
RE NEWS & UPDATES



SEASON OF CREATION

Hello everyone,

Welcome back to another school year! I hope you all had a good break over the summer.

I'm sure you are all aware that Stephen D'Arcy left the Education Service at the end of the Summer term. To ensure we still have enough support for primary RE, I am delighted to say that Margaret Wright has agreed to do some work on my behalf for the Diocese of Lancaster. Margaret already works in a freelance way with many of your schools. To avoid confusion, please can I ask that any requests for her support go through Heather or me to clarify whether she is working on behalf of the Education Service. I'm sure that, like me, you will welcome Margaret back with open arms.

The Season of Creation

For the first time, Pope Francis, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew and Archbishop Justin Welby have issued a statement urging everyone to play their part in choosing life for the future of the planet. In the Season of Creation, the Christian leaders call on people to pray for world leaders ahead of the United Nations climate talks (COP26) in Glasgow this November. Here are a few ideas to support the Season of Creation in your school and run alongside the booklet sent out at the start of term.

1. Hold a climate-focused service to explore the theological and scientific basis of creation care and action on climate, pray, and commit to action.
2. Commit a school community to take long-term action to reduce your greenhouse gas emissions.
3. Educate students on how to use their voices to tell politicians that you want a cleaner, greener, fairer future at the heart of plans to rebuild a strong economy.
4. Have a time of prayer, perhaps in Adoration, for the world leaders meeting in November, that the Holy Spirit will inspire them to care for our common home.
5. Look at CAFOD's work to help prepare for the talks in Glasgow when the eyes of the world are on Britain.

Returning to Section 48 Inspections

Ofsted's return to 'normal' in-school inspections means that the Bishop must also recommence Section 48 inspections. These will take place under the existing Diocesan framework. If you are going to be inspected, the Education Service will notify you at the start of the term. Therefore, all schools that are going to be inspected in the Autumn term have already been informed.

The new Section 48 Framework will come into effect from September 2022. Training on the new framework will begin in the Spring Term when we have inspectors trained in the new process.

Moderation

All schools have received the same tasks and instructions for an assessment task. One of our tasks at our Autumn term gathering will be to moderate these assessments, and all attendees are asked to bring a small sample from their Year Four cohort. Please get in touch with me with any questions.

CPD - Autumn Term

We will have two professional development days each year for RE subject leaders. The first on **15th November** will focus on school and diocesan development in the Autumn Term, such as assessment, preparing for inspection or planning the new RECD. It's hoped that having a whole day rather than two afternoons will enable professional development to happen in greater depth. Margaret will lead a period of reflection to help us all reconnect after a tumultuous time. The second day's focus on **30th June** will be forming RE subject leaders and using external speakers from charities and either Godly play or learning about Judaism. Godly play is a bit trickier in Covid times. Please contact Hilary at the Education Service to book on to these days.

Throughout the year, we will have twilights through Zoom that look at specific areas of development, beginning in January with a look at planning for the new RECD.

The CTA has begun work to establish a primary RE network. Please look for this information in the second half of the autumn term, as it may go straight to heads, not RE subject leads.

I'm looking forwards to seeing you all in November. It's good to finally think about seeing people in the world instead of framed heads on screens!

Take care,

Nancy

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