

Diocese of Carlisle Board of Education

www.carlislediocese.org.uk/education

Weekly Communication: 26th May 2022

Reflection:



Today is Ascension Day, the Thursday forty days after Easter, on which Christ's Ascension to heaven (following his time on earth after His resurrection) is celebrated in the Christian Church. If you have been celebrating today, I'd love to see your photos.

I also just wanted to take a moment to reflect on the fact that today is national Thank A Teacher Day.

I have a couple of problems with this: (i) every day should be Thank A Teacher Day (seriously); and (ii) although there is also a national Thank A Teaching Assistant day, I would also like at least a day to celebrate all those other school staff members who we can't live without.

But, leaving those two issues aside, please allow me to say one more time (in case you haven't heard it from me enough) **THANK YOU!**



Please keep being the magic weavers. Remember on those mornings when you feel like you can't face the day ahead that **YOU** are what makes some children feel able to face the day ahead. You can't know the difference you are making in the moment but please know that there will be pupils, former pupils and their family members who will talk about the difference you have made in their lives. Keep on keeping on. You are all superheroes.



Strong Trust Led System

I wondered what a 'strong trust led system' looked like. This was suggested by Google images. This I can work with – a community or family working together to achieve the best outcomes for our pupils. But who are the outliers? Who are the individuals who aren't part of the whole? How, as a Diocesan family, can we support them and draw them into the body?

If you haven't already, please do have a look at the following important documents:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/opportunity-for-all-strong-schools-with-great-teachers-for-your-child>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schools-bill-policy-statements>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/implementing-school-system-reform-in-2022-to-2023>

And, if you would like to, do book in an appointment to discuss them and the implications for your school.

❖ *Please check whether you have booked your place* ❖

Some of you have told us you will see us there, but you aren't on our Attendance List

JUST TEN PLACES LEFT

Carlisle Diocesan Board of Education: Leaders' Conference 2022 **Made in the Image of God**



Educational
Equity
Services

Thursday 16th June:
The Roundthorn Hotel, Penrith CA11 8SJ

Breakfast from 9am

- ❖ Prof Paul Miller, Educational Equity Services ❖
- ❖ Janett Walker, CEO Anti Racist Cumbria ❖
- ❖ Dr Margaret James, National Director of SIAMS ❖
 - ❖ Pupil led worship ❖
- ❖ Plus some friends of the Diocese; a range of stalls and lots of time to catch up with colleagues ❖

Goody bags are filling up nicely!

Contact education@carlisediocese.org.uk for more information or to book a place.
£50 for Enhanced Partnership Agreement Schools with a free Foundation Governor place. £120 per person for anyone else.

Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works **Hebrews 10:24**

Wellbeing Corner: Switch Off!



**Switch off when
not in use**

[Click for our full
Wellbeing Strategy](#)

When I think back to my teenage years, one of my vivid memories is talking to my friends in on the phone the hallway because it was attached to the wall via a cord whilst in the background, my stepfather grumbled about how long I'd been on there and that 'he wasn't made of money'. He always conveniently forgot that when the phone bill arrived in, we were all lined up and asked to cough up for the calls on the itemised list we were responsible for. I was always deeply envious of the young people in the films I watched who seemed to have their own private line in the bedroom. Privacy was not really an option and for all three of us girls in the household with our high school angst, friendships in all their ups and downs, and various dramas, that one phone was the only way in which the world of school could infiltrate the world of home. The boundaries between worlds were clear and distinct. 'Switching off' had both a literal and metaphorical meaning to it

Modern advancements to technology mean that those boundaries between worlds are now tissue thin or non-existent. Whether it be emails, social media, text or messaging, information arrives continually in multiple forms and likewise, is accessible 24 hours a day on multiple devices. This has value and has expanded learning, communication and our capacity to reach out to others in ways we could not have ever foreseen back in the 'one phone family' days of my youth. However, it has also meant that over time, our ability to 'switch off' has become stunted and declined. Like any muscle, if we don't use that part of our psyche, it will wither. However, the impacts of continual information and sensory overload are significant for long term physical and mental health.

Going into half term, something to reflect on now is what will it take for you to 'switch off' properly in the truest sense of the word. What does it need to look like for you? Where are your risk points? For example, do you need to check email every day? What will happen if you don't? What can you do instead? This article from [The Stylist](#) has some great suggestions – really obvious ones but if you are anything like me, a reminder is never a bad thing!

Have a lovely break everyone and please do switch off!

**Pam Weeden, Diocesan School Consultant
Executive Coach**



Bible Trivia Resource:

<https://allthetrivia.com/bible-trivia/>



Dear Friends,

Invitation to Join our 'Choir for the Queen'

St Paul's Cathedral would like to invite your schools to be part of our 'Choir for the Queen'. We are inviting schools across the UK and the Commonwealth to learn and record one of three royal pieces.

All schools need to do is film some of their children singing along to our YouTube video backing track of one of the following:

1. The hymn *All people that on earth do dwell*
2. 'Vivat Regina Elizabetha' from Parry, *I was Glad* (sung at the Coronation in 1953)
3. The National Anthem

We've made it as easy as possible, with **teaching videos**, and **YouTube Cathedral Organ tracks with the lyrics**. We have also included free classroom resources to support your delivery of the music curriculum. You can nominate a class, or your whole school (and we appreciate that this might rule out Year 6 for part of May!).

- St Paul's is hosting the national service of thanksgiving for the Platinum Jubilee on 3rd June, and our 'Choir for the Queen' is part of our celebrations. If you do submit a video, it may be used in BBC media footage.
- Please share any videos using **#ChoirfortheQueen**, ideally by 25th May, but certainly by 3rd June.
- You can sign up by [completing this short Google Form](#).

A full explanation and all video resources can be found here: www.stpauls.co.uk/choir-for-queen

Very best,
Tom Daggett

Christian Aid Global Neighbours Awards:

We were delighted to hear that the Christian Aid team will be keeping us updated going forwards so that we can celebrate with any of our schools achieving an award.

Currently, the following schools in our Diocesan family have already achieved a Bronze Award (well done them):



Eaglesfield Paddle
Lazonby CE
St. Bridget's CE Primary, Cockermouth
St. James' CE Infant & Nursery, Whitehaven
Vicarage Park

If you aren't on this list and should be, please do get in touch. Otherwise, please do consider giving it a go!



This year, these Thy Kingdom Come resources are available free, directly to schools with free P&P:

To celebrate the Platinum Jubilee and as part of Thy Kingdom Come 2022, we have 500,000 free storybooks for primary school children. This small colourful book has a royal theme and is based on the Fruit of the Spirit - faithfulness. Faithfulness is like loyalty, trustworthiness and commitment rolled into one, and the Queen has set an excellent example of this. Schools can order here for free (including free P&P) <https://cheekypandas.com/free-book/>

We are also providing assembly plans, activity packs, and take-home sheets for those that want them. The book is linked to one of the 5 animated TV episodes that we are providing to resource children and families this Thy Kingdom Come. These programmes have been produced by BBC animators to help children and families grow in their faith and learn about the bible in a format that will engage them most at a critical age for faith formation. The TV series and accompanying resources will be released on www.thykingdomcome.global/cheekypandas in time for Easter. We hope that you find these a helpful resource for your school.

Questful RE:



Religious Education Syllabus
for Church Schools
(EYF5, KS1 & KS2)



Questful RE
Creative and Challenging



We are delighted to announce that Blackburn Diocese have committed to providing a bespoke Carlisle Diocese training session for any of you already committed to using their scheme (which will be moving to an online platform in September). Equally, if any of you would like to take this chance to adopt this Ofsted and SIAMS approved RE curriculum, scheme of work and assessment package, please do so.

The course, at the **North Lakes Hotel, Penrith on Wednesday 19th October**, will be tailored to Carlisle Diocese schools and you should feel free to ask any questions you may have.

The cost of the new online scheme is £75+VAT.

You can book a place on the training course here: [Primary: Successfully using the Questful RE online syllabus – Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education \(bducation.org.uk\)](http://Primary: Successfully using the Questful RE online syllabus – Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education (bducation.org.uk))

The Lord's Prayer:

New great free resource from Church of England Birmingham launched this week!

One minute film: The Lord's Prayer led by Birmingham children

A team of colleagues in the Church of England Birmingham has produced some videos of children saying the Lord's Prayer. The children are all from Anglican churches in Birmingham, and their families come from a variety of different countries. The aim is that this will be a prayer resource, reflecting some of the diversity of the Anglican church in Birmingham, that can be used in churches and schools. We hope that children and adults will either see themselves reflected in the video, or be inspired, and perhaps challenged, by the diversity represented. The videos are free to use and are available at <https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL0y97u25O5LdkmZpE8fZmsGczzzEJRT0E>



They can also be found

here: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1IYiEfIR_EIyGT_AhIOrKCjodgbnWkNK_?usp=sharing where they are accompanied by resource sheets available to help churches and schools think about how they can best use the films. There are separate sheets for church schools and community schools, as well as for churches.

As you'll see there are four films available: two are completely in English, one has a musical backing track and two start with the children saying the words 'Our Father' in their family language and again one of these has the backing track. Each of the films has the words to the Lord's prayer on the screen so that people can easily join in with the prayer, or use the film to learn about this central prayer for Christians.

Here are some comments from church school pupils in the diocese of Birmingham:

"I think the video is really powerful as you can see how everyone has come together to pray to God." Will Yr 5

"I love how everyone used their own special language and shows how everyone can pray the same prayer." Isabelle Yr 4

"Everyone whose families are from different countries are not that different and we can all worship God. We can even use the same prayer." Layla Yr 3

"You don't have to just speak English to be a Christian." George Yr 1

"In my class we have people that can speak different languages. It shows that we are all the same and can worship God in any language." Maisy Yr 1

"It's really nice to hear all the different languages - me and my friends can speak other languages too." Sanvi Yr 4

Throughout this week Church of England Birmingham will be promoting these films on social media. If you are able to promote these films across your own networks, the Education Team would be really grateful, as we believe they are a valuable prayer resource that will be both an encouragement and inspiration.



Join hundreds of schools from around the world taking part in this year's Spirited Arts competition!

Winning entries will provide a good response to one of the 5 themes, and judges will be asking: **Is it original? Is it well-crafted? And (most importantly!) Is it excellent RE?**



How to enter?

Pupils can enter individually, in pairs or groups, or as whole class, year or school entries. We have also been pleased to receive entries from whole community groups on previous years.

All entries must be received before 31 July 2022.

Many schools host their own Spirited Arts competition and send their 10 winning entries in to our international competition. What a great way to engage all your teachers and pupils and raise the profile of RE in your school! To enable teachers to incorporate the art competition into their RE lessons, many schools have an 'Spirited Arts' unit of work, or a special learning RE/arts week.

Here are a few key things to remember:

1. If teachers are able to collate and send in their **10 best entries** (as usual), that would be a big help for us!
2. If this isn't possible due to social distancing policies, pupils can submit their own entries but they **must** include their NAME, AGE, SCHOOL NAME, SCHOOL POSTCODE and have the ARTWORK AND WRITE UP TOGETHER.
3. Entries must reach us before **31 July 2022** to be accepted.

Further information [here](#)

Dear RE colleague

I would like to invite you to my next Islam CPD webinar for Primary Schools:

Teaching & Learning about Hajj / Pilgrimage to Mecca and Eid-ul-Adha.

You will find the booking link below.

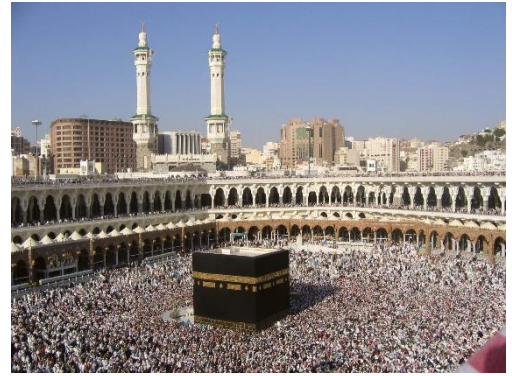
Training Dates: Mon 13 June (4-5 pm) OR Thu 7 July (4-5 pm)

Location: Zoom Live Webinar

Cost: ONE FREE place for schools that have subscribed to [IslamREsources.co.uk](https://www.islamresources.co.uk).

£25 per person for non-members

Includes all training materials.



In the webinar, I will be taking you through a step-by-step guide on how Muslims perform Hajj/pilgrimage to Mecca (which takes place 7/8-11/12 July, Eid-ul-Adha celebrated around 9/10 July* subject to the sighting of the new moon...so it's a great time to attend this webinar and refresh /develop your subject knowledge).

I will explain the rituals involved in Mecca, Ka'bah, Mina, Arafah, Muzdalifah, Safa & Marwah during the 5 days of Hajj. Includes Islamic stories that link to Biblical stories. This webinar will give you the confidence to teach Hajj in detail and accurately & lead an assembly on Eid-ul-Adha at your school.

To book your place on the webinar click [HERE](#) or copy this link into your browser <https://zfrmz.com/QO0GcTb3rI5EsBHsRBs2>

If your school isn't a member of [IslamREsources.co.uk](https://www.islamresources.co.uk) and you would like to attend this and future webinars for FREE as well as access all my Islam Teaching & Learning resources...Please complete the subscription form [HERE](#) or copy this link into your browser <https://zfrmz.com/FCROfodagi7iuFeyPftO>

Thanks
Imran Kotwal



Training Opportunity:

We are blessed to have the expertise in the Diocesan team to offer subsidised Mental Health First Aid training for school staff.

There are two possible models and I would be grateful if you would indicate a preference:

resulting in a full Mental Health First Aid certificate; or

- An online, largely self-taught course involving x4 3.5 hour sessions online and some home learning.

We hope to run sessions either later in the Summer Term or in the Autumn Term. Indications of interest are warmly invited.

- Two day's face-to-face training

Training:

Coming up this half term:

Thursday 9th June – **Clerks Q&A online** at 10am with Morven Anson

NEW COURSE Monday 13th June – Embedding Understanding Christianity – Curriculum Design online at 4pm **for anyone in the January or April training cohorts:** with Laura Watson

NEW EVENT THURSDAY 16TH JUNE – ANNUAL CONFERENCE FOR LEADERS – ALL DAY EVENT AT ROUNDTORN COUNTRY HOUSE, PENRITH

Wednesday 22nd June - **New & Acting Headteacher Induction at Penrith Rugby Club:** Celebration, Reflection on your first year, thinking ahead to next year including performance appraisal linking to school development planning with Charlotte Tudway, PHA (Judith Gore) and LIS (Calum Campbell)

*Monday 27th June - **Headteacher Peer Support Network Session 5 of 5** online at 1.30pm with Ruth Houston

*Wednesday 29th June - **Headteacher Peer Support Network Session 5 of 5** online at 1.30pm with Ruth Houston

Monday 4th July - Embedding Understanding Christianity – Assessment and end of unit activities online at 4pm **for anyone in the January or April training cohorts:** with Laura Watson

Simply email education@carlisle-diocese.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](#).

*There are two options for Peer Support Networks. The content is the same at both.

❖ **Our new Events Schedule for 2022-2023 will be available after the half term break** ❖



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 3.30pm on Thursday whenever you can make it



STUNNING LOCATION

Set in over thirty acres of garden, woodland and natural beauty in the Lake District UNESCO World Heritage Site, Rydal Hall is the ideal venue for retreats, events, activity weekends or just a family holiday. With wonderful views over the Rothay valley and with the Fairfield Horseshoe and Nab Scar as a backdrop, the Hall and its grounds are the perfect place to enjoy this beautiful part of the world.

RYDAL HALL: BUNKHOUSE ACCOMMODATION FOR SCHOOLS

If you've never visited Rydal Hall, I can't recommend it highly enough.

We are very fortunate to have this amazing Diocesan retreat centre available to our schools. The opportunities at Rydal are endless.

It offers the perfect location for children to enjoy the great outdoors and the ideal place for a first holiday away from home. A great place to learn some life skills but so much more ... opportunities to appreciate the natural world, to ask big questions about the meaning of life, to develop character (taking risks and trying new things for the first time) and to develop spiritually. The hall has its own chapel and schools can expect a warm welcome and support for their pupils and staff during any visit.

The lovely Rydal Hall Bunk House, situated to the rear of the main Hall, sleeps up to 29 people in 4 dormitory style rooms. It includes a communal room with a fully equipped kitchen and seating area. At £335 per night, it is a very affordable venue for an inclusive residential trip.



[For larger groups there are also extensive camping facilities.]

Please call Rydal Hall on 015394 32050 for further information or to book.

As always, 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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