



Schools newsletter

March 2013

Dear Colleagues

Difficult to believe that after what has seemed to be the shortest half term ever, we are now so close to Holy Week. How on earth have you managed to cram in all the curriculum coverage and myriad other things you planned to do?

Anyway, we know you will not let the pressures crowd out the time for you and your colleagues to reflect with your children and young people on the most important and sacred period of the Church's year.

The Team and I wish you a blessed, happy and restful Easter.

Jeremy Fitt



New Primary Religious Education Syllabus

The final consultation event takes place at Church House, North Shields on Thursday 25th April at 1.30pm. Lisa Fenton from the Diocese of Blackburn will again lead the session. Feedback from the first two consultation afternoons has been extremely positive with colleagues commenting on the organisation and resource materials available. Our last session looked at how the syllabus for the Durham and Newcastle Dioceses might include topics and materials relating to our rich North Eastern Christian Heritage. Lisa will bring with her further units of work for comment and exploration. If you are able to attend, whether or not you were able to attend a previous session, please contact Colleen Miller at Church House. Email: colleen.miller@drmnewcanglican.org Tel: 0191 2704124. Your support with this important work is appreciated.

Primary Religious Education Conference Tuesday 9th July 2013 - Marriott Hotel, Gateshead

Over 100 colleagues have so far signed up for this event. The conference looks to enhance the teaching of Religious Education in First, Primary and Middle schools. Lisa Fenton will again facilitate the event which will also launch the new Primary RE Syllabus. Following requests from schools, support materials will be displayed and available for purchase from the Blackburn Diocese, the Barnabas organisation and the North East Religious Resources centre. If you have not as yet signed up for this event (£70.00 per person) please contact Colleen Miller at Church House. Email: colleen.miller@drmnewcanglican.org Tel: 0191 2704124

Many Thanks

Many thanks to Chris Hudson who ran a successful session on Global Christianity for Primary school teachers. Over 30 staff attended the event which was well received. A further session will be held in the Autumn term entitled 'Why Narnia'. This session will use the C.S. Lewis stories to link RE, Literacy and PHSE, and will help us to ask serious questions about the real world and our place in it. More details and booking arrangements to follow.

Volunteers Needed

Would your school like to feature in one of this year's Leavers' Services at Durham Cathedral or Newcastle Cathedral? If you would like to have your school help to lead the Services please contact Mike Davison or Brian Hedley at Church House. Email: mike.davison@drmnewcanglican.org Tel: 0191 2704162
brian.hedley@drmnewcanglican.org Tel: 0191 2704135



Department
for Education

DfE Headteacher Reference Groups

The DfE's national primary and secondary headteacher reference groups consist of leading headteachers from a wide range of primary and secondary schools, including academies, maintained and special schools across England. Both groups bring valuable frontline skills, knowledge and ideas to the Department for Education. They act as a sounding board for new policies during the early stages of their development, give advice and feedback about how policies can be improved and their implications for schools, and, most importantly, provide an early warning of any potential issues.

The Department are currently looking for new members for both groups due to a combination of members retiring and others due to end their term on the groups. If you are a headteacher of a good or an outstanding Church of England school (or you have been within the last three years) then the Department would love to hear from you. The deadline for applications is Friday 15 March 2013. This is an excellent opportunity to make a lasting contribution to the quality of education in England and to improve the job satisfaction and morale of those working in our schools. To find out more information about joining the groups, and apply using the online application form, visit:

www.education.gov.uk/schools/toolsandinitiatives

Head Teacher Recruitment Dioceses of Durham and Newcastle

Name of School	Local Authority	Outgoing Head Teacher	New Head Teacher if Appointment Known	Start Date
Cragside CE Primary School,	Northumberland	Janice Craven	Paul Rusby	Sep-13
Tynemouth Christchurch CE Primary	North Tyneside	Maureen Rowntree	Gill Taylor	Sep-13
St Oswald's Primary School, Hebburn	South Tyneside	Mike Falcus		Sep-13
Chollerton CE First School, Hexham	Northumberland	Sue Wildsmith		Jan-14
Greatham CE Primary School, Hartlepool	Hartlepool	Julie Tyerman	Nicola Dunn	Apr/Sep-13
Holy Trinity Rosehill CE Primary School, Stockton	Stockton	Stuart Jones		Sep-13
Belford St Mary's CE Middle School, Northumberland	Northumberland	Lynne Brookes	Tony Palmer	Sep-13
Stanhope Barrington CE Primary	Durham	Lynn Bainbridge		Sep-13

Northern Saints & Kings Quest

Monday 24 June – Friday 28 June 2013

Discover the ancient world of Northumbria

Following the success of the St Nicholas Trail, Newcastle Castle Keep and St Nicholas Cathedral are teaming up to provide the new Northern Saints & Kings Quest.

Aimed at Key Stages 1 and 2, this whole day quest will explore characters from the kingdom of Northumbria's ancient history and involve a host of activities and crafts.

Contact Steph Carter on 0191 235 7551 or stephanie.carter@newcastle.gov.uk to reserve your school a place.

£5.00 per head (to cover the cost of materials)

Join us to discover Northumbria's heritage





FREE Resource Session at Church House, North Shields

FREE Resource Session

The Religious Resources Centre is due to hold its second **FREE** half day session for Primary and Middle schools who wish to explore resources supporting the new Diocesan syllabus for RE.

Participants will be able to view and borrow resources, meet the Centre staff, access on-the-spot professional support and discover new ways to ensure that RE is creative, interesting and academically rigorous. Coffee/tea and cake will be available providing we know who is coming along, so please **RSVP** on **0191 375 0586** or **enquiries@resourcescentreonline.co.uk**

Church House, North Shields, NE29 6HS
Tuesday 19th March, 1.45 to 3.15pm
(ample free parking)



Every child needs a teacher

Send My Friend to School brings together thousands of children across the UK to speak up for the right to education, and remind world leaders of their promise that all children should get the chance to go to school

In 2000, world leaders made a promise that every child would receive an education by 2015

But with two years left, 60 million children are still missing out on school

1.7 million teachers are needed so that every child can have the education they deserve

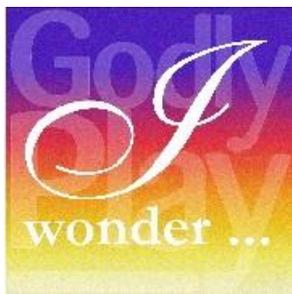
Be part of Send My Friend to School in 2013 and remind world leaders that every child needs a teacher

Order your **FREE** schools pack now with DVD, posters and teaching resources at:

www.sendmyfriend.org

Send My Friend to School





Godly Play Courses

Dates: Saturday 13th April 2013 Saturday 8th June 2013
Saturday 11th May 2013 Saturday 13th July 2013

Time: 10.00am – 4.00pm

Place: The Cathedral Church of St. Nicholas, St. Nicholas Square, Newcastle, NE1 1PF

Cost: £25 for day and bring a packed lunch (refectory also available) £20 per person when 2 or more book from the same organization/Church

Course leaders: Mary Cooper and Rachel Bainton

*Mary and Rachel are both accredited trainers for Godly Play UK
Godly Play is an imaginative approach to spiritual education for all ages*

www.godlyplay.org.uk

“An Introduction to Godly Play”

All welcome

The sessions “Introductory 1, 2 and 3”, attended together form a complete series. Each of the sessions can also be attended on a stand-alone basis.

The Make and Do session is an opportunity to create story materials. A small additional cost to cover materials (~£5) will be payable on the day.

To book: Please send a cheque* for £25 (or £20 per person if more than one booking)

*Make cheques payable to *Godly Play North*

And return this booking form and fees to:-

Mary Cooper, 46 Deneholm, Whitley Bay, NE25 9AT

Email: mary.cooper@blueyonder.co.uk

Please note that we need 48 hours notice of a cancellation otherwise we are unable to refund your course fee.

BOOKING FORM

I wish to attend some/all of the day courses as selected in the table below
at The Cathedral Church of St. Nicholas

Introductory 1	Saturday 13 th April 2013	
Introductory 2	Saturday 11 th May 2013	
Introductory 3	Saturday 8 th June 2013	
Make and Do - Parables	Saturday 13 th July 2013	

Name:

Address:

.....

Phone Number:

Email address:

I enclose a cheque for £..... (at £25 per day, or £20 – see above) made payable to **Cathedral Church of St Nicholas and marked on the back Godly Play North**

Carlisle Diocese Headteachers Conference

Wednesday, 22nd May 2013

Newton Rigg College, Penrith, CA11 0AH

9am for 9.30am – 3.30pm

What if learning – A Christian Way of Teaching

This major conference hosted by Carlisle Diocese welcomes Professor Trevor Cooling.

Trevor is Professor of Christian Education at Canterbury Christ Church University. Before this post he led the *Transforming Lives* project for The Stapleford Centre. During his career he has taught in both schools and universities, had extensive experience of developing resources for teachers and worked with Church schools as an adviser. His most recent book is "Doing God in Education".

The main focus will be to explore how to connect Christian faith with teaching and learning.

So can teaching and learning be distinctively Christian? 'What if Learning' is based on the premise that a Christian understanding of life makes a difference to what happens in classrooms. Its aim is to equip teachers to develop their distinctively Christian teaching and learning strategies for their own classrooms.

This conference is for school leaders who want their classrooms to be places with a Christian ethos, whatever the subject or age group being taught. We will explore what teaching and learning might look like when rooted in Christian faith, hope and love.

<http://www.whatiflearning.co.uk/>

Other items include:

The Archbishop of York Youth Trust

Headteachers of Church Schools – From 'Good to Great' - reflections on school inspections by local church school Headteachers.

Bookings for this conference are limited and places reserved on a 'first come, first booked' basis. Please return the booking form (on the following page) by 1st May, 2013.



**DIOCESE OF CARLISLE
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

BOOKING FORM

Please detach this portion of the form and return to:

Sue Emery, Carlisle Diocesan Board of Education, Church Centre,
West Walls, Carlisle, CA3 8UE.
e-mail – sue.emery@carlisediocese.org.uk

***No later than:** **1ST May, 2013**

Name of event: **‘What if Learning – A Christian Way of Teaching’**

Venue: **Newton Rigg College, Penrith, CA11 0AH**

Date: **Wednesday, 22nd May, 2013.**

Cost: **£80.00**

School Name:

Address:

.....

Contact e-mail address:

Contact telephone No.

Name(s) of delegate(s)

.....

Please advise of any dietary requirements.
An invoice will be sent.

Please note cancellations received after cut off date will still be charged.

'The forest is important because it has animals we can hunt, it gives us fruit we can eat, and when we need it we can use the wood'
Ivana



Christian Aid Week

Today around 870 million people are desperate for food. One in eight people will go to bed hungry tonight.

But IF we bite back at hunger this Christian Aid Week, 12th-18th May 2013, we can help communities find ways to not only survive but to thrive, with enough food to eat not just today but tomorrow.

Ivana, who is 10, lives in Bolivia, in a remote community deep in the South American rainforest. Christian Aid partner CIPCA has been helping people living in the forest to protect this precious environment, and to farm a range of crops and animals to help them overcome hunger.

To find out more about Ivana's story and to download educational resources, visit www.christianaid.org.uk/getinvolved/christianaidweek



Divine Chocolate Poetry Competition



This is your chance to explore what chocolate means in your life. Think of all the occasions where chocolate makes the moment even more special and all the celebrations where chocolate plays a part. Chocolate is something most of us love to share and enjoy, but wouldn't it be wonderful if it could be cherished and treasured by everyone?

Acclaimed children's author Geraldine McCaughrean will be leading the judging panel! Geraldine explains the sort of thing she's looking for in a poem: **"Something that delights in words, and uses them to conjure up pictures or feelings in the reader's mind: better still both"**

How to enter

For full details of this years' theme, **'Chocolate is something to Cherish'**, terms and conditions, links to teachers' resources and lesson plans, and information on the prizes go to:

www.divinechocolate.com/poetry

Entries sent by email will need to be accompanied by a form you fill in online

WIN!
Divine chocolate, book vouchers, hoodies & mugs! And have your poem read out on film by our guest judge!

The Divine Poetry Competition is organised in partnership with Christian Aid. Now in its 11th year, this popular competition provides teachers with an opportunity to explore the issues of fair trading in class. This year, a huge campaign will call on world leaders to take steps to end global hunger. To learn more visit www.christianaid.org.uk



Save on Energy Costs



Now you can buy your energy the same way that big companies and institutions do – ONLY through the Parish Buying Scheme.



Already hundreds of parishes, schools, cathedrals and diocesan offices have joined the Parish Buying service to obtain the best broker prices available for their energy consumption. This has resulted in some remarkable savings.

Now, in 2013, we can bring a second phase of saving – going direct to wholesale suppliers to negotiate a deal for a large block of electricity and gas. Major retailers, NHS Trusts, national and local government buy in this way and now for the first time across the Church we can pool our energy and negotiate a "basket" deal.



Parish Buying

www.parishbuying.org.uk

Three ways to buy energy

● **Renew with your current supplier.** The easiest way of buying energy, and usually the most profitable... for the supplier! If you do shop around, they may offer to match a better price – but this simply shows how uncompetitive they were. If they could have offered you that price, why didn't they?

Typical savings of 10%

● **Use a consultant or broker** to trawl the market to find the best available price. Until now, this is what we've been able to offer through Parish Buying. Our energy consultancy has helped parishes to find the best deal the market will offer at a particular time for their individual block of consumption. The more energy you use, the better the price you'll be offered. Check your broker commission, though, as not all broker fees are the same.

Expected further savings of 10% to 15%

● **Join an energy basket.** Using professional consultants, Parish Buying appoints an energy supplier to supply our 'basket' of churches, schools and cathedrals. We negotiate a small management fee, and then buy energy in bulk on the wholesale market. We expect the basket to be the equivalent of over 1,000 parishes, giving the cheapest way of purchasing electricity or gas.

The benefits

Save money – Negotiating in bulk will bring even greater savings – we expect prices to be at least 10% lower than the best price an individual parish could achieve on their own.

Peace of mind - Contracts may start off competitive, but so often renewal prices are sharply higher, meaning another trawl around the market to find a better quote. We are using professional consultants to operate the scheme. Parishes should never need to worry again about whether or not they are getting the best deal, since the price we achieve working together should always be able to beat the price individual churches can secure. We will report progress regularly on the Parish Buying website.

Buying and Saving together – by working together, we help one another benefit.

Who's behind this?



The Parish Buying service is operated by the National Procurement Group. This includes national, diocesan and parish representatives to ensure a high quality service, significant savings, and to help parishes buy with confidence and exercise good stewardship.



Solis Consulting are the only approved energy consultants for the Parish Buying service. Solis are working on our behalf to bring the basket together, to purchase the bulk energy in the market and ensure that the supplier provides a great service.

What is an energy basket?

When energy is bought in bulk it is known as a basket deal. This enables individual members to get more attractive prices than their individual volume would obtain from a broker.

Who can join the basket?

Any Church of England linked organisation, including parishes, diocesan offices, cathedrals, and church schools. Vicarage are not yet eligible.

How much will I save?

We expect savings of at least 10% compared with the best price available to a parish purchasing its energy on its own. If you don't use a broker every time your contract comes up for renewal, you may save considerably more.

Can I still join if my electricity or gas contract renewal is due after 1st September 2013?

Yes! If your electricity or gas contract ends before October 2015, you can join, but will need to sign up by the 15th June 2013, and will move across to the basket on expiry of your current contract.

Is it free to join?

Yes! There is no charge to join the basket. This service is paid for by a small commission received from the energy supplier.

Who will I pay?

The selected energy supplier (offering the best value) will bill each member organisation separately, just like your current arrangement.

How can I join or find out more?

Visit www.parishbuying.org.uk/energybasket to download an information pack. This will give you everything you need to sign up.