

LENT MAILING 2009

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Diocesan Matters

1. **Diocesan Education Conference 2009.**

Conference takes place on Tuesday 24th March at Dissington Hall. Key note speakers include Dr Elaine Storkey and Alison Farnell. Please send your booking form and payment to Eileen Bell at Church House no later than 10th March 2009.

2. **Courses to be held in Church House.**

NCSL Leadership in Faith Schools

30 April 2009, 10am-3pm at Church House, North Shields

Cost: FREE

What is unique about leading a faith school? How can your own leadership skills be enhanced? This event will explore current leadership practice in faith schools and look at how you can apply this to your own school.

Target audience: All school leaders in faith schools

To enrol, visit NCSL website. Choose left hand menu, click on events, click on calendar, click on April, and you’re there! **Hurry!!!!** Places are free but limited and lots of them have been taken already!

Using RE to Promote Community Cohesion – Chris Hudson

3 June 2009, 9.30am-3.30pm at Church House, North Shields

Costs: £10 – lunch included

From September 2008, every school will have to account to Ofsted for its contribution to Community Cohesion. How can a fragmenting society hold together amidst increased social mobility and ethnic or cultural tension? Discover the positive role that schools can play by encouraging positive appreciation of human diversity, and genuine discussion within the classroom. This session ties in with the Stapleford Centre's publication:

'RE-Thinking Book 19 – 'We and They': Using RE to promote Community Cohesion.'

This (and other books) will be for sale on the day and there will be an additional display of other relevant publications

Setting Challenging Activities for RE – Chris Hudson

29 September, 9.30am-3.30pm at Church House, North Shields

Costs: £10 – lunch included

How can we raise our game in Primary RE? This workshop will explore a range of activities to encourage the use of individual thinking skills, co-operation and creativity to help staff and children meet their RE objectives. Expect an active day of storytelling, drama, artefacts and artwork to sharpen up your expectations, and provide you with a selection of new ideas to take back and use in your own school.

Resources will be for sale on the day and there will be an additional display of other relevant publications

Please contact Eileen Bell at Church House to book your places on the second two courses. Tel 0191 2704141; email e.bell@newcastle.anglican.org

3. 10% contributions

Many thanks to all Heads who have cleared their 10% contribution accounts to date. We should know by the middle of March which projects have been awarded funding to proceed in 2009 and would expect to have the school contributions in the 10% account prior to commencement.

4. Service Level Agreements 2009

The invoices for this year's service level agreements should be issued by the end of March. Don't forget that as well as the services of the education board staff team this also includes membership of the North East Religious Learning Resources Centre at Church House. Their catalogue is available online and can be search on <http://www.resourcescentreonline.co.uk/aboutus.html>. Please pass this information onto your RE co-ordinators as well as those who devise collective worship.

5. **Leavers Service 2009**
The service will take place at 11am on Thursday 18th June at St Nicholas Cathedral, Newcastle. Details of hymns and readings will be available after the Easter break.
6. **Church House: closed for Easter.**
Church House will close on Maundy Thursday 9th April and reopen on Wednesday 15th April.
7. **Head Teachers Annual Conference 2009 – ‘Making Our Horizons Sing’**
Annual conference 1st – 3rd May. Further details available on the NAHT website.

NATIONAL MATTERS

1. **DCSF – Making it happen: The Children’s Plan and you - 21st Century Schools**
Department for Children Schools and Families are holding a regional event at the Holiday Inn on the 4th March to explore aspects of the 21st Century Vision and how you can have your say on how to make England the best place for children to grow up in. To register on line visit www.teachernet.gov.uk/21stcenturyschools
2. **Easter Resources from CMS.**
Free downloadable resources are available from CMS. Visit their website for further details www.cms-uk.org
3. **Arts and Minds Competition 2009.**
NASUWT are inviting entries for the 2009 Arts and Minds competition. The theme this year is ‘Community’. The closing date is Tuesday 30th June. Further details can be obtained from the NASUWT website.