>

Method of Payment: ☐ Cheque Attached (made payable to National Small Schools Forum) ☐ Payment on Invoice

Paying by cheque: Please send a cheque for the total. Please ensure you write your name and details on the reverse of the cheque. A receipted invoice will be sent to you by return.

If you require payment on invoice please complete the application form as appropriate and send to us. We will raise an invoice and send it to you by return.

If this form is to cover more than one delegate please let us know the names of the additional delegates:

## Workshops

The conference includes two scheduled workshop sessions. You are able to choose from the following. Please indicate which two you would be interested in attending...

- ☐ **Andrew Penman and the Five Island School**
- ☐ **Simon France and The Dunbury School**
- ☐ **Estelle Smith and the Winfrith and Lulworth Schools**
- ☐ **Kate Nash with an International Perspective**
- ☐ **Sally Hughes, St James and Chackmore Church of England**
- ☐ **Simon East, Norfolk Partnerships**

Your Details

Name

Address

Phone

Email

Please note: Unless bookings are cancelled five weeks prior to the event then full payment is required

**Why not book online?  
visit us [www.nssf.org.uk](http://www.nssf.org.uk)**

