

Education Newsletter – October 2021 (Term 1)

I have come in order that you might have life – life in all its fullness.

John 10:10

Colleagues

Psalm 23 Garden – The Bible Society

Chelsea Flower Show 2021



Did you manage to enjoy any of the TV coverage of the Chelsea Flower Show, before the weather turned a little more inclement?!

You may have enjoyed recent coverage of the Chelsea Flower Show, the first ever to be held in Autumn rather than Spring/Summer. One of the gardens, designed by Sarah Eberle, sponsored by the Bible Society was inspired by

Psalm 21:

'The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.'

This lovely video from the RHS website shares some of Sarah's reflections on her inspiration for the garden, her beautiful home land of Dartmoor, as well as some of her interpretation of the Bible verse. It shares stunning scenery and offers a wonderful reflection in itself. <https://www.rhs.org.uk/shows-events/virtual-chelsea/looking-forward-to-chelsea/bible-society-the-psalm-23-garden>

As well as this, you might like to explore the schools resources to reflect further on this lovely example of the wonder of God's creation, perhaps with an assembly or class worship or RE:

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Nahum 1.7

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https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/content/get_involved/Chelsea/get_active/resources/schools/school_resources_01.pdf

The Bible Society hope the garden will inspire other communities to explore the idea of creating a spiritual garden and more guidance can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Ta6ZU196nc&t=3s>



Congratulations to Sam Saville at Ashton Keynes who has just passed her NPQEL!! This is an amazing achievement and we are all very proud of you Sam!

Remember to tell us when you pass something important, we love to share your happy news!

Net Zero for 2030

As you know the diocese are aiming to be Net Zero for 2030, and as our schools make up 38% of diocesan estate, we're keen to help schools to make savings as soon as they can.

We are working with your LAs and trusts so look out for a letter to you making sure you have all had environmental energy audit surveys completed through your LA, or through the diocese if not. We may be able to support you in small ways with moving this agenda forward. Don't be put off thinking all the changes are financially big ticket items – there are lots of smaller ways to make a difference. Our consultant who did many of our VA audits has used Salix funding to create a net zero carbon school in Gloucester Diocese. Here's a video about it.

<https://twitter.com/glosdioc/status/1443126422197911553?s=21>

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Net Zero Carbon Schools Webinar

Thurs 14th October
4.00-5.00pm

This webinar is the second in a series created for Church of England school leaders and the wider school community.

This session includes:

- an exploration of net zero project case studies,
- a demonstration of the energy footprint tool for schools, and
- how to host a 'mini COP'.

Please come along and find out more about how your school can be supported to reach net zero carbon!

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_6J50vpqJR5e_Jyyell5y8Q

Training – Oct-Dec 2021

Please see below the training for the beginning of next term:

Church-School Networks

Weds 20 Oct 2021 9.14-10.45 am

An opportunity to spend time with colleagues in CE Schools and build the church school family. Register [HERE](#)

RSHE for CE Schools

Weds 10 Nov 2021

2.00-3.30pm or 4.00-5.30pm

How can we ensure that we are prepared for the new DFE requirements for RSHE and the expectations of the SIAMS schedule that requires Relationships Education to be taught within a context of a Christian vision for the purpose of Life.

Register [HERE](#)

New to RE

Thurs 2 Dec 2021 1.00-4.30pm

For anyone who has been newly recruited to the role of RE Subject Leader or who would like to refresh their understanding of the role. Register [HERE](#)

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Personal Development in CofE Schools

Fri 10 Dec 2021 9.30-12.30pm

This training will explore an approach to “Personal Development” that is distinctive and fitting for a CofE School. Register [HERE](#)

Annual RE Conference 2022

Friday 28th January, 9.30-3.00pm

Engineers' House (and online)

“How interesting are you?!”

Developing curiosity about different people's beliefs and identities



FIND OUT MORE: To register please visit Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/annual-re-conference-2022-how-interesting-are-you-tickets-181808854177>

Please keep us updated!

A reminder that clerks, governors(directors, trustees) and headteachers should let us know in the event of any of the following changes:

- Clerk resignation/Clerk appointment
- Chair steps down/New Chair elected
- Foundation governor resignation/retirement
- Changes to contact details for any of the above

Our work at the Diocesan office and information flow between us and schools is much more effective if we have accurate details, so thank you for your co-operation in this.

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The National Church of England School Governors Conference took place online on 22 September and was a great success. For anyone who could not attend but would like to know what went on, please see the link below where you will find a recording of the conference (via YouTube) and the presentation powerpoints and links to resources referred to:

<https://goministriesweb.wordpress.com/conference-resources/>



Have you organised your Harvest celebration yet? It's not too late to sign up for **Send a Cow's free Harvest resources**. We've got lots of ideas to help you with your church service or your school assembly. All you need to do is [visit our website](#). By supporting Send a Cow this Harvest, you will be helping farming families on the very front line of the climate crisis.

Just £105 could train six families to farm their own land, helping them to grow more and stand up to the erratic weather conditions in rural Africa.

Use our Harvest resources to find out how the climate crisis is affecting families like Grace's (in the photo) and make your Harvest celebration one to remember! [Sign up today to receive our free Harvest resources](#) and start planning your Harvest celebration!

Special Invitation

New for this year, we're inviting all of our Church Harvest supporters to attend a special virtual talk, with our team in Kenya. I'd love for you and your congregation to join our *Send a Cow Talks: Climate Crisis* event on 16th September. Your church will hear from Titus, Send a Cow's Country Director for Kenya, and find out first-hand how the climate crisis is affecting the farming families we work with in rural Africa. At the end of the event, you'll also be able to ask Titus questions - what a fantastic opportunity to help bring to life your Harvest celebration!

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Helping children navigate life through singing
Bringing PSHE, RE & Music together

Last May, the NHS used the slogan:

“Be kind to yourself and others to improve your mental health”

This coming Sunday is World Mental Health Day.

PopUK is offering their song ‘BE KIND’ **FREE** to all primary schools.

Click on the link [HERE](#)

Access the song by signing up to our **FREE Membership Scheme** for 12 months! This will give you another 35 songs for you to access completely **FREE** throughout this academic year.

<https://www.popuk.org/membership-sign-up>

A Prayer for Mental Health Day



Loving God,
be with all who suffer with their Mental Health
and all who support them.
Give each of us faith to see beyond the troubles of this time,
hope to face this day and every day,
and a true sense of your love for all your people,
revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen.



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FREE RESOURCES FOR SCHOOLS

Community Matters



This resource provides activities and ideas to help KS1-KS3 pupils explore why community matters, looking at social and environmental issues and how children and young people can play their part in creating positive change, particularly as we rebuild our communities post-Covid restrictions.

Find out more here: www.abyyt.com/communitymatters

Free Webinars

Free online sessions this term for both Primary and Secondary schools to find out more about the Young Leaders Award and an introduction to Character Education Sessions.

Find out more at: www.abyyt.com/events.



How to get the best out of Picture News Collective Worship

Please see the attached flyer for more information on how they can help support your school.

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The Heart of Christmas

As part of this year's Church of England Christmas theme, The Heart of Christmas, the national comms team want to create a series of films about what's 'at the heart of Christmas' – the films will form the core of their Christmas advert.

While of course the central message will be that the birth of Jesus is at the heart of Christmas, the team are looking for people who would be comfortable talking to camera about their story of faith, church, or perhaps how they've overcome the challenges of the last 18 months. Here are some more examples of talking points:

- Local church and the role it plays in community
- The joy of online/onsite church
- Relationships with people who really make Christmas special
- Stories about faith
- Extraordinary things that have happened in a community
- Hardships overcome
- A special possession, person or place that means a lot and without whom Christmas wouldn't be the same

If you can think of someone, or a group, in our diocese that would be good for us to feature, please send a couple of paragraphs explaining their stories ASAP to Caitlin.Bowring@bristoldiocese.org

Don't forget we're here to support you so let us know if you want to chat any ideas through. We are with you and for you.

Liz and the Education Team

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