

Diocese of Carlisle Board of Education

www.carlislediocese.org.uk/education

Weekly Communication: 9th December 2021

Reflection:







This week, I had the privilege of spending a special day with the curates of the Diocese who are currently at the 'hands on' stage of their ministerial training (you may remember me asking for help in putting the day together some weeks ago).

It was wonderful and very encouraging to see the enthusiasm for and commitment to working with schools from the next generation of ministers.

I am very grateful to all those who contributed: to Vanessa and Morven for joining me at various points to share their respective vocations; and to many of you who provided videos of acts of collective worship, put me in touch with an inspirational minister, or shared your experience of the difference that a good working relationship with church makes in a school context.

I would particularly like to thank Lisa @ St Bridget's Brigham for her time preparaing for and attending on the day to support this important training session, especially at this busy time. Thank you all.

Matthew 19:13-15

"One day some parents brought their children to Jesus so he could lay his hands on them and pray for them. But the disciples scolded the parents for bothering him. But Jesus said, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to those who are like these children." And he placed his hands on their heads and blessed them before he left."

Training:

Don't forget, there is an opportunity to attend **Understanding Christianity** training with Laura Watson, our RE Consultant in the New Year (poster below).

Simply email education@carlislediocese.org.uk to join any of our courses or events.

There's always lots going on. Don't forget to keep an eye on our **Events Programme:**

Heads Huddle:

Heads Huddle is a weekly opportunity to meet with fellow school leaders and members of the Diocesan Education Team in a relaxed and informal online chat.

Please do join us to share the highs and lows of the week; to take a moment for reflection; to enjoy some mutual support; to ask any questions on your mind; and to receive any updates available.



We'd love to see you at 3.45pm on Tuesdays whenever you can make it.

https://uso2web.zoom.us/i/88350734545?pwd=aEFSQlk3Wm5qK2FWNk8wSoxVNC84dzo9&from=addon

Feedback from Headteachers: themes of the week



We regularly observe that when only one person zooms in for a huddle, there's a very good reason for that and this week was no different.

Vanessa and I really enjoyed catching up with Alison @ Lancercost, making her final preparations to hand over the baton at Christmas when she will retire after a legendary [almost] 21 years as Headteacher at the school.

We asked her what she will miss most:

"The children. I love teaching and seeing those light bulb

moments when the penny drops. It's a privilege to be able to make a difference in their lives and to enjoy the rapport with them.

I will also hugely miss the camaraderie and close working relationships with colleagues."

We were delighted to hear that for her last 'public' appearance as Headteacher, Alison ran in the local fundraising Reindeer Dash dressed as Santa! They raised £780 towards the Jigsaw Hospice Appeal. Brilliant.

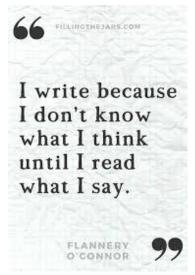
Reindeers all the way: just as Alison left us to carry on sorting out her folders and get her ducks in a row, someone else zoomed in and it made us chuckle to discover that another Reindeer Fundraiser is taking place this week at the other end of the county. This one involves racing wind-up reindeer.



It's wonderful to hear about your activities and how you are bringing Hope & Joy to your pupils, their families and the wider community. Thank you.

Wellbeing Corner:





Are you one of the super organised who has all your Christmas shopping all 'parcelled' up (see what I did there?) or are you still thinking about an idea to give as an answer when someone asks you what you may like? How about a beautiful journal and a pen? For those of us old enough to remember, journals take us back to the Adrian Mole years and teenage angst; however, there are multiple recognised health benefits to journaling that are only just beginning to make themselves more publicly known. For example, journaling can help you make sense of how you are feeling and prioritise things you need to work through. Likewise, journaling raises self-awareness and helps bring to conscious awareness the things that can trigger us, cause our wellbeing to slip or challenge our values as well as raise our spirits. Journaling can help to prevent burnout, manage anxiety and most importantly, arm people with the tools to explain to others how they are thinking and feeling because there has been a process of writing it all down first. With all of my coaching supervisees and coaches in training, I continually emphasise the need for robust and

meaningful journaling as part of their broader reflective practice in order that they can begin to know themselves better, and hold the space for their clients with a greater degree of integrity.

So; if Santa does not leave a nice note book under the tree, why not treat yourself to a trip to the likes of Paperchase and start a new habit for the new year. When you look back over the journey you have made in 12 months' time, you will come to see ways in which you have grown that may otherwise have stayed hidden.

83 Benefits of Journaling for Depression, Anxiety and Stress

Pam Weeden, Diocesan School Consultant Executive Coach

Inclusion Corner:

This week, I just can't stop thinking about this little face and the horrors that Arthur Labinjo-Hughes suffered.

I've been reflecting on how short-staffed and underfunded our children's services colleagues are and that no matter how much we do for our children when they are in our care during the school day, what happens at home is largely out of our hands.

I've been considering what I feel called to do in response.



If we truly believe in flourishing for **all** something needs to change. What can **we** can do? If this is also on your mind and you have ideas you would like to discuss, please do get in touch.

SIAMS Update



- The rate of inspections is beginning to pick up.
- It's fair to say that inspections feel very different to those which took place under the current Evaluation Schedule before lockdown. Expectations are high and, with so much more now taking place before the inspection (document exchange and extra phone calls), the exploration of lines of enquiry on the day itself feels much more rigorous and challenging.
- As anticipated, following Ofsted's research report which highlighted concerns about quality of RE teaching, inspectors are thoroughly assessing the effectiveness of RE. If you haven't read the Ofsted research paper, you can find it here.
- Please make sure you have read the SIAMS Information for Schools document which sets out expectations about Self Evaluation:
- https://www.churchofengland.org/about/education-and-schools/church-schools-and-academies/siams-inspections

AND FINALLY ...

Applications have now opened for new SIAMS Inspectors.

The link to the application form, and more details about the applications process can be found on the <u>SIAMS</u> <u>Inspections webpage</u>, on the Church of England website. Applications will close **at midday (12pm) on Thursday 13 January 2022**.

If this is something you think you might be interested in and would like to find out more and explore whether it is right for you, please do get in touch to arrange a time to discuss this with me.



The NISCU team currently have a vacancy for a Youth/Schools Worker in the Furness area (South West Lakes).

If you know anyone who

might be interested (a teaching assistant who wanted to add 8 hours to their working week for example), do please encourage them to take a look at the details which you can find here

If you have a vacancy you would like to advertise here, don't hesitate to send it to charlotte.tudway@carlislediocese.org.uk. I aim to send out the weekly communication each Thursday so any 'copy' would need to be with me by Wednesday evening (or early Thursday morning) to make it into that week's edition.





CALLING ALL CLERKS



We currently have a number of schools looking for a Clerk to Governors. If you know anyone who might be prepared to take on this crucial role or to add another school to their portfolio, please contact Morven: education@carlislediocese.org.uk

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

Charlotte Tudway

Deputy Director of Education charlotte.tudway@carlislediocese.org.uk www.carlislediocese.org.uk/education 07917 993659





A resource of theological literacy, that explores the impact and encourages reflection and connections.



UNDERSTANDING CHRISTIANITY TEXT IMPACT CONNECTIONS

- 7 modules over 4 sessions
- Teacher's handbook
- 22 units of work
- · Wall frieze of the Bible
- Folder of photo-copiable resources
- Online access to resources
- Follow up support from the Diocese

Understanding Christianity for Primary Schools

North Cumbria

Monday 10th January – Church House, Penrith 9:30am-

3:30pm

West Cumbria

Tuesday 19th April –

location TBC, 9:30am-3:30pm

Follow up sessions:

Monday 9th May 4-5:30pm online Monday 13th June 4-5.30pm online Monday 4th July 4-5.30pm online

Trainer: Laura Watson – RE Consultant, Carlisle Diocese

Cost: £195 to include the resource folder

£125 without the folder; ideal for new staff in school

For further details or to book a place please contact:

education@carlislediocese.org.uk or laura.watson@carlislediocese.org.uk

