



# NORWICH CATHEDRAL

Schools & Family Learning Department newsletter

Autumn 2017

## Welcome back!

We hope you had a great Summer break.

As you prepare to launch into another busy term, we'd like to outline what's new here at the cathedral as well as what we can bring out to your school, to support your History, R.E. personal, cultural, spiritual development & more.

All our usual programmes are on offer too, so do check out our brochures on: [www.cathedral.org.uk](http://www.cathedral.org.uk) (go to 'learning', then 'school visits' pages).

Last academic year we welcomed around 12,000 pupils to the cathedral and because transport costs are high, we also enjoyed delivering some great half & full days in schools. It's great to see what you are all doing out there and to be part of it!

The over whelming response from teachers in their feedback expressed appreciation for making their sessions 'bespoke' to each class's learning outcomes and 'tailor-made' to suit each age group. **We thank everyone for their support and enthusiasm.**

We look forward to working with you in the coming year. All our best ideas usually come from teachers & children, so if there's something you'd like to see happening in your school, or here, please let us know!



If your school hasn't yet linked in with GO-GO Create, part of Go-Go Hares 2018, contact: [peter.marron@break-charity.org](mailto:peter.marron@break-charity.org) We will be hosting baby leverets at the cathedral. They brought hares to our recent family day and they are amazing!

### Thanks for the feedback...

"Pace & style of delivery was perfect. Dressing up, worship & artefacts session was very popular" (In-school day)  
*H. Hitchins, Hunstanton Primary.*

"Children loved being monks and enjoyed writing with quills!" KS2. Alderman Swindell Primary, Great Yarmouth.

"What an amazing day!"  
*Deanna, yr 1. Mile Cross Primary, Norwich.*

"A well organised day with a good variety of activities. The children enjoyed the science session. Being in the cathedral created awe & wonder" KS2. teacher, Little Melton Primary.

### In this issue:

- **Flaming brilliant combo visits...** Fire at the cathedral plus Gt Fire of London & exploration of the Holy Spirit (Trinity)
- **FREE BOOKS** for your class with Edith Cavell & the 'Lady with the Lamp' visits!
- Walk the walk – Labyrinths
- Maths in sacred space



**NEW ... in your school or at the cathedral, bring your History & R.E. together for yr2 and above, with this 'flaming-great' combined '3topic session'...**

**Meet Mistress Matilda the monastery maid from Norwich Cathedral Priory** who tells the scary story of how the people of Norwich set fire to the spire in 1272. Her friend Martha though, had an even worse time in the **Great Fire of London in 1666!**

- Drama for the children & costumed story telling, as they learn about how the monks at Norwich Cathedral Priory coped with the fire and how life continued afterwards
- Re-building and re-birth, they explore the concept of Trinity, particularly the Holy Spirit...how it continued to be a core part of the cathedral's prayer and worship and what it means for Christians today
- Symbols of the Holy Spirit, will be discovered: doves, flames, mitres & more exploring how these are depicted in the cathedral
- **PLUS a snapshot of what took place that fateful night when fire began in the bakery of Pudding Lane & how our capital city rose from the ashes after the Great Fire of London.** Participatory story telling about Master Farriner the baker's plight that night and how Londoners reacted during the fire.
- Loss, hope, destruction, re-birth, love, strength, caring—these sessions cover a wealth of concepts that span many curriculum areas

**The in-school fee per pupil is £3 for a half day or £4 for a full day. Contact us to discuss options. Available all year round.**



**Bible Alive**

**Lucky dip story telling...** pick your stories to launch or extend your Old Testament & New Testament teaching...

**'People of God', parables, miracles of Jesus and more, here or in your school.**

A variety of techniques, from Godly Play, to drama, dance and traditional story telling

*'You brought the story to life in a powerful way, excellent start to our topic!'*  
Sarah, Milecross, Norwich .

## Great Fire Facts at St Paul's

**Janet Marshall,**  
**Head of Schools &**  
**Family Learning reports on the**  
**Great Fire, under the dome!**



From 2010-2014 I had the privilege of developing Gt Fire visits in this iconic building. Designed by Christopher Wren, St Paul's cathedral rose again from the ashes and gave new hope to Londoners after the devastation of the blaze in 1666. Working with thousands of children from across London, we developed workshop sessions to help them feel part of the story. One of the most amazing tales is of the marble statue of John Donne which plummeted like a rocket down into the crypt after the floor of Old St Paul's split apart during the heat of the blaze. Book sellers had hidden many books down there, so it landed on a bed of paper. It survived apart from a few scorch marks, chips & scratches!



Above: surviving statue in Sth aisle of St Paul's.  
Below: statue outside, of Donne.





## Edith Cavell and her faithful dog, Jack

The story of WW1 heroine Matron Edith Cavell is special to Norfolk, she was born and grew up in Swardeston, where her father was vicar. She is buried in the grounds of Norwich Cathedral.

When she ran the hospital & nurses' training school in Brussels during WW1, Jack, a stray, was taken in by her. In her biography of Edith, Diana Souhami tells how she wrote about Jack in her diary, in letters home to her mother and in letters from prison, before her execution by German firing squad in 1915.

Jack accompanied Edith when she escorted allied soldiers to escape points in the city. She helped over 200 of them go free between 1914-15.

*"I re-created Edith's story for children. Jack always walked a step in front of her, hence my title: 'One Step Ahead Jack' Children relate so well to Jack."*

Jack was 'stuffed' after the war and is now on show at the Florence Nightingale museum, London until 2018!



**BOOK AN 'EDITH CAVELL & THE LADY WITH THE LAMP' VISIT HERE, OR IN YOUR SCHOOL AND RECEIVE A FREE CLASS SET OF STORY BOOKS!**

The children meet Matron Edith and tour the cathedral (or meet her in your classroom) & hear her story, ably assisted by Jack the dog! Includes drama & a classroom session about Florence Nightingale, and/or Mary Seacole & hospitals then & now. Explore: faith, bravery, Jesus, remembrance, worship & prayer.



**'LABYRINTHS....No thanks!' Janet Marshall & Lindsay Blankley explain how 'walking the walk' eventually got them 'hooked' as a tool to help children discover spirituality, stillness, learning & relaxation.**



"I was introduced to the labyrinth when I came to the cathedral in 2014", says Janet. "Firstly the outdoor, version in the Cloisters, then the enormous, indoor canvas variety. It all seemed a bit 'abstract' to me". She then discovered that labyrinths date back thousands of years. The ancient Greeks scratched them on walls. There's older versions that were found on caves. Indian tribal ladies have marked them on the palms of their hands and walked a finger round them to ease the pain of child birth! They are a circular pathway. You cannot get lost and you always see your destination in the centre. Circles have long been a symbol of the eternity of God's love, encircling planet earth. They are common in Celtic Christian art & prayer. "I tried them with reception infants, through to year 7 using stories, drama and visual images on many topics ranging from discrimination, different faiths & pilgrimage, all culminating with a silent, slow walk and thought/prayer writing at the centre" says Janet. **"It worked!"** Interestingly the youngest often respond best of all.

Lindsay recently adapted it for use with SEN children. "It captivates, calms, stills and enables all sorts of responses & enquiry based discussion to immerge". She observed. **To book a LABYRINTH EXPERIENCE in your school, just get in touch! It can also be incorporated into a cathedral visit.**



## It all adds up....

**"Come & explore Maths in the Cathedral"** says Lindsay Blankley, Cathedral Schools & Family Learning Officer

We are developing *new*, maths based visits that link with R.E. & Art, History, Science, and more

The children discover all the special places & furnishings used for worship & prayer, the architecture, arches, materials & forces using 'hands on' maths!



Measuring, shape spotting, & symmetry in the cathedral

**Adaptable for KS1 or 2. Please get in touch with Lindsay if you would like to plan one with us.**

## Contact Us

Give us a call for more information: 01603 218320

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headofschools@cathedral.org.uk

Lindsay: schoolsofficer@cathedral.org.uk

Visit us on the web at [www.cathedral.org.uk](http://www.cathedral.org.uk) (see 'learning' then 'school visits').

Address: Chapter Office  
65 The Close, Norwich,  
Norfolk, NR1 4DH .

## Dance, dance, dance....

We've hosted some great dance days during 2017 led by Lorraine Theobold, who specialises in dance from around the world, and Alli Bulivent who offers African music & dance, drama & African village stories.

**Our recent Hinduism & Christianity day** enabled children to learn dance & worship styles from both faiths and was enjoyed by two schools. **The cathedral is an amazing space in which to explore expressive arts. Why not give it a try?**



*"Great experience, singing and visiting organ loft, plus dancing were enjoyed by all" Erpingham Primary School.*



### Science in Sacred Space....

**Fancy it?** Children from Bishop's Academy, Thetford got the hang of some fun experiments about air pressure here at the cathedral last Spring. **Well done all! Ask us about booking your own science & RE day. Forces, light, sound etc.**

**Old books...and the monks' old library... Ask us about delving into our historic library and why not book an illuminations quill workshop??**



**"Awesome, wicked, cool, bloodthirsty, fantastic..." were comments from Tadpole Class at Parkside SEN school after our recent Medieval Day. They met a barber's surgeon, a cunning man, monks and did medieval dancing! Bravo everyone!**

