



DBE Newsletter – March 2022 (Term 4)

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

John 10:10

I hope you have had a great Half term, a time for rest and relaxation and hopefully, less covid to think about. It has been a week of unfolding horror in Ukraine and our hearts and prayers go out to those in such trauma and uncertainty.

I have been taking comfort that there are still signs of God's glory. I've been noticing all the snowdrops, crocuses, daffodils and other spring bulbs that are well and truly out. I know hybridised early and late varieties mean it's easy to get hot housed daffodil versions before Christmas through to late versions in May. No longer do we need to panic that there won't be daffs for Mothering Sunday or Easter services!

Nevertheless, we know that our part in global warming is part of the reason daffodils are already in flower in mid Feb with warmer winters and erratic storm patterns resulting in flooding events.

We are delighted that 36 of our 72 diocese schools took up the offer for an energy Audit and DeCarbonisation plan. We are well underway with these and working with our consultants to support you in deciding how budgets can be allocated, fundraising increased and loans for payback on expensive items considered etc. Alongside LED lighting, Solar PV panels and cavity wall insulation I am learning about devices I hardly knew existed for Control units refrigeration devices, flow regulators on taps, PIR motion sensors and so on before hitting the really expensive big stuff like heat source pumps.

It's a complicated business when budgets are so tight. But this is part of our 'Care for Creation' as school communities seeking to live out a Christian vision of wholeness, understanding it is not 'just' for our lack of action to impact others negatively.

The Greek root of the word for **'peace'** - Shalom means **'to join' or 'to weave together'**. God is the God of justice and peace. He is not a God of chaos and disorder. Certainly, according to the Bible, 'Shalom' or peace and justice implies freedom from fear, injustice, disorder and any form of oppression in the family, society and the state and so on. This refers to **completeness or wholeness where the relationships between God and people, people and people, people and nature are harmonious.**

"Let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream." (Amos 5:24).

Flow well this term as you step into the river.

Liz

The Lord is good, a strong refuge when trouble comes. God is close to those who trust in him.
Nahum 1.7



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Collective Worship in CofE School (online)

Thursday 3rd March 2022. 16.00-17.30pm

A time to reflect and focus on Collective Worship within your own school

- Space to consider your school's priorities and key purposes for Collective Worship
- Some ideas as to how Collective Worship can ensure your school's vision, values and sense of community
- Examples of great strategies for planning and assessing the impact of worship on the life of your school

For more information and to register - click [HERE](#)

Understanding Christianity Refresher Training

Monday 14 March 2022 1.00-3.00 pm

Hillside House

Are you a new RE Subject Leader who has taken on responsibility for teaching the Understanding Christianity resource in your school?

The course will:

- Recap the key concepts underpinning Understanding Christianity
- Develop subject knowledge of teaching Christianity
- Recap the pedagogy of text, impact, connections and show real life examples of how it works in the classroom
- Clarify how it can be integrated into the curriculum
- Offer advice on planning from the units in a manageable way
- Show how it might be utilised to look at worldviews and diversity in Christianity.

For more information and to register – click [HERE](#)

The Lord is good, a strong refuge when trouble comes. God is close to those who trust in him.
Nahum 1.7



DBE Annual Conference 2022

Being a Courageous Advocate – Learning to Dream BIG!

Friday 18th March 2022

The Deanery CE Academy, Swindon

This is the one Annual Conference when we try to get our whole School/Church family together. So this includes Heads, Governors, and Parish Partners. Please get yourself booked on as soon as possible. We are hoping this can be face to face! But who knows?! Book to come whether we meet in person or online, more details nearer the time.

Exploring the theme of '*Educating for Hope and Aspiration*' we will be hearing from Jim Davis at the Children's Society, the Global Neighbours programme, Archbishop of York's award, Ugandan links, environmental projects and local schools and partner bodies about all sorts of ways to encourage you to stripe courageous advocacy through your curriculum.

The expected costs will be £100 for one delegate (and subsequent delegates from the same school will be £50 per delegate) If we must go on online due to COVID, then the costs will decrease.

For more information and to register - click [HERE](#)

Spiritual Development at the Heart of your School (online)

Thursday 31st March 2022 9.30-1.30pm

A day to reflect and focus on Spiritual Development at the Heart of your School

By attending the course, you will gain:

- A chance to explore how your school can create a definition of Spiritual Development what will fit your context and vision
- Ideas of where this might fit within your curriculum, environment, and life of the school
- Practical ideas for ensuring age-appropriate questioning and activities that will deepen pupil's *spiritual development*

For more information and to register – click [HERE](#)

**The Lord is good, a strong refuge when trouble comes. God is close to those who trust in him.
Nahum 1.7**



Diocese of Bristol

Collective Worship in a CofE School

Thursday 7th April 2022 – 9.30-12.30pm

Hillside House, Stoke Gifford, Bristol BS34 8YU

Join us to receive up to date guidance from the Church of England based on their current model for Collective Worship 'Inclusive, invitational and inspirational'. Offering you practical ideas and support for all types of collective worship in your school.

For more information and to register – click [HERE](#)



SIAMS (online)

Thurs 7 April 2022

9.30 – 12.30 pm or

4.30 – 7.30pm

While initial registration is free, the training costs £50 per delegate (and £20 for a further delegate from the same school/parish)

To explore the requirement of the SIAMS evaluation schedule and help delegates get their schools ready for a SIAMS Inspection.

For more information and to book onto Eventbrite click on the link below:

[**SIAMS - what to expect Registration, Multiple Dates | Eventbrite**](#)

**The Lord is good, a strong refuge when trouble
comes. God is close to those who trust in him.
Nahum 1.7**



Diocese of Bristol

NEW FREE RESOURCES

Way Maker: Lent 2022



This Lent, the Archbishop of York Youth Trust are challenging your Young Leaders to reflect on the Easter story using our free resource, Way Maker

With 6 weeks of content, Way Maker takes pupils on a journey through Lent, reflecting on Jesus' ministry and his example of being a "Way Maker" and serving others. The 6 sessions help pupils to explore what it means to be: servant hearted, compassionate, accepting, bold, forgiving and a light in the darkness. This resource can be used in the classroom or in collective worship

Watch the introduction [video](#) to the resource below, to find out more. Sign up here to download the resources: www.abyyt.com/lent.



Introducing Experience LENT

In a similar approach to previous Experience journey resources. Experience Lent offers multi-sensory, simple explanations of why this is an important time for Christians.

For more information on this and other resources please visit their website:

www.jumpingfishpublications.co.uk

The Lord is good, a strong refuge when trouble comes. God is close to those who trust in him.
Nahum 1.7



Diocese of Bristol



Bristol Schools Connection is a charity working across the wider Bristol region supporting church/school partnerships. We provide training and consultancy as well as developing long-term coaching relationships with individuals or teams within churches, to equip them to serve their local primary or secondary school appropriately. We help schools to reimagine spiritual development and equip the local church to contribute in a relevant and credible way. Whether you're a member or leader of a church, or a member of school staff, we would love to work with you to support your church/school partnership. We have plenty of tried and tested ideas and tools which will deepen the church/school relationship, benefit the wellbeing of staff and pupils, enrich the school's RE and spiritual development agenda and grow community cohesion.

It may be a one-off conversation or an ongoing relationship – however we can help, we'd love to hear from you. BSC is Jane Gillis and Liz Ogborne - both ex-teachers who worked for many years as schools workers for Anglican churches in Bristol.

Please get in touch via our contact page here: www.bristolschoolsconnection.co.uk



Flags and Flagpoles

From around the country parish churches and schools have been enquiring about flags and flagpoles in anticipation of the Queen's Jubilee celebrations in June.

With that in mind, an all-in-one landing page has been created to simplify the process: there are three packages available with just a few optional add-ons (a ground spike for temporary installation probably being the most useful for this occasion). Here's the link:

<https://flagpoles.co.uk/hand-sewn-printed-flags/queens-platinum-jubilee-flags/>

While we cannot recommend the company as we don't know them, we do suggest schools might like to mark the Jubilee with something like this?

Remember we are all here for you.

Liz and the Education Team

The Lord is good, a strong refuge when trouble comes. God is close to those who trust in him.
Nahum 1.7