



RE Newsletter

Spring 2020

A Happy New Year and Welcome to this latest edition of the RE Newsletter

This Newsletter contains articles provided by members of SACRE which we hope you will find interesting.

Staying connected

If you would like to be contacted directly on matters relating to RE please send your contact details to the Clerk of SACRE on sacre@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Statutory Requirements for RE

We would like to remind all schools of their statutory duty regarding RE and the school curriculum. RE is an important curriculum subject. It is important in its own right and also makes a unique contribution to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils and supports wider community cohesion. The Government is keen to ensure all pupils receive high-quality RE. Although there is not a National Curriculum for RE, all maintained schools must follow the National Curriculum requirements to teach a broad and balanced curriculum, which includes RE. All maintained

schools therefore have a statutory duty to teach RE. Academies and free schools are contractually required, through the terms of their funding agreement, to make provision for the teaching of RE.

Further details can be found on the following websites;

<http://www.natre.org.uk/about-re/legalrequirements/>

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/190260/DCSF-00114-2010.pdf

Events/Information from Members of SACRE

Humanist Community

Launch of Assemblies for All.

[Assemblies for All](#) is a new website which provides access to high-quality, **inclusive assemblies** for schools across the UK - assemblies that are educational, enjoyable, and appropriate for young people from all backgrounds.

The website should be of enormous value to the many teachers and schools who believe that acts of collective worship should be replaced by more inclusive assemblies.

Assemblies for All features hundreds of assemblies made by education professionals from charities like Amnesty, Oxfam, and Unicef, to organisations such as UK Parliament and the BBC. To support teachers to find what they are looking for, the assemblies are organised by theme, organisation, key stage, and, for many of them, by a corresponding event in the calendar. The [calendar](#) contains notable dates across the year so that assemblies can be held to mark important events such as International Women's Day, World Environment Day, and Martin Luther King Jr Day. Teachers should be able to quickly and easily find inclusive assemblies on a wide range of topics.



As we learn about more available assemblies, we'll be adding them to the website so, if you know about other great inclusive assemblies, please get in touch on info@assembliesforall.org.uk.

Invitation to Holocaust Memorial Day 2020 –

Monday 27 January 2020 at 6.00 pm for 6.30 pm at The Great Hall, Guildhall, Northampton

Please contact the Partnership and Communities Team at forums@northampton.gov.uk or by calling 01604 838592.

In addition on 27 January 2020 at 12.00 pm there will be a short flower laying ceremony at the Holocaust Memorial Stone in the Courtyard at the Guildhall.

Northampton Jewish Community

Educational visits to the Synagogue Northampton

The Synagogue in Northampton is proud to host educational visits from schools and other groups. In the three months from January-March 2020 a dozen schools or groups have booked a visit, and we are now taking bookings for after Easter. Typically, each session lasts about an hour, and usually two sessions for a school (i.e. two classes) are run back to back. The sessions are led by a two experienced members of the community, and there is no charge, though we do ask for a donation. Each school receives a free half-class set of our beautifully illustrated education pack, which contains a wealth of information about the Synagogue, our festivals and Jewish religious practice.

To find out more about our Synagogue and how to book a

visit, please go to our website: www.northantshc.org

You can also download a free copy of the education pack from the website.

Holocaust Memorial Day lecture

As in previous years, the Synagogue will be hosting the annual Holocaust Memorial Day lecture at 6:30pm on Sunday 2 February. Admission is free, but you need to book a ticket via Eventbrite (see information panel in the newsletter). All are welcome.

Candlemas.

The Christian Holy Day of Candlemas is celebrated on February 2nd and commemorates the Presentation of Jesus at the Temple when he was a baby.

The BBC Religions website gives a really clear overview: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/holydays/candlemas.shtml>

The Website <https://www.assemblies.org.uk> has ideas for Collective Worship.

What is the Bhumi Project?

The Bhumi Project is the leading body on tackling climate change within the Hindu community. Working with Temples, NGOs, charities and local communities, the Bhumi Project aims to raise awareness of the ongoing climate crisis and help the Hindu community reduce their carbon footprint and contribute to a greener and more sustainable world.

Hindu Community Centre outreach work

On Sunday 19th January 2020, Avnish Thakrar, a Bhumi Project volunteer, delivered a presentation entitled, 'Caring for Mother Earth: Hindu Perspective on Climate Change' to an audience of 45 children and parents at the Hindu Community Centre in Wellingborough. The talk was well received and the audience signed a pledge board, committing themselves to going green.

How can I reduce my carbon footprint?

At home: LED lights, air dry clothes, wear warmer clothes in winter and reduce thermostat, install solar panels, choose an energy supplier that offers a green tariff, plant trees in your garden and use ecosia search engine who use their profits to plant trees.

Transport: Walk or cycle for short journeys, use public transport, fly less, offset carbon emissions by donating to tree planting causes e.g. Woodland Trust, consider buying an electric car.

Diet: reduce food waste, only buy what you need and compost all fruit and veg food scraps. Meat and dairy has a huge carbon footprint: you can reduce your diet's carbon footprint by nearly 75% by adopting a plant based diet.

Not an all or nothing approach: Doing something is better than doing nothing!

Update from Northampton Sikh Community



2020 will see the opening of the new purpose built Gurdwara as we move from the St Georges Street building across to the new building on St James Mill Road.

We look forward to welcoming all schools and teachers for a Gurdwara visit (anticipated opening June 2020 tbc).

Until then, the Sikh Education Service will continue to deliver Sikh Education workshops and assemblies in Primary, Secondary and Special Needs Schools across Northamptonshire.

To book your dates, and to find out more information, please contact the Sikh Education Service on 07968 143546, or email mrharkiratsingh@sky.com, or visit www.sikheducationsservice.co.uk

The Knife Angel (National Monument Against Violence and Aggression)



C2C Social Action have arranged for the Knife Angel to come to Northampton for the month of June 2020.

The Knife Angel stands 27 feet (8 metres) tall and is made of over 100,000 knives, confiscated by 43 Police Forces across the country. Thirty percent of the knives used in the sculpture were bloodied on arrival and came in biohazard bags. As part of a project called "Save a Life, Surrender your Knife," the National Ironworks Centre (in Shropshire) organised more than 40 amnesties and 200 knife banks at its own cost. Alfie Bradley, the artist, disinfected and blunted the weapons before welding them to form the angel. Families of those lost to knife violence were able to request an engraved message onto one of the sculpture's many thousands of blades. It took over a year to build the Knife Angel after permission was granted by the Home Office to collect the knives.

C2C Social Action will use the angelic visitation to Northamptonshire to work alongside a range of organisations in an intensive youth activity programme, in partnership with

Northamptonshire Police, the Office of Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, and councils, schools, clubs and churches

from around the county. The Knife Angel will be located in the plaza at the front of All Saints Church in Northampton town centre, with the kind support of Father Oliver Cross and of Derrick Simpson, Town Centre Manager. A range of youth activities will take place in the Guildhall with the support of Northampton Borough Council's Community Safety Team.

Anyone can contact c2c on knifeangel@c2csocialaction.com

Wellingborough marks Holocaust Memorial Day

The Borough Council of Wellingborough, Wellingborough Museum, and a committee of volunteers have organised a string of events taking place across the borough to honour Holocaust Memorial Day which takes place annually on 27 January. This day of remembrance brings communities together to mark the Holocaust and subsequent genocides, on the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi camp.

For more information about the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust visit: www.hmd.org.uk

CONTACT INFORMATION:
For any information or queries please contact SACRE at sacre@northamptonshire.gov.uk