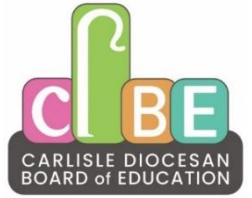


# Weekly Communication: 17<sup>th</sup> July 2025



[www.carlisle-diocese.org.uk/education](http://www.carlisle-diocese.org.uk/education)

If someone has forwarded this communication to you and you would like to be added to the distribution list to receive one every week, please email: [charlotte.tudway@carlisle-diocese.org.uk](mailto:charlotte.tudway@carlisle-diocese.org.uk)

You will have seen the image we have created to reflect our feeling of #hope about the future of our amazing family of church schools (if we work together to support one another via our existing or a new trust).



We know how hard it is to feel hopeful at the end of a brutal school year. You are on your knees and need a break. You know that your budgets and buildings are falling off a cliff.

You may be asking yourself, 'how is she feeling hopeful?' The answer #trust. I trust you all. You are all amazing and I trust that if we work together, we can do amazing things.



Following the mindless crime during which the Sycamore Gap tree was felled in 2023, I felt so encouraged, to see in the news this week confirmation that from sadness and destruction can come new growth and #hope. New shoots

are growing from the stump. Rejuvenation!

This summer I pray for rest, rejuvenation and, above all, a chance for each of you to feel hopeful before your return to school in September.



*"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not faint."*

Isaiah 40:31

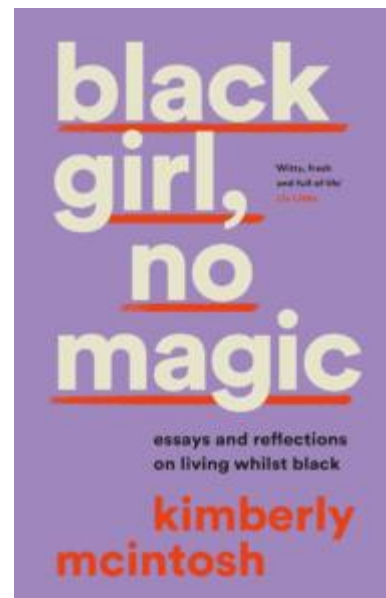
# NEW THIS WEEK!

## Enjoying our book recommendations

If you are looking for your next read over the summer. Anti Racist Cumbria publish a list of their previously read book club books and their book club short lists which you can find [here](#).

Their most recent book club book was Black Girl, No Magic by Kimberly McIntosh who will be part of a live book club experience at their 2025 summit.

Save the date for the next online book club meet



join  
**Anti Racist Cumbria's  
BOOK CLUB!**



**All are welcome!**

**2025 dates:**

**Monday 3rd March**

**Monday 7th July**

**Monday 3rd November**

**Online, 7 - 8.30pm**

**ANTI  
RACIST  
CUMBRIA**



## Relationships, Sex and Health Education



**Department  
for Education**

The Department for Education (DfE) has updated the statutory **Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE)** guidance. Your school leaders **must** follow it from **September 2026**, but they can begin implementing it from September 2025, if they wish.

To read the guidance [click here](#)



## Have you explored the Christian Aid RE resource Speak Up or Stay Silent?



Speak Up or Stay Silent? is not designed as a complete RE scheme of work but, rather, offers units of work and a range of resources to help pupils explore Christian views about justice – reflecting on how faith and belief impacts the lives of individuals and communities. The resource contains material for pupils in Early Years through to KS3/S3 and consists of:

- Units of work
- A pupil research leaflet
- A photo pack containing 21 global images with case studies and reflective questions
- A world map and sorting activity

[View the units of work here](#)

To order the photo pack, map and copies of the research leaflet please email [christianaid@mosaic-fs.co.uk](mailto:christianaid@mosaic-fs.co.uk) requesting the Speak Up or Stay Silent photo pack, quoting item reference F5006 or the research leaflet 'Christian Aid – Our Work' quoting F5007.

As the academic year draws to a close, I'd like to wish you a restful and refreshing summer break.



### Summer of play

The National Trust are hosting Summer of Play which is sponsored by Starling Bank and supported by Sport England. They will have a range of activities including lawn games, story tellers and nature trails on throughout the summer.

You can find more information [here](#)



## Training Schedule

We have a variety of training sessions running each month. Most of the sessions are online and are cost-free if you are part of the partnership agreement.

Want to attend a session but can't? Please get in touch and we can arrange for it to be recorded for you.

You can find a copy of the training schedule [here](#). Booking is quick and easy just click the link and follow the on screen steps.

Any queries then email Anna – [anna.lea@carlisle-diocese.org.uk](mailto:anna.lea@carlisle-diocese.org.uk)



## Governor Zone



## Relationships, Sex and Health Education



The Department for Education (DfE) has updated the statutory **Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE)** guidance. Your school leaders **must** follow it from **September 2026**, but they can begin implementing it from September 2025, if they wish.

### Your role as a governor

As a governor or trustee, it's your role to make sure that:

- Curriculum content and teaching materials are aligned with the statutory guidance
- Clear information is given to parents/carers on the subject content, teaching materials and external providers, and on the right to request their child is withdrawn from sex education

To read the guidance [click here](#)

# Education Office Team

As always, if you have any questions about any of the information contained in this week's communication, need any help or support or want to arrange a visit, don't hesitate to get in touch



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# School Advisers



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Bennie  
Kara

## Noor Inayat Khan

Please have a look at the attached article about Noor Inayat Khan by Bennie Kara, and register for Bennie's blog at [Subscribe to The Unlearning](#)



### An invitation to pray the Lord's Prayer together

Dear all

As part of *Faith in the North*, we're inviting schools across the North of England to come together in saying the Lord's Prayer on Friday, 10th October 2025.

Faith in the North supports and resources Church and community primary and secondary schools across the North of England through encouraging children and young people to explore the Christian Faith through the stories of the past, particularly the Northern Saints.

Earlier this year we released our first boxset of free resources, "*The Lord's Prayer Journey*" and as part of this are inviting schools to join together in a collective praying of the Lord's Prayer in their schools at some point during the school day on the 10<sup>th</sup> October.

Many of you already include the Lord's Prayer in your collective worship, and there is no expectation that you need to do anything different. All you need to do is to find a moment in your school day, either all together or in your classrooms and pray the Lord's Prayer together and our hope is that the opportunity to join together will inspire and encourage you and your students.

We're creating a short video introducing the Lord's Prayer, which you're welcome to show beforehand and we'll be sharing some wider free resources you could chose to use. We'd love it if you could share a photo or short video of your school praying—helping us celebrate the day together.

It will also be great to see, for example, if we could find creative ways to use the Lord's Prayer, to put its words into practice or to see how many languages we can say the Lord's Prayer in across the North?



Registering will enable us to share the video and wider resources with you, remind you in the lead up and provide the details for you to share your video/photo with us afterwards

**To register your interest in joining in on the day please sign up [here](#)**

With thanks

Theo Sheridan-Watts

Faith in the North Programme Manager

[theo.sheridan-watts@archbishopofyork.org](mailto:theo.sheridan-watts@archbishopofyork.org)

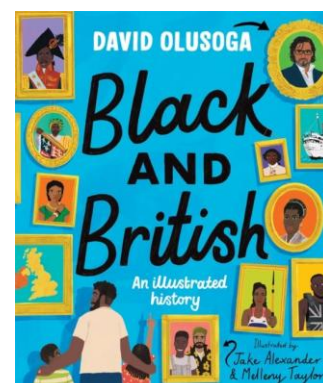
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## **Book Recommendations**

We had a browsing bookstall at the conference, so that you can see what members of the education team are currently reading. Here are this week's recommendations from Anna.

### **Black and British by David Olusoga**

'I began reading this book after Day 1 of our Anti Racist Cumbria training. It seemed like a good place to start. It tells the stories of black people in Britain over hundreds of years. The stories of these brave people and important events are told in a powerful yet accessible way for children. The book is honest, inspiring and full of facts that might surprise you!



## **Gardening clubs in schools**

Having a mixed-age gardening club as a lunchtime or after school activity can offer a number of benefits for both pupils and staff, providing opportunities for people to come together in a new way. We have included a guide for schools with this week's main Weekly Comms bulletin which includes suggestions for round-the-year activities, and links to the SIAMS framework.



Dent C of E Voluntary Aided Primary School  
Laning, Dent, Sedbergh, Cumbria. LA10 5QJ. Tel: 015396 25259  
Headteacher: Mr David Prescott

## **Teaching Head Vacancy**

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### Job Details

<b>Salary:</b>	Pts L6-L12 £56,316 – £65,286.
<b>Contract type:</b>	Teaching Head 0.6 FTE
<b>NOR:</b>	28
<b>Responsible to:</b>	Governing Board
<b>Responsible for:</b>	All Staff
<b>Interviews will be held on:</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> & 23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2025

Dent Church of England Primary School is looking for a leader and colleague who will deliver high standards of academic and personal growth.

While we have many strengths, as seen in our Ofsted and SIAMS inspection reports, we know that we need to build on these solid foundations in order to continue to provide the best all-round education for our pupils.

The school focuses on the holistic development of each child, and we expect to treat everyone with fairness, respect and equality. Each pupil is encouraged to achieve their potential through a supportive family-orientated atmosphere which combines strong learning outcomes with excellent pastoral support.

In particular, we are looking for a headteacher who will:

1. Be an inspirational leader who has the management skills to deliver the school's ethos and vision.
2. Inspire, motivate and nurture our children.
3. Provide an enriched and high-quality, creative curriculum, which expects high standards and enables excellent outcomes for all pupils.
4. Promote and enhance the well-being of the staff team, providing opportunities for all to learn and grow to their full potential.
5. Further develop relationships with our families and the wider community to encourage their contribution to school life.
6. Lead by example, actively modelling and embedding into all areas of school life the seven core Christian values of the school, which are: Wisdom, Trust, Service, Justice, Compassion, Endurance and Forgiveness.
7. Be outward looking and work with other schools in the network to share best practice.

You may be looking at this opportunity as either your next headship or your first. Regardless of where you are in your leadership career, we will ensure you have access to support from the Governing

Board, the Diocese and Westmorland & Furness Council to help you succeed as our new headteacher.

We can offer:

1. A "Good" school as rated by Ofsted.
2. Happy and enthusiastic children who thrive in a creative, caring and exciting learning environment.
3. An ambitious, exciting curriculum that aims to give every pupil a lifelong love of learning and offers them enriching opportunities to discover their unique talents.
4. Well-equipped school premises, multifunctional outdoor area and large playing field.
5. Significant levels of support from both experienced staff and a committed Governing Board.
6. A warm friendly school which has a tradition of treating everyone with kindness and respect.
7. Strong financial support from community groups and widespread voluntary help from members of the community.
8. The opportunity to work in the The Yorkshire Dales National Park, close to the Lake District.

If you have the experience, passion and drive to make a difference for our children and their families we would be delighted to hear from you.

The school is committed to the safeguarding of its pupils and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be appointed on completion of an enhanced DBS check and receipt of professional references.

Application packs with further details can be obtained from the school office via [clerk@dent.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:clerk@dent.cumbria.sch.uk)

Covering letter (to be no more than two sides of A4) and Application should be sent to [clerk@dent.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:clerk@dent.cumbria.sch.uk). Closing date for applications is Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 12noon.

Interviews will be held in school on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2025.

If you would like to arrange a visit, please telephone our school office on 015396 25259 mornings only or leave a message and we will call you back.





## Welcome to NFU Education

As a small team of former teachers, we understand the challenges faced by the profession, so all our resources and initiatives have been designed with three main goals in mind:

- To save teachers time and reduce workload
- To spark learners' passion and enthusiasm for STEM subjects
- To convey important messages about food, farming, and nutrition through a cross-curricular, project-based approach

Browse our site to find high-quality primary STEM teaching resources and projects that are closely linked to the National Curriculum.

Follow the link to view the resources NFU provide - <https://education.nfuonline.com/>



## Diocesan Conference follow up from the Worship Band!

If you enjoyed the worship songs we shared at the conference you might like to use some of them in your schools.

The Lord's Prayer – [The Lord's Prayer Journey – Faith in the North](#)

King of Me from Sparkle, Pop & Rampage by Rend Collective



Way Maker [Leeland – Way Maker \(Official Live Video\)](#)

Christ be with me [Christ be with me – Prayer of St. Patrick \(with Lyrics\)](#)

The Blessing [Elevation Worship – The Blessing \(Lyrics\) ft. Kari Jobe & Cody Carnes](#)

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## **Free, multi-media Life Exhibition at Kendal Parish Church**

You are invited to bring your Year 5 and 6 pupils to the free, multi-media Life Exhibition to be hosted at Kendal Parish Church October 20th–24th 2025.

The Life exhibition is an exciting, multi-media experience designed for primary school children which complements the current non-statutory guidelines for Religious Education in the UK.

Using interactive tablets, graphic panels, quizzes, films, songs and a discussion café, Life helps children learn – in just over an hour – about the story of Jesus and his relevance today.

The exhibition, which is free thanks to the sponsorship of your local churches and Christian charity Counties, is aimed at Upper Key Stage 2 and incorporates aspects of the Locally Agreed Syllabus.

Since its launch in 2006, more than 150,000 children and adults have visited the exhibition with great feed-back from visitors including headteachers, teachers and pupils.

We'd love to welcome you pupils, you can book at an hour slot at <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/EZCS>

You might want to combine your visit with other activities in Kendal and if you book the 1–2pm slot we can offer you a free history tour of the church, brass rubbing session or introduction to church music and our 3 organs after your visit to the Life Exhibition. Please get in touch when you've booked and we can chat about what extra session you would like.

I have attached a leaflet that gives you more details about the exhibition and this link shows you a short video about the exhibition when it was in Barrow.

<https://youtu.be/CBJJJKvMCE0>

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## Who's behind the Life exhibition?

The Life exhibition is a project run by Christian charity Counties. Established in 1899, Counties aims to provide churches and schools with resources to make Christianity understandable and accessible in the 21st century. Resources include the popular GSUS Live mobile unit for secondary school children, puppet shows, holiday clubs and camps plus local speakers for assemblies.

For more information visit [countiesuk.org](http://countiesuk.org)



“Teachers of RE all over Britain need dynamic, authentic and exciting ways of enabling pupils to think hard about Christianity. The Life exhibition continues to deliver this for tens of thousands of pupils, connecting Christian communities with school communities.”

Lat. Blaylock, RE Adviser, RE Today Services Editor, RE Today magazine

### What next?

If you would like your school to visit the Life exhibition when it comes to your area please contact your local organiser who provided this pack.



Counties, 30 Haynes Road, Westbury, Wiltshire BA13 3HD  
Counties is a Registered Charity No. 244278 and a Company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales No. 1041761  
[lifeexpo.co.uk](http://lifeexpo.co.uk)

Initial contact from  
local organiser  
to school  
(6 months prior)



Schools book to  
visit Life  
(3-6 months prior)



The Life exhibition



On-going contact  
with optional  
follow-up sessions  
at school

Bring your **RE**  
lessons alive with an  
exciting **free resource**  
for your school

An introduction to the Life exhibition –  
for schools



The Life exhibition  
The story of Jesus – kids style  
[lifeexpo.co.uk](http://lifeexpo.co.uk)

Or for more information  
on the Life exhibition call  
Kevin Baldwin, Life  
exhibition co-ordinator,  
on 07968 705623  
or email  
[lifeexpo@countiesuk.org](mailto:lifeexpo@countiesuk.org)

## Be part of the popular Life exhibition – coming to your area soon!



The Life exhibition is an exciting, multi-media experience designed for primary school children which complements the current non-statutory guidelines for Religious Education in the UK.

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Since its launch in 2006, more than 150,000 children and adults have visited the exhibition with great feed-back from visitors including headteachers, teachers and pupils

- Save time on planning RE lessons for Years 5 and 6 – the Life exhibition complements a key area of the syllabus.
- No setting up involved – the exhibition will be placed in a local venue off-site by church volunteers.
- Enhance the IT skills of pupils – children will get to use tablets and computer voting during their visit.
- Complement existing teaching within your school – the structured programme enables pupils to use listening, reading and speaking skills.
- Full support – a comprehensive Life Schools Pack will be given to you with lesson plans for before and after the visit, plus a local organiser can offer ongoing support and follow-up.
- Reliable – the exhibition has been developed by Christian charity Counties along with education specialists to encourage children to question, challenge and form their own opinions on the story of Jesus.

“Life is a fantastic experience for the children, thoroughly worthwhile.”  
Ann Griffin, headteacher of Whitchurch Primary School, Cardiff



## The Life exhibition – what does it look like?

The Life exhibition is split into 4 areas, each covering different themes about what Christians believe about Jesus.

“Brilliant workshop, children were absorbed in the activities. Really enjoyable and very informative. Feedback forms were fantastic. Thanks to all for a wonderful, well organised activity.”  
Yr 5 Teacher, St John's Primary School, Southampton

### Introduction

This area welcomes pupils and introduces the themes of the exhibition through a two minute DVD.



### Pods

Pupils are given tablets and headphones and encouraged to explore various coloured pods with graphic panels, quizzes and interaction with group leaders. Each pod reflects different aspects of the life of Jesus – his historic and prophetic roots, his teachings and his miracles.



### Life giver

Children watch a dramatic film covering the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.



### Cafe

An area to relax with a drink and for pupils to take part in an interactive quiz, whilst reflecting on their experience of visiting the Life exhibition.



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Governors



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### Improving school attendance

Understand the board's role in relation to developing an attendance policy, reviewing attendance data and improving outcomes for all pupils.

Attending school is critically important for children's life chances, including their attainment, wellbeing, wider development and safeguarding.

Pupils who already face particular challenges, including pupils eligible for free school meals, pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), and pupils with a social worker are also more likely to be absent from school; this widens [educational disadvantage](#).

We have worked with the DfE to produce our guide to improving school attendance which sets out governing board responsibilities and questions to ask in relation to:



- developing an effective attendance policy
- regularly reviewing attendance data
- ensuring staff receive the training they need to improve attendance

Click [here](#) to read the rest of the guidance

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**News from the NASCC** - The DfE are expected to update the *Academy Trust Handbook* and *Governance Guide* for 2025/2026 – keep an eye on the DfE website.

