

RE newsletter

Christmas is coming

With Advent starting soon, and Christmas on the horizon, the Nativity story is back in our focus. But how do you teach about the birth and significance of Jesus as seen by different cultures? Do you teach that Jesus is an important figure for Muslims?

The agreed syllabus is careful to weave the Christmas story into its spiral curriculum, avoiding the tendency to teach about the baby in the stable year on year. Here is a summary of the way the topic of the Incarnation is explored:

FS: Crib scene and celebration of Jesus' birthday

KS1: Journey to Bethlehem, angels and shepherds

Lower KS2: Jesus as part of the Trinity

Upper KS2: Jesus the promised Messiah, the visit of the Magi

KS3: Jesus as God: the 7 'signs' and the 'I am' statements from John's Gospel

In what sense is the Nativity story 'true'? See P3

November 2021

For RE support, please contact Ed Pawson at efpawson@gmail.com or ed.pawson@exeter.anglican.org
Church school contact: Tatiana Wilson at tatiana.wilson@exeter.anglican.org



Learn Teach Lead RE (LTLRE)



Hub meetings are currently being hosted online, 4-5.15pm. Meetings are free and open to all teachers of RE, primary and secondary. See [website](#) for full details.

Plymouth hub

17th Nov – The RE-Searchers Approach

Cornwall hub (primary)

24th Nov – Reflective storytelling in RE

Cornwall hub (secondary)

10th Nov - High Quality teaching at KS4 and Curriculum Kernewek

Devon Hub (Primary)

2nd Dec – Religion and worldviews in the primary classroom (Katie Freeman)

Nativity Retold

Some useful nativity related films for RE:

- Gran tells her grandson Mark the story of the first Christmas (with puppets) [Christmas: The Nativity Story](#)
- A dramatised extract from Matthew's Gospel that tells his version of the [Christmas story](#) (from the Lumo Project)
- A dramatic reconstruction of Nativity told through song in [Mary's Lullaby](#)
- Joseph and Mary (humorously) register for the census in the [Bethlehem Bureaucrat](#)
- Cartoon, exploding some of the 'myths' of the Christmas story (but also quite confessional): [Retooning the Nativity](#)

RE hub leaders needed!



Are you ambitious to develop your RE leadership skills. Find out about joining our great team of LTLRE Hub Leaders? Contact [Ed](#) for more details

Creating Connections Conference



Explore the way religion and worldviews are interwoven into the life of the South West. [Join us](#) for workshops and presentations with journalists, teachers, religious leaders and invited guests, making new contacts and networking with local media representatives who are looking for stories (free event) 2-7pm Mon 15th Nov at MarJon, Plymouth

Courses from Exeter Diocese via Zoom. Details and booking [here](#)

Time	Date	Details	Cost
1-3.30pm	18 th Nov 2021	Courageous Advocacy and Social Action in Church schools	£30
4-5.15pm	23 rd Nov	RE Updates for Church of England primary	free
4-5.15pm	24 th Nov	RE Updates for Church of England secondary	free
1.15-3.45pm	11 th Jan 2022	Vision Led Collective Worship - community schools (pt1 of 2)	£80
1.15-3.45pm	18 th Jan	Inclusive, invitational and inspiring Col Worship in Ch schools	£120
1-3.30pm	10 th Mar	RE and Worldviews	£30
1-3.30pm	28 th Mar	Philosophy for Children (P4C)	£30

Sign up for the excellent [NATRE](#) annual (online) Strictly RE conference on 29th and 30th January 2022

Holocaust Memorial Day 2022

HMD takes place on 27th Jan every year. The Theme for 2022 will be **One Day**. Holocaust Education Trust materials can be found [here](#) . G2G resources [here](#)
Special features for 2022:

- 10am Thurs 27th Jan Commemoration event at Exeter Cathedral
- Speaker event: Eric Murangwa Eugene, survivor of Rwandan genocide, [Ishami Foundation](#)
- 5 minute video for schools

More details to follow soon

Interfaith Week 2021

[Interfaith week 2021](#) takes place in 14-21 November. You can find educational activities [here](#). Use the list of Devon [religion and worldviews](#) visitors to find a member of a religion or belief group to speak at your school.

Cambridge in your classroom

[Superb resources](#) for 14-18 yr olds answering some of the big questions of religion, philosophy and ethics

RE books for Primary



[My Skin Your Skin](#) is a powerful book to help children and adults have meaningful discussions about race and anti-racism. [Mr. Men Little Miss Happy Diwali](#) explores how Diwali is celebrated.

RE books for Early Years



This new set of books for Early Years will transform your RE. [Belonging and Believing](#) explores the real lives of eight children each from a different religion or worldview. The books reflect the lived experience of individuals and communities and aims enable pupils to understand and respect diversity of religion and worldviews.

Imam Ali Exhibition



Imam Ali was the cousin and son-in-law of the Prophet Muhammad. [The Imam Ali exhibition](#) traces the life of Imam Ali, enabling online visitors to gain an understanding for who Imam Ali was and the importance of his role in the history of Islam.

Search for films



Use the Educational Recording Agency ([ERA](#)) site to search for TV and Radio broadcasts for educational use.

The Ship of Theseus

The [Ship of Theseus](#) is a thought experiment that asks whether an object that has had all its components replaced remains fundamentally the same object. Key question: *if it is a new ship when all the parts are replaced then at what point does it become a new ship?*

LTLRE conference resources

You can find the excellent ppts and resources from the recent LTLRE conference [here](#). This includes links to the videos of people talking about their religion and worldviews journeys: the Bishop of Exeter (Christian), Zameer Hussain (Shi'a Muslim), Anastasia Somerville-Wong (Humanist), Ant Hamilton (Pagan).

Farmington Scholarships

Applications for 22/23 Farmington Scholarships are now open. Available to teachers of RE (and HTs) in all schools. The scholarship gives free tuition and 6 weeks paid cover for you teaching while you carry out research.

Ofsted and RE

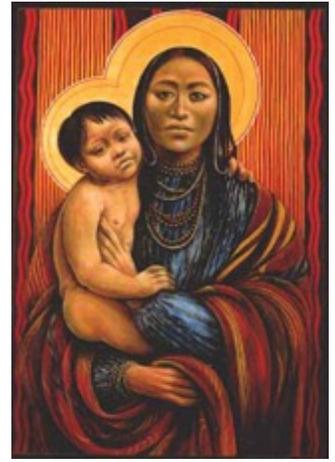
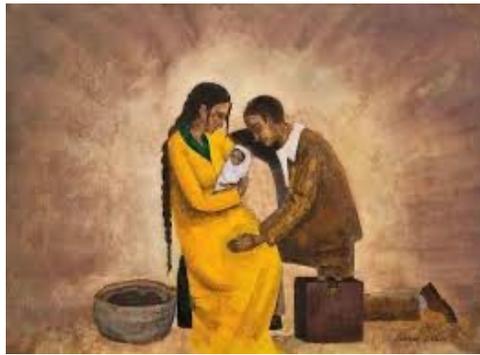
[NATRE welcomes](#) the recent Ofsted research review [report](#) on RE. Find a 2 page summary [here](#) and a set of questions for School Leaders [here](#). It identifies some of the key factors that contribute to high-quality RE in schools . LTLRE has created some useful [toolkits](#) for primary and secondary to help document your Intent, Implementation, Impact for RE.

CofE schools

SIAMS hubs

SIAMS Hub Meetings will be looking at the way SIAMS inspections have restarted, examples of summary SEFs and discussing what it takes to be excellent! Booking [here](#) (don't worry if you can't attend the one in your area).

Mon 10 th Jan	Exeter and East Devon
Tues 11 th Jan	Plymouth and West Devon
Wed 19 th Jan	Torbay and South Devon
Thur 20 th Jan	North Devon



<http://indigenesus.blogspot.com/2011/12/jesus-mafa-paintings.html>

- What stories do these pictures tell?
- What beliefs do these pictures reveal?
- In what sense are these stories ‘true’?
- Do the answers depend on your worldview?

The Nativity

Use the Nativity Story to do some hermeneutics (Biblical interpretation).

Hermeneutics helps develop understanding by exploring the language and forms of communication used in texts.

[Opening the door to hermeneutical RE](#) is a useful report, written to help schools teach about sacred texts.

- What do we mean when we say something is ‘true’?
- Can something be ‘true’ in different ways?

Year 7 pupil:

“Hermeneutics helps you to look at the deeper meaning of the text and understand yourself and others better. It calls you to consider your own beliefs.”