

Resources for RE

Please remember that there are sets of resources available free of charge stored around the Diocese – these were the artefacts, books, teacher notes etc which were previously housed at the RE centre in Bromley. If you need to borrow any of these, please contact the following centres to organise collection:

- Rochester Diocesan offices (Teresa Spearink: 01634560025)
- St George's CE primary school, Wrotham
- St Paul's Cray CE primary school, Bromley
- Bennett Memorial Diocesan School, Tunbridge Wells



A list is attached so that you know what is available.



Other resources available to loan

At the Diocese, we have a large range of parish resources which are available on loan at any time. These belong to our Children and Young People's department but they are often not required for parishes and it would be good to see them benefitting as many children and young people as possible.

These resources include:

- Godly Play boxes
- Big games – for a summer fete, fun day etc
- Prayer stations ready prepared for a labyrinth
- 'Breathe' activities for upper Key Stage 2 and secondary schools

Please see the lists attached for further details of what you can borrow and contact :

sarah.cabella@rochester.anglican.org if you have any further questions or if you want to borrow anything. You would need to collect and return these to the Diocesan office in Rochester ME1 1SL.

Need some of the answers to help you asking and answer the 'Big Questions' ?



A number of you attended the training about the five world faiths led by some of our secondary colleagues from Bexley. Another area for which they are able to offer support is that of enquiry into ultimate questions especially for years 5 and 6. We will therefore be

offering a CPD session on :

Friday 19 June from 1-30pm to 4pm
at the **Rochester Diocesan offices.**

The cost will be **£30 + VAT** but this course can only run with a minimum of **10 bookings**. Please book with:

teresa.spearink@rochester.anglican.org



Using the Diocesan syllabus materials for RE

Now that the Diocesan materials are being used in most schools to deliver RE, it is important that teachers are encouraged to be critical and thoughtful with these materials. Any recommendations made in the syllabus are made with the understanding that the teacher will make a professional judgement about the suitability of materials for their pupils and in their particular context. As well as this consideration, please ask teachers to think about

- ♦ What is the 'big question' in this unit?
- ♦ What is the key concept in this unit?
- ♦ Is the suggested task enabling the pupils to reach the best levels possible based upon their learning in each lesson? (if not, devise a better task better fitted to your pupils)



These areas and ways of thinking will be incorporated into the revision of the syllabus taking place over the next two years.

TAKING PART

WALKING A LABYRINTH

Barbara Wallace is a trained labyrinth facilitator and she has four beautiful canvas labyrinths of different sizes that she can bring into churches, schools and organisations to support times of prayer and reflection. She is also a qualified teacher, experienced in youth ministry and a prayer leader.

The labyrinth is a wonderful tool for enabling people to walk mindfully, to unwind and just 'Be'. Beautiful liturgies for times and seasons of the year can be offered on its path. It can be offered at times of decision, new beginnings and retreat days. For those who find walking a challenge, Barbara always brings finger labyrinths to enable everyone to participate in the prayerful experience. She can also support schools that would like to incorporate a labyrinth and / or finger labyrinth in an outdoor reflective space in their grounds.



She works mostly in and around Kent. The cost is £50 per full day / £25 per part day plus travel expenses at 45p per mile from Broadstairs. For further details about Barbara

and her prayer resources, please visit :

www.pilgrimpaths.co.uk

3forRE

This scheme to support those undertaking a master's degree with an RE focus still has a very small number of places available for 2014-15. For more information please see : www.cstg.org.uk/grants/3forre

Free RE conference: 'Energising RE 2015'

Culham St Gabriel's are hosting a free Conference for RE teachers, taking place on 3-4 October 2015 at Wokefield Park, Reading. The theme of the conference will be 'Energising RE: Learning from our successes and collaborating for improvement'. For more information, visit the [Culham St Gabriel's website](#), where an online application form is available

2015 Spirited Arts competition

All schools are invited to submit an entry to NATRE's 2015 Spirited Arts competition, which is well underway, with entries coming in from primary and secondary schools. There is still time to take part, so visit the [NATRE website](#) and get your entry in before the 31 July 2015.

**RE Today professional development webinars**

RE Today has new online seminars. Teachers struggling to get out of the classroom for CPD training can now take part without leaving their desk!

The current primary webinar is: '**Teaching about Islam in primary: How? Why? What?**' for teachers wishing to improve their confidence and knowledge of Islam as well as gain practical examples of engaging and effective strategies for learning.

The current secondary webinar is on '**Promoting British Values; the Rule of Law**' for teachers who want to find out what the new non-statutory duty to 'promote fundamental British values as part of SMSC' means for the RE classroom.

**CE schools Annual Religious Education Conference 2015 - primary and secondary**

The annual conference for subject leaders of religious education in Church of England schools takes place in London on Thursday 25th June 2015. This year, primary colleagues are invited to attend for the first time and the programme has been designed to reflect this. Speakers include **Deborah Weston, Alan Brine and Mary Myatt (REQM) Cavan Wood.**

Alan Brine will discuss the outcome of the Making a Difference report on the provision for RE in church schools.

Contact: jemma.adams@churchofengland.org

News from the Hindu Council UK

The Hindu Council UK has taken part in a Q&A session on Hinduism at a boys' school as part of their provisions of resources on Hinduism. The themes and topics of the questions included: 'why do Hindus cremate?'; the Hindu perspective on abortion and euthanasia; and 'does the idea of reincarnation encourage suicide?'. Jay Lakhani's responses to and discussion of these questions have been uploaded to YouTube, and can be viewed on the Hindu Council UK Youtube Channel.



Springs Dance Company



The Green Project leads pupils through a series of dance workshops which consider the creation around them.

Children will learn and create movement, exploring the environment and their impact on it. Participants will engage with green issues in an exciting, thought provoking and positive way. The workshops culminate in a performance by the pupils, which can be shown to peers and parents alike. Springs Dance Company specialises in RE, and PSHE/Citizenship through dance and helps young people learn about and learn from the Christian faith.

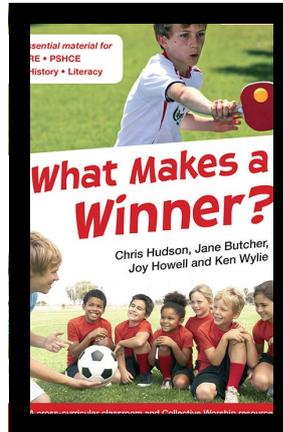
ALSO CURRENTLY BOOKING:

Workshops inspired by dances of the World War One era. Other popular themes include: Easter, Exodus, Light of the World, Narnia, The Selfish Giant, Waterbugs and Dragonflies, The Wemmick Story—You Are Special, and Advent.

To book, or for a friendly chat about what we do, please call us on: 07775 628 442 or email: info@springsdancecompany.org.uk

What Makes a Winner?

This publication helps children to see beyond 'success' and 'winning' to deeper questions of behaviour, citizenship and faith. Explore these big ideas with your class as they ask hard questions about sporting values, respond to true-life stories - and reflect on what all this has to do with them.



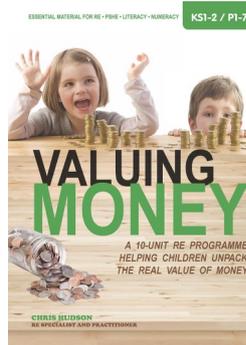
It contains five lesson plans, two assembly outlines and a reflective story outline and uses stories of inspirational athletes to teach PSHE values such as friendship, equality and overcoming difficulties. It

covers key cross-curricular themes such as racism, war and poverty. This is a fully revised and updated version of Who Comes First? including resources to cover RE, PSHE, History and Literacy



MONEY... MONEY... MONEY...

Valuing Money provides teaching material to help children explore moral and ethical issues around money and what it represents, and to think about what is truly valuable including ten story-led lesson plans with illustrations, Bible links and cross-curricular classroom activities and three assembly outlines suitable for Collective Worship



This helps to fulfil and enhance the revised National Curriculum 2014 requirements, connecting Numeracy teaching to wider issues of personal and shared responsibility, and relates Bible stories to questions of financial value and their implications. It also explores key Christian concepts for thinking theologically in RE.

ISSUE NO: 23
APRIL / MAY 2015

St Nicholas Church
Boley Hill
Rochester
ME1 1SL

Phone: 01634 560000
Fax: 01634 408942
Website: www.rochester-board-of-education.co.uk

Further information can be found on : www.rochester-board-of-education.co.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES 2015

2015

MAY

Tuesday 5th May

SIAMS training and update sessions. **There are a few places left for the 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm session.** These sessions will be held once a term and are open to a senior leader, a governor and the SIAMS/RE leader in the school. These will take place at the Diocesan office, St Nicholas Church, Rochester ME1 1SL. Please email Teresa.spearink@rochester.anglican.org to book places.



Monday 18th May

Foundation Governor Induction Training **4.30 pm—6.30 pm** to include: the roles and responsibilities of the Foundation Governor of a C of E School. Key aspects of Church School governance including Christian Distinctiveness, SIAMS Inspection and Buildings/Finance, the opportunity to ask questions about your role and share your experiences with other Governors

JUNE

Wednesday 3 June

RE Support Group—Bennett Memorial Tunbridge Wells TN4 9SH (please park on the road as parking is limited in the school grounds)

Thursday 4th June

RE Support Group—Rochester Diocesan Offices ME1 1SL.

Friday 5th June

RE Support Group -Crayford Community Hall (Bexley Schools)

Thursday 18th June

RE Support Group -Parish CE Primary School BRI4HF (Bromley schools)

******Please note: all of these sessions will focus on assessment and it would be helpful if all those attending could bring along a range of books to help us with moderation and with the sharing of best practice.******

Wednesday 24th June

Bishopscourt Garden Party and Evening Service. The Service starts at the Cathedral at **5.30pm**. This is a service specially created to reflect the joys and concerns of those leading our schools. The second part is a Garden Party from **6.30pm to 8.30pm** at Bishopscourt which is just up the hill from the Cathedral

******HEADS AND CHAIRS BRIEFINGS******

After consultation with schools there will now be 1 breakfast meeting and 1 afternoon meeting

Thursday 7th May

Breakfast meeting **8 am—10.30 am** The Holiday Inn Wrotham TN15 7RS

Friday 8th May

Diocesan Offices St. Nicholas Church, Boley Hill, Rochester ME1 1SL **1.30 pm– 4pm**

