



# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## Warwickshire SACRE Newsletter

To: Headteachers and Teachers with responsibility for Religious Education and/or Collective Worship

Issue 3  
6 July 2011

### Welcome to the third Warwickshire SACRE newsletter

Interesting times continue for Religious Education. The overwhelming national response to the lack of GCSE Religious Studies in the new English Baccalaureate included a second Early Day Motion and a debate in the House of Commons. Following a great response from teachers across the country, NATRE published a report on the survey they conducted; the results show that failure to include RE in the EBacc is already having an impact on RE at Key Stage 4. A final decision was expected from the Department of Education in June, but at the time of writing we are still waiting! SACRE will continue to monitor the situation and to work with Warwickshire schools to promote and support RE, whatever decision is made. Links to the debate and report mentioned above can be found at [www.natre.org.uk](http://www.natre.org.uk)

#### Warwickshire School Linking Project

Many schools over the last ten years have benefited from the experience of working on school linking projects. The opportunity to work with children from a different cultural or faith background has enabled pupils to find out what it is like to live in a different part of the UK and also to develop the skills needed to talk effectively with those from a different background.

During the year 2011/2012 we are looking to find a small number of schools that would like to be involved in a pilot project developing school-linking work. We are looking for schools from different parts of the county that would like to find a partner school and develop this kind of work in a way that is appropriate to the needs in Warwickshire.

The project will involve a free one-day CPD course organised by the School Linking Network on either Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September in London or Friday 28<sup>th</sup>

September in Oxford. It will then involve three points of contact during the year, one each term, where the linked schools can begin to learn from each other and develop the skills needed to communicate with those from a different cultural and faith background.

If this is something you might be interested in being involved with please contact either:

Karen Steele: [readviser@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:readviser@hotmail.co.uk)

Anne Moseley: [mrsalpen@googlemail.com](mailto:mrsalpen@googlemail.com)

#### Celebrating RE Event

In Warwickshire we are still celebrating the success of our Celebrating RE competition and event. We hope to have a selection of competition entries available on the website soon. These examples of good practice will be a source of ideas and inspiration for schools across the county.



## Competition! Interfaith Week 20 - 26th November 2011

SACRE would like to promote the involvement of schools in Interfaith week and is therefore running a competition. Schools who are participating in Interfaith week should send details about what they are doing/have done along with any supporting pupil work, photographs etc to Ruth Waterman, Saltisford Office Park, Ansell Way, Warwick, CV34 4UL or by email to [ruthwaterman@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:ruthwaterman@warwickshire.gov.uk) by **5th December 2011**. All schools will receive a certificate to acknowledge their contribution and SACRE will award £50 to the winning school.

Information and a range of resources can be found at [www.interfaithweek.org](http://www.interfaithweek.org)

## Youth SACRE 2012

Following on from the success in previous years, SACRE will again be holding a Youth SACRE event in 2012. This will be aimed at Year 8 pupils all across Warwickshire and will be held on **Friday 22nd June 2012**. Please make a note of this date in your diaries. Further details will be sent to schools during the Autumn Term.

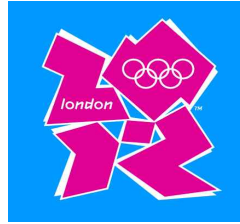


*Pupils present their work at Youth SACRE 2009*

## Collective Worship

One of SACRE's main priorities for 2011/12 will be Collective Worship and a working party will be set up to review and update the current guidance for schools. Please contact the Clerk to SACRE if you would like to be involved in this.

## Olympics 2012



Preparations for the 2012 Olympics are well underway and many schools will be making the most of it in all sorts of creative ways. There is a great deal of potential for RE here. Please contact Karen Steele ([readviser@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:readviser@hotmail.co.uk)) if you would like an electronic version of a really useful document produced in conjunction with REToday Services.

Also, thanks to Nick Scott from Lawrence Sheriff for alerting us to some useful links:

- A prayer in preparation for the 2012 Games - <http://www.churchofengland.org/media-centre/news/2011/06/400m-gold-medallist-reads-olympic-prayer-400-days-ahead-of-2012-games.aspx>
- Jonathan Edwards' reflections on belief in an article published in The Sunday Times: [http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/sport/more\\_sport/athletics/article1991114.ece](http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/sport/more_sport/athletics/article1991114.ece)

SACRE would be grateful for any news you have about how you are using the Olympics in your RE teaching. Send to [sacre@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:sacre@warwickshire.gov.uk)

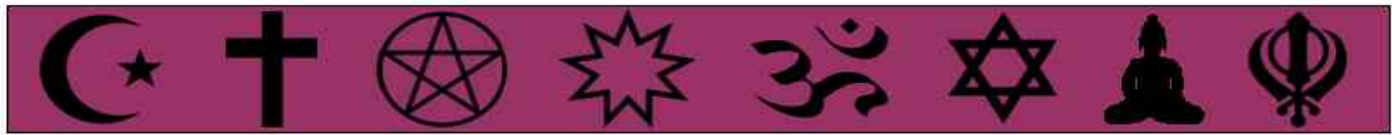
## NATRE Guidance on RE Resources

<http://www.natre.org.uk/rg/>

The quality and health of Religious Education (RE) in schools is influenced by many factors including the quality of the resources that are used. And never before, particularly with the advent of digital resources and the internet, has the range of available resources been so wide. This online guidance seeks to support schools in reviewing the range and quality of resources that they are using.

## Free Global Wallplanner for 2011/12

A useful resource that charts a range of important events across the year: a really useful planning tool. Order from [www.globaldimension.org.uk](http://www.globaldimension.org.uk)



### Useful Websites

 [www.retrails.org.uk](http://www.retrails.org.uk)



The [RE Trails website](http://www.retrails.org.uk) has been created for teachers of religious education to support the provision for Learning Outside the Classroom. The website is built around two key questions:

1. What is the value of a trail?
2. How can I develop a trail? - a toolkit is provided to assist teachers in this process

In addition, there are example trails, which teachers could use, adapt or have as models for creating their own. A Google Map also shows these trails, together with a range of others produced by individuals and organisations.

### Some dates for your diary:

SEPTEMBER 2011		
23rd	Pagan	Autumn Equinox
28th	Hindu	Navaratri (start)
29th	Christian	Michaelmas /St Michael, St Gabriel and St Raphael's Day
	Jewish	Rosh Hashanah (1st day)
OCTOBER 2011		
6th	Hindu	Dussera
8th	Jewish	Yom Kippur. Day of Atonement

OCTOBER 2011 cntd.		
9th	Sikh	Birthday of Guru Ram Das
13th	Christian	St Edward's Day
	Jewish	Sukkot or The Feast of Tabernacles
20th	Baha'i	Birth of the Bab
26th	Hindu/Sikh/ Jain	Diwali
31st	Pagan	Samhain or Hallowe'en
	Christian	Hallowe'en or All Hallows' Eve

A copy of this newsletter can also be downloaded from the SACRE website:

[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/sacre](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/sacre)

Any queries relating to the contents of this newsletter should be emailed to [sacre@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:sacre@warwickshire.gov.uk) or in writing to: Clerk to SACRE, Warwickshire County Council, Saltisford Office Park, Warwick CV34 4UL.

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