

Diocese of Carlisle Board of Education

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Weekly Communication: 14th May 2021

Reflection:

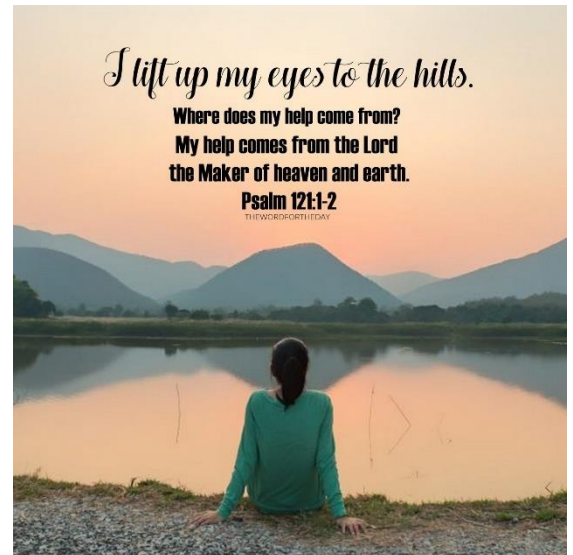
On Tuesday, we reminded ourselves that sometimes we don't have the answer and need to 'phone a friend'.



On Thursday we discussed how easy it is, in the busyness of school life, to fail to notice what's going on in the wider world. We took a moment to remember those living under a cloud of violence and fear of displacement in Israel.

A song of ascents.

- ¹ I lift up my eyes to the mountains—
where does my help come from?
- ² My help comes from the LORD,
the Maker of heaven and earth.
- ³ He will not let your foot slip—
he who watches over you will not slumber;
- ⁴ indeed, he who watches over Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.
- ⁵ The LORD watches over you—
the LORD is your shade at your right hand;
- ⁶ the sun will not harm you by day,
nor the moon by night.
- ⁷ The LORD will keep you from all harm—
he will watch over your life;
- ⁸ the LORD will watch over your coming and going
both now and forevermore.



Feedback from Headteachers: themes of the week

Behaviour management: has been a recurrent theme this week. From pupils in EYFS who are still struggling with turn taking and social skills; through to Year 6 pupils who are struggling to follow school rules and pushing boundaries and everything along the way, lots of schools reported difficult to manage behaviours. We heard about a range of strategies being implemented to help pupils who are struggling to manage their behaviour including: yoga, mindfulness, running the daily mile and supervised play.

No SATS: those of us used to the Key Stage 2 rhythm of life have found it hard to 'get our heads round' a second year of no KS2 SATS. We all agreed that this year was even more strange than last year when all bets were off and many KS2 pupils were not attending school.

Bubbles: on Tuesday, we discussed the craziness of families being allowed to mingle indoors next week, whether at home, in a pub or restaurant or shopping mall whilst schools are still being advised to maintain existing bubble structures. Pupils living with a sibling in another bubble and perfectly free to socialise with friends in other bubbles (or other schools) cannot play with pupils in different bubbles in their own school, even outdoors. Some headteachers felt that schools had been overlooked in the latest round of easing of restrictions. [If you need any help or support with deciding on changes to your current bubble structures, please don't hesitate to contact me, Charlotte – details below.]

Staffing: reactions to vaccines for staff members in their 40s who never normally have a day off having needed time out of school has caused difficulties for some schools recently. Routine surgery and hospital appointments opening up again has resulted in staff needing to be out of school. Great for staff who are getting what they need (finally) but hard to cover.

Emotional rollercoaster continues: we had a long discussion on Thursday about the emotionally draining relentlessness and uncertainty that comes with COVID restrictions. Conflicting news – all systems go for June 21st on the one hand and India strain of virus could cause new wave on the other hand – means that we don't really feel confident planning for the future or advising others. We spoke of the exhaustion and fatigue many of us feel because of the difficulty of ever really switching off. The 'always on' culture which began as an emergency response over a year ago has not left many of us. The desire to constantly buoy up others is draining and hard to do successfully when we don't have the answers ourselves. We spoke of the benefits of a 'coaching' model, supporting others to make their own decisions. We also reminded ourselves about the advantages of occasion-based planning rather than date-based planning – remember D-day ... no one knew **WHEN** it would come (it was weather dependent) but they all knew **WHAT** would come, down to the minute. This could be a helpful model for planning post-restriction events.

Hope and Joy: sharing celebratory moments

We love hearing what you have been doing to bring Hope and Joy to your school and wider community.

This week we enjoyed hearing about the pupils at Staveley School being encouraged to take themselves out of their comfort zones with an in house residential run by Outward Bound.



We also heard about a really interesting pilot Digital Residency project at Cartmel Primary where pupils are building their own digital world and staff are working with members of the Chol Theatre Company to plan English lessons to develop pupils' scene setting and character description skills.

Wellbeing Corner:



Wellbeing Awareness Week
10th – 16th May 2021

We are still in the middle of Wellbeing Awareness Week and we saw last week, this year's theme is nature. The link takes you to the [Mental Health Foundation](#) website, which is rich source of resources, podcasts and materials to help you understand and get the most out of the connection between nature and wellbeing. There is even a journal template to help you reflect on what nature means to you, which is well worth downloading.



Here in Cumbria, we are so lucky to be blessed with some of the most beautiful nature and scenery England has to offer - right on our doorstep! It would be great to see some posts on twitter of how you and your school have engaged with Mental Health Awareness week and likewise, building a strong connection with nature.

Collective Worship Resources:

If you have developed or found collective worship resources which you would be happy to share with colleagues in other schools, please do get in touch. We know that high quality collective worship materials and inspiration for how to find awe and wonder whilst COVID restrictions remain in place is something many of you are grateful to receive.

Other information and resources:

Carlisle Cathedral write:



We want to develop the Carlisle Cathedral educational programme to suit the learning needs of teachers

We are asking teachers in Cumbria working in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 to complete a short survey to help us inform our programme

Survey closes 30th June, use this link to complete the survey <https://s.surveypal.com/i-YBmv7l4>

As a thank you for taking part in the survey, teachers can opt-in to be part of a prize draw to win a free workshop at Carlisle Cathedral for their class in the academic year 2021-2022

Diocesan Conference: **PAUSE** for school leaders (inc. governors) 1.30pm Wednesday 23rd June



**Picture
News**

Picture News is offering a free 4-week pilot for schools. Each Friday morning, you will receive a full Picture News pack which includes our poster with a big question, full pack of teaching resources and a short pre-recorded virtual assembly to watch with children.

If you'd like to be added to their list to receive the resources over the next four weeks, you can add your details here: <https://bit.ly/3grojGa>

The Big Ask launch



Dame Rachel De Souza, The Children's Commissioner for England, has launched the biggest ever consultation with children.

The survey will be live until Monday 19 May and asks children across England to set out their priorities for improving childhood post-Covid.

Children and young people can take part in the survey at thebigask.uk

The CSCP are asking people to promote the survey and encourage the children and young people they work with to take part and have their say.

If you are a teacher, or work with children and young people there are lots of [resources](#) to support you implementing the survey with them.

[Watch Rachel De Souza](#) introduce and explain the survey with the help of footballer Marcus Rashford.

[Find answers to common questions](#) about The Big Ask.

If you want to talk to the team behind the survey you can contact them at big.ask@childrenscommissioner.gov.uk

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.

[Development Matters 2020: Linking EYFS 2017 and 2020/21 Understanding the World to Religion and Worldviews Education \(England\)](#)

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 [I am a School Leader | The Church of England](#) and we’d commend them to you to support this work.” **Andy Wolfe**, Deputy Chief Education Officer.



Training, Courses and Events:

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

Further information is available [here](#)



Massive thanks to those who have been part of a working party to review our RE scheme of work. It won't be a quick job as there's lots to do but it is wonderful to have begun this process. If anyone else had thoughts or material to share, please do get in touch.



HUDDLES THIS HALF TERM



Tuesdays 3.45pm
Thursdays 1.30pm

Do come along when you can

Tuesdays: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86821283299?pwd=UVhRZkVMeDZlTVNjZW5vaGZuaHJ6UT09&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

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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