

Secondary RE in Norfolk

Issue 1

Spring 2008

RE Today launch a new resource

RE Today Services are coming to the **Norwich Network meeting** for the regional launch of an exciting new DVD resource called 'Tackling Tough Questions'. Created by Lat Blaylock and Professor Russell Stannard, it is aimed at the 14-19 age group and provides excellent ammunition for debate and discussion about issues such as evil, suffering and death. This part of the meeting will take place from about 3.15pm. The first part of the meeting will focus on ways of raising the image and profile of RE within the school and community.

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU BOOK AT LEAST TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE THROUGH CINDY BURTON AT THE NORWICH PDC (FLYER AND BOOKING FORM ATTACHED)

The **King's Lynn Network meeting** will also focus on raising the image and profile of RE especially in mono-cultural settings. This will provide opportunities for sharing current experiences and discussing new ideas. We will also be talking about assessment and some innovative work at KES!

THIS MEETING IS EARLY ON THIS TERM. YOU NEED TO BOOK NOW!!

Other news

Kathryn Wright is continuing her work with Secondary schools in Norfolk. She will be visiting as many schools as possible in the next two terms as part of her monitoring role for SACRE. If you would like to chat about how things are going in your school, Kathryn would love to hear from you. Email: Wundecided@aol.com

Reminder!!

Remember to book your place at the regional briefing/conference on the new secondary curriculum. This will provide opportunities to meet with RE colleagues from across the Eastern Region about the impact of the new curriculum on RE practice www.cfbt.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY THIS TERM:

Network Meeting in King's Lynn (at KES) 30th January - 2pm

Network Meeting in Norwich (at PDC) 25th February - 2pm

New Secondary Curriculum Conference (RE) in Cambridge 3rd March

SACRE Workshop at the Norwich PDC 7th March (details to follow)

'A dream that you dream alone remains a dream... a dream that you share can become reality' Anon



Exciting opportunities in our region

At Walsingham:

A new welcome centre is due to open in 2008 with fantastic new facilities. See page 3 for more details of 'roadshows' and contact Janet Marshall for a brochure:

j.marshall@olw-shrine.org.uk or tel: 01328 824205.

At the Anglican Cathedral:

Saturday 9th February : 2-5pm

How can the Labyrinth be used as a spiritual and meditative tool in Lent and beyond?

Experience the Cathedral Labyrinth and explore its history and design in a workshop led by the Labyrinth designer Tchenka Jane Sunderland. Places limited, booking essential. Cost £10.

It will be preceded by a free drop in activity session for children in the West End of the Cathedral from 10am-12 noon. This will include labyrinth designing and making of pilgrim badges.

Further information and bookings:

Jill Napier (01603) 218321 or communitylearning@cathedral.org.uk

Independent Learning Day at Thorpe

As a lead practitioner for the SSAT, I led a seminar with the theme of Independent Learning in the RE classroom on 26th November at Thorpe St Andrew School.

We looked at generic themes and ideas for our students to consider how to get the best out of them and how to embed independent learning in our classrooms and departments. Greg Dewar shared some of the ICT ideas he has for Norfolk too. (Thank you Greg!). It was a successful day, for me not just because it was fun to share something I enjoy doing but also because I learnt a lot from other teachers.

The hope is that this term (time allowing as always) this group goes for a "Learning Visit" to a place of worship outside of the area and begins to develop a bank of resources for all RE teachers to use on the Internet. And the way forward? It would be great to continue with this group of teachers and other RE teachers in Norfolk and beyond to share ideas and good practice. With the use of email (or blogging?) it can be a fairly painless and less time consuming process!

I hope to work for the SSAT next year and be able to offer more INSET in this way which is good value for money and gives another area of support for professionals who often feel isolated.

If anyone has any questions or ideas: nallen13@blue.esinet.org.uk

Nadia Allen

Director of Life Skills, Thorpe St Andrew School

Lead Practitioner SSAT Humanities RE

'Once you start a person thinking there is no telling where they will go...' Paulo Freire

In-school Workshops for Secondary Schools at Walsingham

The Education Department will come to your school to work with large or small groups across all year groups. We can deliver classroom sessions or larger scale 'road-shows' in the hall. We'll be guided by you as to what would benefit your R.E. or History best, but here are a few suggestions! Do get in touch if you'd like to discuss a tailor-made programme and fees to suit your school!

Here are some examples...

Pilgrimage - The Whole Story!

Explore Christian Pilgrimage at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham – in your school!

Can anyone be a pilgrim on their journey of life?

Lots of activities/drama/discussion/artefacts/costumes.

Whose Bible is it anyway?

Activities/drama/dance/discussion/artefacts to help students 'delve' deeper in the Bible.

Fact or fiction?/fable or truth?/poetry or prescription? How do different people view this great book?

Some of the most famous stories and how they relate to important religious festivals/lifestyles of believers...

(e.g. Easter/Christmas/Parables/Miracles/Psalms/Creation)

Juggling Churches!

Just why there are so many different styles of Christian place of worship?

A 'hands on' look at different Christian denominations with an added opportunity to meet different faith leaders/religious.

Artefacts, vestments and vessels and Icons – why do some Christians use all these things in their worship?

Prayer styles and silence.

Great for GCSE

Big Debates

On the big questions Is there life after death? What do believers believe about this?

Euthanasia – is it acceptable? Does having a 'faith' make a difference?

Is there such a thing as a 'Just War'?

Human Rights/Animal Rights ... who cares anyway?

Is Monastic Life dead?

Find out by meeting some Franciscan Monks and SSM Nuns!

What happened at the reformation?

What sort of people become monks and nuns nowadays and what do they do?

Try out some of their prayer routines etc!

Or whatever you want to do.....make suggestions, we're eager to provide what you need. We have a team of teachers, clergy/monks/nuns and we love a challenge! Contact Janet (details on the second page)

AST Support for RE

Greg Dewar is our AST for secondary RE and he specialises particularly in developing the use of ICT in RE.

Requests for Greg's time need to be made via Julia Stephens at the Norwich PDC.

Greg is also working on a project as part of his AST work looking at the use of ipods in RE, and also developing a project about places of worship in the region. Please contact Greg if you are interested in this:

gdewar@red.esinet.org.uk



NORFOLK SECONDARY RE CONFERENCE 2008

Discussions are beginning to take place about what form the conference might take this year. If you have any thoughts or ideas, including the names of any speakers you would like to hear or any workshop suggestions, please let Kathryn know as soon as possible:

Wundecided@aol.com

Seen the latest RE Today newsletter? You can sign up to receive it on their website at:

www.retoday.org.uk

If you would like to contribute to next term's newsletter please send any articles (something unusual or exciting you are doing...?), reviews (a great new resource you are using?) or comments to Kathryn by the end of this term.

Thank you and have a great term!!

Secondary Network Meeting - Religious Education

Date	Time	Venue	Course Code	Event Ref.
30/01/2008	14:00 - 17:00	King Edward VII School	EPFB9	C
25/02/2008	14:00 - 17:00	Norwich Professional Development Centre	EPFB9	D

Course Context/Audience:

This is a half day network meeting for RE colleagues.

The West Norfolk meeting will focus on ways of raising the image and profile of RE within the school and community. This meeting will also include discussion about assessment, including input from KES RE Department on their work with QCA.

The Norwich meeting will also look at ways of raising the image and profile of RE, but will also be hosting a regional launch of a new RE Today resource called 'Tackling Tough Questions'. This DVD package has been developed by Professor Russell Standard, 'the very best writer of science books for children' according to *The Independent*, and RE Today Adviser Lat Blaylock. There will be a short presentation, opportunity for discussion and time to purchase the resource at a significantly reduced rate.

Please ensure you book a place at least two weeks before the meeting.

Objectives:

We will cover areas such as:

- ◆ how students view RE at different key stages and what impact this has on learning and standards particularly at Key Stage 4
- ◆ the often differing views of boys and girls to the subject and the impact of this on teaching and learning
- ◆ different approaches to creating a positive image of the subject through the school and in the community
- ◆ planning and assessment at KS3 (West Norfolk only)
- ◆ introduction to new RE Today resource (Norwich PDC only)
- ◆

Course Leader/s: Kathryn Wright

Phase: Secondary Schools

Fee: £0.0

Professional Learning and Development Booking Form

Return to:

Cindy Burton
Children's Services
Norfolk Advisory Service
Professional Development Centre
Woodside Road
Norwich, NR7 9QL

Tel: 01603 433276
Fax: 01603 700236

From:

Name:

School/Organisation:

Address:

.....

Tel:

Email:

School DCSF No. (926) **Date:**

Course Title: Secondary Network Meeting - Religious Education

Venue:

Date:

**Course Code/
Event Ref.**

Title	Forename	Surname (block capitals please)	£ Cost (ex.VAT)

Please do not send a cheque with this booking form.

TOTAL

£0.0

Special Requirements: It is our policy to ensure that we provide access for all people. Meat and vegetarian meals come as standard. If you have any other special requirements, please state here so that we can try to help you.

For your convenience why not book on-line at <http://advisoryservice.norfolk.gov.uk>

Booking(s) authorised by:

..... **Signature**

..... **Title**

Cancellation Policy: For cancellations made by the school/establishment more than 28 working days prior to the course date, a £15 administration fee will be levied per person. The full fee will be charged for cancellations made within 28 working days of the course date. Free courses will incur a £15 administration fee for non-attendance or if cancelled within 5 working days of the course date.

In exceptional circumstances, and at the discretion of Children's Services or should Children's Services cancel the course, either the fee paid will be refunded in total, or the course will be rescheduled for a mutually convenient date.