

## Newsletter – DECEMBER 2023



### Time to rest

Approaching a holiday after a very long term, it's important that you and your senior leaders plan carefully to ensure you have some protected time over the festive period to switch off – be it physical exercise, a lie in, reading a book, craft activities, watching a film, completing a jigsaw. We encourage you to talk with your staff teams about how they plan to switch off from work.

### REMINDER! Annual Return

We wrote to schools at the start of the autumn term asking them to provide information about their school's Christian distinctiveness and to review the effectiveness of the school's governing body.

Thank you to those who have already submitted their data; if you have not replied, please could you do so as soon as possible. Thank you!



### SAVE THE DATE! Headteachers' Conference

Our Headteachers' conference takes place on Thursday 25 April at Chatsworth House. The conference will provide you with

- Time to reflect & take part in CW if you would like to
- Time to connect and meet with colleagues
- Time to hear from speakers about

- Partnerships between schools and churches – Lucy Moore (Head of Growing Faith Foundation, Church of England)
- Fiona Moss from RE Today
- Racial Justice from the Church of England Racial Justice Team TBC



£75 for schools in the Partnership Agreement, £95 for other schools. Book [HERE](#)

### Happy Birthday Sale & Davys CE Primary School!

To celebrate the school's 180<sup>th</sup> birthday, pupils and staff came to school dressed up in Victorian outfits to celebrate. The children researched life in Victorian times and learned about the school's history and founders.

BBC Radio Derby and the Derby Telegraph were onsite to record the celebrations.



**Spring Dance Company** are now taking bookings for the spring term:

- **The Easter Project** - a fresh and exciting way to explore the Easter story. Workshops can be delivered as a one-off day or a longer project and can culminate in an informal sharing or performance by the pupils.
- **Creation** - introducing the Genesis narrative of creation in a fun, inclusive and engaging way through dance. Children can explore key concepts such as who made the world, what God is like and the relationship between creator and created.
- **PARABLE** - a curriculum-based interactive performance and workshop that reimagines religious stories based on the parables that Jesus told. Adventurous and exciting, children will encounter and overcome creative challenges, accomplish tasks and influence the outcome of the performance, whilst absorbed in a vibrant world of professional movement, dance and theatre.

Further details see their website [HERE](#).



### Partnership Agreement

Thank you to all those schools who have responded so far.

If you've not already done so, please do sign up. Details are on our website [HERE](#) and you can respond using the online form [HERE](#). Thank you for your support.

### Dirt is Good Project



This is an award-winning, FREE programme for schools. It empowers students aged 7-14 to unite in compassion and take collective action on the environmental and social causes they care about, whilst contributing to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

They have an online library of free resources, lesson plans, factsheets, worksheets, and assembly packs, to guide students through a student-led, collaborative process of designing and delivering a social action project in their community.

Schools have implemented the project as an extra-curricular club / part of an Eco club / as part of the curriculum, with links to geography, science, and PSHE

### Tales from the Miracle Book

This is a collection of fun and engaging short films, assemblies/ Collective Worships or lesson plans designed to bring Bible stories and their meanings to life in a fun & unforgettable way. Accredited by Understanding Christianity and perfect for SIAMS, "Tales From The Miracle Book" enables theology to be taught by non-specialist staff.

See their [website](#) to sign up to receive 26 FREE films plus accompanying resources.



## Upcoming Briefings

### Headteachers

13:30-14:30 Monday 15 January

13:30 –14:30 Tuesday 13 February

### Governors (chairs, clerks, foundation governors)

19:00 Monday 15 January

19:00 Tuesday 13 February

### Collective Worship

16:00 Tuesday 16 January

16:00 Monday 5 February



All briefings will be moving to TEAMS. Invites will be sent by email a week before the event.

If you would like details, please contact [Liz](#)

## Upcoming Training

### Primary RE Development Training

This programme is useful for RE Subject Leads, teachers, support staff and any member of staff who will be teaching or helping to deliver RE. These are delivered in person by Fiona Moss RE Today. *3 dates / venues are offered for each session*



### **Session 2 – Spring Term - OFSTED new report including assessment, moderation and monitoring, knowledge organisers**

Wednesday 20 March 2024, 13:00 - 16:00 Chapel-en le Frith Primary School

Thursday 21 March 2024, 09:00 - 12:00 Hartington Village Hall

Thursday 21 March 2024, 13:30 - 16:30 Derby Church House

### **Session 3 – Summer Term – Spirituality and RE**

Monday 01 July 2024, 13:00 - 16:00 Chapel en le Frith Primary School

Tuesday 02 July 2024, 09:00 - 12:00 Hartington Village Hall

Tuesday 02 July 2024, 13:30 - 16:00pm Derby Church House

**Fee per session:** PA £40 / Non PA £85

Booking form [HERE](#)

### Understanding Christianity - Subject Knowledge Training

with Fiona Moss from RE today. This programme is useful for teachers, subject leads, support staff and any member of staff who will be teaching or helping to deliver RE.

### **God**

Tuesday 23 April 2024, 13:00 - 16:00 Virtual

**Fee per session:** PA £40 / Non PA £85 each session (per participant)

Booking form [HERE](#)

### Understanding Christianity – Refresher Workshop

This is an in-person event for any schools already using the Understanding Christianity resource. This is a useful session for any teachers who need a refresher, or an introduction led by Fiona Moss from RE today.

Tuesday 21 May 2024, 09:30 - 15:00

Venue TBC

**Fee:** PA £80 / Non PA £120    Booking Form [HERE](#)

### Early Career Teachers

This programme is essential for all new teachers. RE is often a subject that teachers feel less confident teaching and this programme of CPD will improve both RE subject knowledge and confidence. Timings have been carefully considered to try and allow staff to travel home for the virtual sessions.

Why RE? Knowledge rich, creative, thoughtful and rigorous RE

Wednesday 10 January 2024, 13:00 - 15:00 Virtual

Subject knowledge – teaching Islam and Christianity

Wednesday 17 April 2024, 16:00 - 18:00 Virtual

Fee for both sessions: PA £60 / Non PA £120 (per school)

Booking form [HERE](#)

**Do remember to visit our [website](#) for lots of useful information and guidance.  
Previous newsletters can be viewed [here](#).**



— And the angel said to them, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for the all people Luke 2:10

***card design by Skyla-Rose from Stanley Common CE Primary School***

**Wishing you a Joyous Christmas & a very Happy New Year  
from all at Derby Diocesan Board of Education**