UPFRONT: LATEST NEWS



Archdeacon moves on

THE Ven Peter Leonard has stepped down as Archdeacon of the Isle of Wight and team rector of Newport and Carisbrooke with Gatcombe.

He's becoming chief executive of Family Links – the Centre for Emotional Health, a national charity and training organisation dedicated to the promotion of emotional health at home, at school and at work.

The move come after almost eight years working for the Church of England, three of which were as the most senior cleric on the Isle of Wight. Farewell services were taking place in Newport Minster and All Saints, Ryde, on February 27.



Global focus for Lent

BISHOP Jonathan has chosen the Christian charity USPG as the recipient of donations from this year's Lent Appeal. He'd also like you to pray for those who benefit from the work of USPG around the globe and find ways to act to help them.

USPG, founded in 1701, works to help those affected by environmental degradation, turbulent politices, gender injustice, and forced displacement, encouraging churches of the Anglican Communion across the world to be witnesses to the healing power of God's love.

To find out how to donate, see www.portsmouth. anglican.org/lentappeal



School bus is launched

PUPILS from Hook-with-Warsash C of E Academy worked hard to raise money for a new play bus for their school playground.

The School Council and parent-teacher association organised socially distanced activities throughout 2021. They raised just over £6,000 for the bus which was officially opened by headteacher Sara Willoughby and Year 6 school councillor Sam.

They ran a competition to design the new play area and the children voted for the bus design.



Clocking up 80 years

JOHN Cheverton joined St Peter's, Seaview, as a seven-year-old choirboy on Boxing Day, 1941.

Eighty years later, he still worships there. The faithful churchgoer has also served for 66 years as PCC secretary and 58 years as organist.

He was also organist at the neighbouring St Helens Church, and served as choir director in St Peter's. In 2018, he and his wife Molly were among a number of long-serving worshippers to receive St Thomas Awards from Bishop Christopher.