

SCHOOLS MAILING

DIOCESAN MATTERS

Diocesan Matters

WELCOME TO THE SECOND NEWSLETTER FROM THE
JOINT EDUCATION TEAM.

Take This &
Epiphany

Welcome

We hope you enjoyed the first copy of our newsletter and that it was of use to you.

Newcastle United
Foundation

Take This/ Epiphany

A magazine created by kids, for kids and produced at Hexham Abbey.

For more information check out these websites:

www.TAKEThis.org.uk (for 7-12 year olds) or

www.our-epiphany.org.uk (by teens for teens)

Leavers Service

Clusters

Newcastle United Foundation

Training Events

This Foundation is running a series of programmes through schools and community centres in the region. Its mission is to encourage learning and promote a healthy lifestyle that will make a real difference to the lives of children, young people and families in the region. If you would like any more information about Newcastle United Foundation please contact us on: foundation@nufc.co.uk or for more information on the Wish Campaign please see the Evening Chronicle's website:

Countering
Religious Prejudices

New Heads Day

Leavers' Services

Primary Schools in the Diocese of Durham have been invited to a Leavers' Service in Durham Cathedral in July. Planning is well underway with more than 1,500 pupils expected to attend. The services which are to be held on 5th, 6th & 7th July are an important part of a young person's Church school education.

National Matters

National
Society
200th
Anniversary

The Newcastle Diocesan service will take place at Newcastle Cathedral on 9th June. This promises to be another special event and a real celebration.

Celebrating RE
Website

Clusters of Church of England Schools

Regular meetings are now held in Stockton, Darlington, Durham and Hartlepool. A member of the joint education team is generally in attendance. Topics discussed recently include Inspections, Academies, the Eucharist in schools and the National Society 200th Anniversary celebrations. If you would like to join a cluster or are interested in starting one in your area, please contact either Mike Davison on 0191 270 4162 or Brian Hedley on 0191 270 4135.

King James Bible
Anniversary

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

It's not strictly a training event, but from **7th to 11th March** (yes: in Celebrating RE Month itself!), Newcastle University Islamic Society is holding its annual Islamic Exhibition in a marquee on the city centre campus (most likely on the grass in front of the old library building). It's free admission and opening times are usually 10am to 6pm (although there is likely to be one late night when closure is at 7.30pm). Groups of 20 or fewer need not provide advance warning of attendance. If you've been before, you know there are countless amazing posters, artefacts, etc. to examine, free light refreshments, lots of free printed matter, and photo opportunities to cherish. The networking opportunities are excellent as well!

On 15th March Carol Down and North Tyneside Council have arranged an all day trip to multifaith Newcastle visiting the Hindu Mandir, the Sikh Gurdwara and the Reform Synagogue. However, teachers not in North Tyneside can join the group. If all goes to plan, lunch will be at the gurdwara. Once again, outstanding photo opportunities exist throughout the day, and those who attend will be provided with detailed delegates' packs relating to the 3 houses of worship visited. Newcastle Central Station at 9.15am is the pick-up point for teachers not from North Tyneside. Transport is provided. If interested, let Brian Hedley know straight away and he'll make sure you receive details. email: brian.hedley@drmnewcanglican.org

COUNTERING RELIGIOUS PREJUDICES

As you will be aware, March has been designated 'Celebrating Religious Education Month'. With this in mind Newcastle Council of Faiths and Connect FE plan to hold an event for teachers, lecturers, Chaplains and PGCE students to look at the growing prejudice around religions. Members from 6 of the major faiths will be invited to take part in the event which will be held on Thursday 31 March from 9.30 am—5 pm.

The aim of the day will be to give participants the opportunity to openly and honestly explore some of the prejudices (and the impact of those prejudices) that surround religion. It is hoped that from the group discussions issues will be highlighted and strategies suggested to counter prejudice which can be used in a variety of different educational contexts.

The event is open to both Durham and Newcastle Schools.

It is hoped that, should this model of engagement be effective, it will be written up and offered as a model to other schools and colleges in the North East. This would be done by the Bishop's Interfaith Adviser and the Director of the North East Resources Centre. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. To book a place contact J.pinnegar@newc.anglican.org

New Heads Day

This has now postponed due to unforeseen circumstances. We will rearrange as soon as possible.

National Society 200th Anniversary**Show and tell**

The National Society have put together a brief Power Point presentation to highlight the history of the National Society and how it supports church schools today. Schools might find this useful if you need to introduce the Society and its anniversary to others. You can view or download the presentation from www.cofe.anglican.org/info/education/nsintro.pps

Rock and Sand

A Primary Resource pack has been produced for the Northern dioceses including Durham and Newcastle. The pack called Rock and Sand is a curriculum resource produced to support Church of England Primary Schools in the local celebrations of the national event. The materials have an ICT, R.E. and History focus, with clear opportunities for promoting spiritual development and community cohesion. Designed to encourage learning across the curriculum, the materials also include five acts of worship, which have been designed to support cross curricular learning.

The resources should be available to schools in the Summer term to allow planning for use in the Autumn term 2011.

Westminster Abbey—National Society celebration

Each Diocese has been asked to provide a banner which can be used during the opening procession of the national society celebrations on the anniversary at Westminster Abbey on Friday 14 October 2011. Ian Ramsey School, Stockton on Tees has been asked to represent Durham Diocese with All Saints Academy representing the Diocese of Newcastle. The group planning the service are currently developing the format,. Keep up to date with the plans as they progress by visiting www.natsoci200.org.uk

The Celebrating RE website is now live at; www.CelebratingRE.org.uk Their regular monthly newsletter will keep you up to date with on-going plans and developments. They need contributions from schools. This will be a good way to publicise your own ideas and for the coordinating team to keep track of what's going on nationally. Do please log on!

The Competitions section of the *Celebrating RE* website is now live. At present, there are twenty competitions available, with a few additional ones to be added very soon. <http://www.celebratingre.org/index.php/competitions>

KING JAMES BIBLE:

CELEBRATING THE BOOK THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

As we all know, 2011 is the 400th anniversary of the King James version of the Bible.

Durham Diocese Schools will know from our email of 31 January that the Sowing the Seeds Project team have produced a resources pack to help teachers and pupils join the celebration and find out more about this wonderful gift to the church's heritage.

Generously, and in the spirit of joint working between our two dioceses, the Durham team have agreed to make their materials available to Newcastle Diocese schools too: copies are attached. We hope you will find insight and inspiration there to fuel your school's engagement in this landmark anniversary.