



Issue No 41: January 2012



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## NEW SCHEMES OF LEARNING PLANNED FOR AMV

At the time of writing there may still be one or two vacancies for the North Somerset SACRE working party project to write additional schemes of learning for the new agreed syllabus.

The first meeting – a free afternoon's training session – takes place later this month, so please contact me immediately if you are interested in participating. The project will continue with email support during February and March while the group members develop their planning. A twilight editorial meeting will be held for the working group in March, followed by further email contact and a production afternoon meeting for all group members in June. Dave will engage in further editorial work before uploading new schemes to the AMV website in the Summer.

No supply cover is available for the two afternoon meetings but SACRE is pleased to provide adviser support plus venue hire and refreshments for the meetings.

Don't forget that the website for our new locally agreed syllabus, *Awareness, Mystery and Value* (AMV) 2011 (<http://amv.somerset.gov.uk/>) already contains some exemplars and planning ideas as well as the complete schemes of work for the previous syllabus which may be adapted for the new programme of study.

## HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY CHAMPION

This year's theme for Holocaust Memorial Day on **27 January 2012** asks us all to **Speak Up, Speak Out** to create a safer, better future. According to the [HMD website](#), 'The theme asks us to think about the rights, responsibility and duty we all have to speak up when we see or hear something which we believe to be wrong.' See [www.speakupnow.org.uk/](http://www.speakupnow.org.uk/) for details. A Pack of HMD 2012 resources is now available later this year and may be ordered at <http://education.hmd.org.uk/>

Help is also at hand for organising an event for the Day in the form of **Jinny Uppington**, who is the Equality Development Officer for the South West and the Regional Champion for the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust. For more information contact her at [Jinny.Uppington@equalitysouthwest.org.uk](mailto:Jinny.Uppington@equalitysouthwest.org.uk) or tel 01823 250832, or 07791 074 335.

Also on offer from the Holocaust Education Trust is a four-part course for two students, aged 16-19, from your school or college, called *The Lessons from Auschwitz Project*. For details go to [www.lfaproject.org.uk](http://www.lfaproject.org.uk).

See also a website aiming help Key Stage 3 students understand the Holocaust at <http://www.theholocaustexplained.org/ks3/>. The website contains interviews with Jewish survivors as well as an introduction to aspects of Jewish life and religion. The resource includes ideas for cross-topic teaching themes, an extensive bank of film and images cleared for use in educational settings and an interactive timeline that offers insights from over 100 years of related information.

## CPD SUPPORT IN RE FOR NORTH SOMERSET SCHOOLS

For Secondary RE teachers, there will be an RE twilight network meeting later this term, offered via North Somerset's *Learning Exchange*. Details will be sent to schools through the Noticeboard Bulletin and through direct email to those already on this Newsletter circulation list.

For Primary RE coordinators there is the afternoon training event on **Tuesday 7 February 2012**, from 1.15 – 4.45 pm, at The Canalside Conference Centre [Just off Junction 24 of the M5]. There are still a few vacancies for this course, but places are being allocated on a first come, first served basis and the booking form (already sent to schools, but also available on request from me at [mayfly@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:mayfly@blueyonder.co.uk)) should be returned by **20 January 2012**.

More bespoke training is also available for subject leaders and all staff involved in teaching RE. I can:

- assist in preparing for (or responding to) Ofsted inspection, especially in relation to spiritual, moral, social and cultural development;
- review and report on RE and/or collective worship in your school;
- observe, support and work alongside individual teachers in the classroom;
- lead INSET on RE and/or collective worship for all staff or smaller groups, and on making most effective use of our new agreed syllabus;
- train staff in developing their own knowledge and understanding of the main world religions and belief systems;
- help to draw up collective worship and RE policy documents and/or units of work;
- arrange school visits to places of worship and other relevant locations for field work in RE;
- demonstrate active learning techniques and appropriate resources for RE;
- make presentations on RE and/or collective worship to governors, parents and the wider school community;
- advise on issues arising from the interface between religion and school life, for example in connection with diet and dress.

Please contact me directly at [mayfly@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:mayfly@blueyonder.co.uk) for further information.

## UPDATING ADVICE ON COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Excellent presentations were given by Helen Harrison, the former RE Adviser for Lancashire at this year's SACRE conference for school governors, headteachers and SACRE members on effective RE and collective worship.

Following the conference, plans were put in place to update North Somerset's guidance for schools on **Collective Worship**. Guidance will be placed on the SACRE pages of the council website at: <http://tinyurl.com/NSom-SACRE> under 'Publications'.

## HOCKERILL PRIZE: DEADLINE APPROACHES

The deadline for the Hockerill/NATRE Award for Innovation in RE is **31 January 2012**, with the successful prize winners being notified by Easter.

Details of the prize and how to apply are found on the website of the Hockerill Educational Foundation at [www.hockerillfoundation.org.uk](http://www.hockerillfoundation.org.uk).

The prize is in two parts:

- a) £700 for the school to enable it to purchase new RE materials;
- b) £400 as a bursary to the teacher to part-fund attendance at a specialist educational course for RE.

The prize recognises that the needs and requirements of the Primary and Secondary sectors are different and is therefore given separately in each sector. The prizes will be presented at one of the Hockerill/NATRE RE PGCE conferences in the late spring / early summer of 2012.

## RE IN ACADEMIES

According to their funding agreement, academies have to provide religious education for all registered pupils, unless withdrawn by their parents. A document explaining the situation for different types of academy has been drawn up by NATRE and can be found at: <http://www.natre.org.uk/free.php>

When it comes to the inspection of academies, inspectors will ask what is the basis on which an Academy teaches RE, and whether they have a set of standards. If these are provided, then inspection proceeds on this basis. In the absence of these, then inspection would be based on the National levels. For academies in the Awareness, Mystery and Value (AMV) area, the standards are those provided in the agreed syllabus documentation, that is, the 'Can-do' level statements found at: <http://tinyurl.com/AMVlevels>

## FARMINGTON FELLOWSHIPS 2012-13

Fellowships for RE research are about to close for secondary and primary teachers and teachers of RE to children with special educational needs for the academic year 2012-13. Headteachers who wish to undertake research into either Religious Education or Values Education are also eligible to apply.

The Fellowship will pay costs and salary of a replacement teacher for one term and enable the Fellow to gain support from one of a number of universities, including Bath Spa.

Application forms and details can be downloaded from the Farmington website: [http://www.farmington.ac.uk/fellowships\\_and\\_awards/fellowships.html](http://www.farmington.ac.uk/fellowships_and_awards/fellowships.html). The closing date for applications is 30 January 2012.

## THE WESTHILL TRUST SEMINARS

The Westhill 48-hour residential seminars enable classroom teachers from primary and secondary schools, professionals involved in training RE teachers, researchers and RE academics to meet and work together in a stimulating weekend of exchange and ideas.

The next one in our region takes place in Bristol from 16-18 March 2012 and is entitled, 'The Primary RE Curriculum: current directions'. It will feature presentations from Prof. Teresa Cremin of the Open University, Dr. Karen Walshe of Exeter University and Dave Francis of Somerset and North Somerset.

The cost of the seminar to delegates is £100, inclusive of full board in conference accommodation. It starts on Friday evening with a meal and the first keynote address, and run until Sunday afternoon.

For further details and application forms, go to:  
<http://www.retoday.org.uk/news/westhill-trust-seminars>.

## HAJJ EXHIBITION

The British Museum is mounting a major exhibition called, 'Hajj - Journey to the heart of Islam' from 26 January to 15 April 2012. The exhibition will chart the history of the deeply personal journey that is the Hajj.

There is a special preview of the Exhibition for teachers on 30 January (6pm – 8pm), workshops for primary and secondary pupils, and an invitation to contribute your own thoughts on the Hajj or Umrah in up to 150 words.

Places can be booked via: [www.britishmuseum.org/whats\\_on/exhibitions/hajj.aspx](http://www.britishmuseum.org/whats_on/exhibitions/hajj.aspx)

## INTER FAITH WEEK REPORTS



The Inter Faith Network UK has reported that Inter Faith Week 2011 has been a great success. Inter Faith Week 2011 in England, Wales and Northern Ireland drew to a close on Saturday 26 November.

The Network's website will be updated over the coming weeks with more information about the 2011 Week, including the media coverage and photos sections, along with the new videos section.

See <http://www.interfaithweek.org/> for details.

## READY REFERENCE: UPDATE JANUARY 2012

**North Somerset SACRE's artefact collections** are held at St Georges CofE/Methodist VA Primary School (tel. 01934 426901) and Mary Elton Community Primary School, Clevedon (tel. 01275 876432).

**WEB SUPPORT FOR AMV** for new agreed syllabus requirements and guidance go to <http://amv.somerset.gov.uk/> The old AMV schemes of work and guidance are now included in the new site.

Please note that the **new ONLINE SELF-EVALUATION TOOLKIT** is now available at: [http://betterre.reonline.org.uk/lead\\_manage\\_sef/intro.php](http://betterre.reonline.org.uk/lead_manage_sef/intro.php) This includes the option of printing out an RE Improvement Plan based on your answers.

Find out more about the work of SACREs up and down the country via **the National Association of SACREs** (NASACRE) website at <http://www.nasacre.org.uk/> **THE RE:QUEST WEBSITE** contains specific links to the AMV syllabus. Go to: [www.request.org.uk/teachers/syllabus/awareness/aware01.htm](http://www.request.org.uk/teachers/syllabus/awareness/aware01.htm)

**RE CPD HANDBOOK:** The DCSF and the RE Council of England and Wales has produced an online CPD Handbook for primary and secondary teachers of RE. In addition to guidance on teaching, learning and assessment in RE, the Handbook includes contributions from teachers, faith communities, advisers, and academics: [www.re-handbook.org.uk](http://www.re-handbook.org.uk)

**MAJOR RELIGIOUS FESTIVALS:** [www.culham.ac.uk/tvr/festcalendar.php](http://www.culham.ac.uk/tvr/festcalendar.php)

**TEACHERS TV** Resources to support Primary RE. Several 15 minute programmes can be found at: [www.teachersmedia.co.uk/](http://www.teachersmedia.co.uk/)

## SUPPORT FOR TEACHING ABOUT WORLD RELIGIONS

For all speakers, please arrange to cover their expenses and any fees directly with the individuals involved. Most communities are happy for you to visit without charge, though you may like to consider making a donation on a 'per pupil' basis.

### BUDDHISM

- Mike Keogh (Triratna Buddhist Community [Formerly FWBO]): tel. 07775 928722; email [michael.s.keogh@googlemail.com](mailto:michael.s.keogh@googlemail.com)
- Triratna (FWBO) Buddhists in Bristol: [www.bristol-buddhist-centre.org](http://www.bristol-buddhist-centre.org)
- Paula-Boudica Brightwell: (Nichiren Daishonin) tel. 01458 443275 or 07952 409024.
- The Amitabha Buddhist Centre in Bristol. Please contact: Kelsang Rak-Ma, Education Programme Co-ordinator: [info@meditationbristol.org](mailto:info@meditationbristol.org) or see: [www.meditationinbristol.org](http://www.meditationinbristol.org)
- Lam Rim Tibetan: [www.lamrim.org.uk/lrb\\_info.htm](http://www.lamrim.org.uk/lrb_info.htm)
- Sakya Tibetan: [www.dechen.org/centres/southwest/bristol.html](http://www.dechen.org/centres/southwest/bristol.html)

## CHRISTIANITY

- Sylvia Staddon (Weston-super-Mare School Prayer Network) – database of church leaders and members who visit for assemblies. Tel: 01934 514614 or email [jonsyl@supanet.com](mailto:jonsyl@supanet.com) for details.
- For Christian churches see: [www.findachurch.co.uk/index.html](http://www.findachurch.co.uk/index.html)
- Mike Strange, manager of the RE:Quest website, may also be available to talk to staff or work with pupils on using the site. Email: [m\\_strange@sky.com](mailto:m_strange@sky.com)

## HINDUISM

- Dhirashanta Das [ISKCON] Tel: 01566 786965 Email: [dhirasanta@aol.com](mailto:dhirasanta@aol.com)
- Ganga Devi [ISKCON] Tel: 01761 462161 Email: [gailstaveacre@gmail.com](mailto:gailstaveacre@gmail.com)
- Hindu Temple, 163b Church Road, Redfield, Bristol, BS5 9LA .Tel: 0117 935 1007 – visits for pupils of all ages. Email Panditji Kamlesh Vyas (the priest at the Temple) at [panditji@bristolhindutemple.co.uk](mailto:panditji@bristolhindutemple.co.uk) To find out more about school visits to the Temple see: [www.bristolhindutemple.co.uk/Community.htm](http://www.bristolhindutemple.co.uk/Community.htm)
- Please note that Christina Bramble has now moved to West Sussex.

## ISLAM

- Imam Ilyaas Limbada, Yeovil Mosque, 8 Westminster Street / Clarence Street, Yeovil, BA20 1AE. Tel: 01935 412685. Best to email some suggested dates for your visit to: [imam\\_yic@mail.com](mailto:imam_yic@mail.com) The Imam and his wife, Amina, are very pleased to receive school groups to visit the mosque and learn about Islam.
- Mr Farooq A. Siddique, Community Development Officer, Bristol Muslim Cultural Society, 404 Stapleton Rd., Bristol, BS5 6NQ, 0117 952 1802. Email: [bmcs@bmcs.org.uk](mailto:bmcs@bmcs.org.uk) Website: [www.bmcs.org.uk](http://www.bmcs.org.uk) Office opening times are Mon-Fri 9.30am to 5pm but please note that the office is closed during Muslim prayer times, lunch-hour [1.30-2.30] and at weekends.

## JUDAISM

- Bristol Progressive Synagogue, Bannerman Road, Bristol. Please contact Effie Romaine: [effie\\_romaine@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:effie_romaine@blueyonder.co.uk)
- Exeter Synagogue, Synagogue Place, Mary Arches Street, Exeter, EX4 3BA. They prefer age 8+, and charge £1 per pupil per visit. Contact Dr Paul Newgass, (President, Exeter Synagogue), who will also visit your school to talk about the Holocaust, on: 01392 251529 or email: [paulnewgass@btinternet.com](mailto:paulnewgass@btinternet.com)
- Robin and Arnold Kanarek Tel:01935 263667 Email: [rkanarek@talktalk.net](mailto:rkanarek@talktalk.net)
- Mrs Jane Silver-Corren is available for assemblies / INSET. Tel: 01308 459320 or email [janesilvercorren@gmail.com](mailto:janesilvercorren@gmail.com)

## SIKHISM

- Gurdial Singh is available to visit schools and/or arrange visits to a Gurdwara in Bristol. Tel: 0117 956 6976 or 07981 130188 Email: [gurdial.singh@fsmail.net](mailto:gurdial.singh@fsmail.net)

**If you would like this Newsletter emailed directly to your inbox, please contact:  
Dave Francis – North Somerset Associate RE Adviser  
E-mail: [mayfly@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:mayfly@blueyonder.co.uk)**