

Diocese of Carlisle Board of Education

www.carlislediocese.org.uk/education

Weekly Communication: 1st April 2021

Reflection:



We all know that geese fly in a V formation. But have you ever asked why? It's mostly to do with reducing drag and increasing the ground they can cover. When the lead goose gets tired, it drops back and swaps places with another member of the team so that it can support from behind and recharge itself, making the group overall more efficient than if they flew alone.

If cycling is more your thing, think of the peleton in a road race – they work in exactly the

same way. They bunch up together, reducing drag by slipstreaming. Just like the geese, when the lead rider gets tired, she or he falls back to let someone else take a turn up front.

We encourage each of you to allow yourselves to be a bit more like a goose. Sometimes you need to encourage someone else to take a turn up front (even if only briefly). Remember, you **still** can't pour from an empty cup!



For more information on migrating geese as a leadership model, take a look at this article: https://www.tanveernaseer.com/migrating-geese-a-lesson-in-leadership-and-collaboration/

Feedback from Headteachers: themes of the week

Tests, tests! In certain parts of the county, a cold (which has as one of its symptoms a cough) is causing headaches for headteachers and families. Lots of children are have to be sent home just in case. The paperwork (communicating with other parents etc) is time consuming. Parents are frustrated having to collect children and self-isolate pending a test when in all likelihood it's just a cold.

External support: – we spent quite a long time discussing the variation in availability of external support (education psychologists, CAMHS, community paediatricians, social workers, speech and language, occupational therapy, safeguarding team), especially **early** help. It became apparent that the level of service schools are receiving is currently 'hit and miss' depending on location, availability of practitioners etc. There was a general consensus that there currently aren't enough practitioners available and that wait times to see the appropriate external professional were so long that pupils and their families are usually not getting the early intervention they

need but rather reaching crisis point before they hit either the top of a waiting list or the very high threshold for intervention.

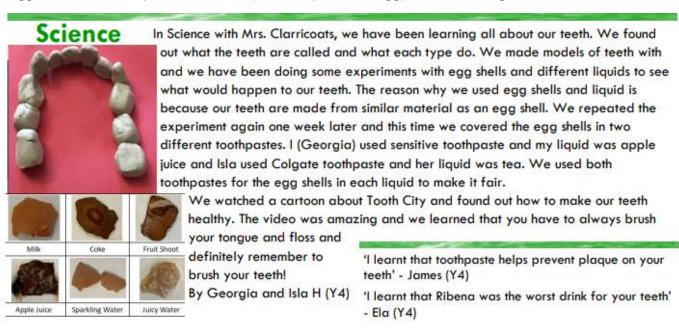
What a difference a bit of sunshine makes: we all agreed that the sunshine had lifted our spirits and it was wonderful to be able to enjoy being outdoors for the end of term.

Hope and Joy:

We love hearing what you have been doing to bring Hope and Joy to your school and wider community. This week we were delighted to discover some of the wonderful ways you are marking Easter including:

- Decorating an Easter bonnet
- Easter church services (in school, in church, outdoors, on zoom, or a combination)
- Decorating an egg
- Great egg drops
- Meeting online for whole school end of term events (e.g. fundraising bingo with families)
- Easter trail around the village (in lieu of stations of the cross)
- Desk drawer delights chocolate treats for staff
- Delivering treats to the local community members who are vulnerable
- Prayer spaces outdoors
- Forest school with Cumbria wildlife trust
- Dance worship
- Wheelchair basketball
- 8 day old chicks (unexpected visitors!)

It was also great to hear about a pupil at Lanercost wondering and then testing whether toothpaste could protect an egg from the Ribena (which had destroyed an unprotected egg) and discovering that it did – brilliant!



Information sharing from the Diocese

School Sparsity Funding Consultation (closes 9th April 2021):



If you haven't already, please do participate in the consultation (link below) which could make a huge difference to funding in Cumbria where road distances can often be significantly longer than 'as the crow flies' distances.

From 2022-2023 the DfE proposes to use road distances instead of 'as the crow flies' and increase the maximum amount available from £45,000 to £55,000 for primary schools

Sparsity funding is allocated for schools below a certain size and whose pupils live more than three miles from their second nearest secondary school or two miles from their second nearest primary. Currently, these distances are calculated "as the crow flies".

The DfE is proposing that the distances be calculated based on road journeys from 2022-23, after finding that 1,123 schools are "no more than two-tenths of a mile below their respective sparsity distance thresholds in the 2021-22 NFF".

The consultation document states that, had the road distance change been applied this year, it would have seen "approximately 900 more schools become eligible for sparsity funding", which means 54 per cent of small schools would have been eligible, up from 30 per cent under the current measure.

The government is not proposing a change to the distance thresholds themselves, or the threshold for the definition of a small school.

Link to consultation:

https://consult.education.gov.uk/funding-policy-unit/schools-nff-changes-to-sparsity-factor-2022-23/?es_c=EBD9BA64FCA0088FD8373D25CA0E315A&es_cl=5E5473C69946D2DD8E0EF758D6353E81&es_id=9d%c2%a303

Islam Training:



Imran Kotwal from Muslim Learner Services www.muslimlearnerservices.org is offering Primary Schools Virtual and Face-to-Face Islam assemblies, pupil workshops and Islam staff meetings. With Ramadan, Eid-ul-Fitr, Hajj and Eid ul-Adha all taking place during the summer term, the timing is perfect.

To discuss a possible visit - please complete the enquiry form HERE or copy the link this into your browser:

https://zfrmz.com/aJbKigynJlHAK9stSRYO

RE Survey:

NICER is running a Templeton funded large scale survey for teachers and would really like you to encourage teachers in your schools to participate. The survey is about science education and religious education.



The survey is for secondary RE teachers and secondary science teachers, as well as primary teachers. They are especially interested in people in their early career phase (including student teachers) but anyone can do it. If they

get a sufficiently strong response form the Church school sector, then they can draw out sector specific data and use this to develop resources to help students, new teachers and early career teachers.

It takes 15-20 minutes and is at this link

CPAS Recovering Well Resources:

Schools have been through a tumultuous year, adapting at extremely short notice to a completely new way of delivering education, and managing to offer families huge levels of support. Now that we are returning to face-to-face teaching, we must consider the impact of this year and help our school communities to recover well. CPAS, a Church of England charity, has produced a set of free online resources to support this journey of recovery. They are available at:



www.cpas.org.uk/browse-everything/leading-through-recovery-resources-schools

Recovery is important after an illness, a traumatic event or an unexpected challenge in life. It takes time, often longer than expected, and involves a process of engaging with our emotions, integrating our losses, and embracing our new reality. Healthy recovery includes:

- · Remembering.
- · Reflecting.
- · Recuperating.

The resources give a range of ideas of how to support these three stages in a variety of ways across the school community (with ideas for PHSE, Collective Worship, Prayer/Reflection spaces, a Staff meeting and sheets to support at home).

Supporting Belonging and Believing in EYFS:



The Books at Press team has produced some free resources to support the requirements of the new EYFS Development Matters relating to RE.

<u>Development Matters 2020: Linking EYFS 2017 and 2020/21 Understanding the World to Religion and Worldviews Education (England)</u>

This document highlights the most relevant ELGs for Religious Education from both the EYFS 2017 and EYFS Early Adopter Framework. It then provides advice on implementing RE at the various stages of development in line with the Development Matters 2020 document.

Curriculum Map for RE from Nursery to Year 2

This map illustrates how the Books at Press and other resources can be used alongside a wealth of popular topics from Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

Using the Accredited Puddles Resources with Understanding Christianity

This detailed document shows how each of the Puddles books support the relevant units within Understanding Christianity.

Resources to support Community and Living Well Together:

"We have produced a series of resources for primary and secondary schools to help with this – through our 'Faith at Home' Series 2 which is entitled 'Flourishing Together', with collective worship/tutor programme films for all ages focusing on:



- Why do we belong together? (Community and Interdependence)
- How do we know we are loved? (Self-Esteem and Security)
- How do we get back on track? (Character and Renewal)
- How do we make sense of our feelings? (Mental Health and Wellbeing)
- How do we face our fears? (Anxiety and Failure)
- How can we have hope for tomorrow? (Faith and Confidence)

They're all available at <u>I am a School Leader | The Church of England</u> and we'd commend them to you to support this work." **Andy Wolfe,** Deputy Chief Education Officer.



European Conference on Christian Education:

ECCE is a tri-annual gathering of Christian Educators across Europe. This year we should have been gathering for a week in Hungary – but for some reason that's been postponed. However, it does mean that there will be a free online taster for the event on 22nd April. Registration details are

here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wellsprings-of-hope-registration-138244632417?ref=elink

Those of us who have attended ECCE in the past have found it hugely enriching as we meet with colleagues across Europe and share our similar (and often quite different) experiences. Even though this is just a 2 hour taster, I'd encourage you to attend.

Mary Hawes - National Children & Youth Adviser The Education Office, Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3AZ, 07967 701891

Training, Courses and Events:

Please contact: education@carlislediocese.org.uk to book a place on any of our courses or events.



Further information is available here



HUDDLES NEXT TERM



Tuesdays 3.45pm Thursdays 1.30pm

Do come along when you can

Tuesdays: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86821283299?pwd=UVhRZkVMeDJzTVNjZW5vaGZuaHJ6UT09&from=addon

Meeting ID: 868 2128 3299 Passcode: 391687

Thursdays: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89631760793?pwd=SkVOZjE3bkZvd1EzbmdPb3htQTcyUT09&from=addon

Meeting ID: 896 3176 0793 Passcode: 148024

Let us know if there's anything you'd like to discuss at huddles next term.

Requests so far include:

- Collective worship ideas for inspirational worship whilst we still can't gather collectively
- Visioning what is your vision, how often do you review it, how do you monitor its impact?
- Christianity as a global faith best websites and online tours of places of worship etc
- Budget setting and implication for staffing in September

If you have any questions about any of the information contained in this week's communication, don't hesitate to get in touch:

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