

Monday 20th April 2026



Good afternoon, welcome back to the summer term! I hope you all managed to get a break from work over the holidays and that you enjoyed your time with friends and family. I got down to my dad's on the IOW and managed some sea swim - the water was very cold, but once in and moving it wasn't too bad! I did it on the sunniest days so I think that helped as well! I hope you had the opportunity for some rest and recuperation during the break from work too. Can you believe it is already the summer term and we are one week down!

Camden Dates for your Diaries

We have our RE network meetings coming up.

- The **Secondary Network Meeting** is on **Wednesday 11th June from 4-5pm at Regent High School** – *always a lovely chance for secondary school leads to come together, and I will have my OWL that hopefully will work this time for those of you wanting to join remotely!*
- Secondary schools are also welcome to attend the Newham and B&D secondary masterclass on **Tuesday 16th June** from 3-4pm on Zoom with **Dr Richard Keuh** – *former HMI and subject lead for RE at Ofsted talking about **The RE Curriculum*** Any Camden Secondary RE teachers who can, are welcome to join us, and I will record the masterclass and if you email me, I can share the link.
- The **Primary Network Meeting** is on **Thursday 18th June from 4-5.30 at Edith Neville Primary** when we will have a **Buddhism Masterclass with Jake Higgins** (some of you met him at the interfaith conferences we ran in the Spring term).

SECONDARY NEWS

InspiRE update The inspiRE Speakers project has been continuing to recruit students to the programme. We currently have 3 students signed up, and we would love to welcome more. An [overview of the programme is available here](#), and we have some marketing materials teachers can share, including a [poster](#) and [video](#). Students can sign up to [join the programme at this link here](#).

Please continue to encourage your teachers to share the programme with students, regardless of religious affiliation or whether they take RE/Philosophy, as we want to encourage students from all backgrounds to take part in this programme.

We plan to do our first training session with students after Easter as the recruitment for the programme begins, with a view to have students do their first speaking engagements towards the end of the academic year / into next academic year.



Religion Media Centre - has many useful Factsheets for GCSE and A'Level, written by academics, journalists and commentators to explain the context and background of current religion stories. They include information on festivals, timelines of running stories, and suggestions for experts and commentators. [Home - Religion Media Centre](#)

The Holocaust Educational Trust supports teachers to deliver robust and engaging content for young people – providing guidance and free classroom resources. Read on to find out more about our programmes and the opportunities available to you and your school or college. <https://www.het.org.uk/education/teacher-training>

New True Tube film. Amongst the films available is a new film for KS3&4 about understanding denominations in Islam <https://www.truetube.co.uk/>

NATRE have national online connect groups for A Level and GCSE RE Teachers to network and meet together [Local Groups: Religious Education & Religious Studies Networking](#) NATRE have also launched a new subject leader toolkit for secondary RE leads: a comprehensive collection of resources designed to support secondary school subject leaders in developing and enhancing the teaching and leadership of Religious Education. This toolkit provides a wealth of guidance, practical strategies, and key resources to support Secondary RE Leads in leading Religious Education / Religion and Worldviews with confidence. You can access the toolkit here: <https://natre.org.uk/secondary-subject-leader/>

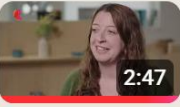
A Level Essay top tips from OCR:


https://x.com/OCR_RS/status/1908414412664295753/photo/1


Why choose A Level Religious Studies. This could be a useful poster for Parents Evenings, or discussion with GCSE Students. <https://t.co/aMrxoFUy3Q>



PRIMARY NEWS

 What does the word community mean to you?
RE Matters 2:47

 What does your holy book or philosophy teach about how we should treat...
RE Matters 4:18

 What do you or your community do to support people in Camden?
RE Matters 5:27

We successfully ran FIVE Interfaith Primary RE conferences in the Spring term Thanks to all of you who came. 84% pupils who attended thought the day was excellent/v good and we had a total of 35 different religion and belief representatives join us across our days. AS well as now having the 3 films we made with the faith reps available for everyone here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mNBF76y1Wgo&list=PLBm9k0V6w4-URQQ_2cnz36ZT2wqOAEkNM On a playlist called 'community'

Treasure Champs <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/articles/z4ng9ty> This collection of 30 films presents the stories that explore universal values and are drawn from a variety of faiths, cultures and world views. Each of the stories is approximately 4 minutes long. Each page has a series of questions to share with pupils to help them recall the main events of the story, as well as notes for the teacher offering suggestions for follow-up activities.

NATIONAL NEWS & OFFERS!

The Jewish Museum Learning and Engagement Team is offering **Life with Loss – Free Workshop**. A thoughtful and sensitive workshop exploring the Holocaust through the personal story and objects of Solly Irving.



This session supports students in reflecting on themes of memory, loss, and resilience in an age-appropriate and engaging way. Free for Years 5–9. To find out more or to book, please email:



learning@jewishmuseum.org.uk

Humanists UK are offering their Understanding Humanism Primary Teacher Training on 12 May and Secondary Training on 13th May, looking at: who are the non-religious and what is a non-religious worldview, what is humanism, what do students need to know and how can I best teach Humanism. Book [here](#). You can also book a school [speaker](#)

British Library: primary/secondary schools who would like to come onsite for a Sacred Texts workshop, these are still going ahead as normal. All the booking details can be found here: There is also an exhibition about the first Bible to be written in English by William Tyndale <https://www.bl.uk/learning/#school-workshops-in-london>.



Spirited Arts Competition If art is something that interests you don't forget that the long running [NATRE Spirited Arts competition](#) is now open for entries.

Culham St Gabriels 'Power of story' produced some thoughtful blogs, booklists, research and resource spotlights and films. Our 'in conversation' was both enlightening and thought provoking. You can catch up on all the content [here](#). **Their next focus week is Tuesday 19th May at 4.30 pm**



Spirited Arts 2026
Get creative through this cross-curricular competition!

Muslim leader Julie Siddiqi and Christian leader Steve Chalke explore the significance of Lent and Ramadan in a short video which might be useful for thinking about Spiritual disciplines You can watch the video [here](#)

New BBC Series BBC announces the sixth 'Faith & Hope', a multi-faith collection of religious programs on TV and Radio, showcasing various faiths and festivals. Highlights include BBC2's "Pilgrimage: The Road to Holy Island". In celebration of Spring faith festivals from other faiths, the Asian Network is marking Ramadan and Vaisakhi with a podcast and curated playlists. Further details of all programming here and here's a link to "Faith & Hope" on [iplayer](#).




Louisa Jane Smith has a podcast called The RE Podcast. Recent episodes have given clear breakdowns of the knowledge needed to answer GCSE RE questions comprehensively. An essential listen for teachers with GCSE students. See [Episodes | The RE Podcast](#) for more information. Her latest is about BBC Traitor's winner [Harry Clark goes to Rome](#).

Other useful RE news and resources:

1. **RE Hubs** Lots of helpful resources and interesting quick reads including blogs, [Podcasts & Media](#)
2. **Oak Academy new RE resources and lessons:** Secondary Resources are available [here](#) and Primary Resources are available [here](#) They are free to use
3. **Religions of the world** <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/articles/zfxwpg8> This series of animations explores the different religions of the world and their well-known stories. The animation is bright and colourful, and immerses pupils in the story through a clear, friendly narrative.
4. **BBC resources for Assemblies KS1 & 2** <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/articles/zxyf6g8>



5. **RE:quest** is an online resource for Teachers , produced by British Youth for Christ. It has a series of short videos and interviews for teaching Christianity, across all the Key Stages including GCSE and A Level [Teachers - RE:quest](#)
 6. **RE Podcast:** <https://www.therepodcast.co.uk/> Great resource and worth a listen if you haven't done so already.
 7. **CPD for Teachers** You might have already tried these FREE, short, online courses from Culham St Gabriel's. Enhance your understanding, update your thinking, with your team, for mentees or ECTs, or for your own development. For teachers in all school types and all age ranges. <https://courses.cstg.org.uk/>
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8. NATRE run **ECT webinars** for free for subject knowledge monthly. For more details: <https://www.natre.org.uk/membership/early-careers-teachers/ect-free-monthly-webinar/>
 9. **Humanists UK** also have new assemblies available for all Key Stages at <https://assembliesforall.org.uk/>
 10. **Woolf Institute** The Woolf Institute provide a range of free options for schools, including: flexible resources for secondary Religious Education arising from Woolf Institute research, including teacher guides, videos, and lesson plans; Lunchtime Online sessions where schools can invite a Woolf Institute staff member or student researcher to meet a group of students online during lunchtime to discuss their research and studies or career; and for schools based near Cambridge or greater London, visits from Woolf Institute postgraduate students and researchers to deliver our schools resources in person. You can read more about each option on our [Schools and Teachers](#) page.
 11. **RE ChatUK:** You might already attend NATRE's monthly Twitter forum, #REChatUK. This takes place on the first Monday of the month, from 8-9pm. Have you thought about inviting a friend or colleague along? These fast-paced, fun and informative discussions are a great way to discover new ideas, resources and conversations. The forum is also an effective place to network and meet new people on Twitter. Follow [@NATREupdate](#) on Twitter, and the hashtag #REChatUK.
 12. **Every Day Ethics** :[Everyday Ethics - Restorative Justice - BBC Sounds](#) A provocative weekly debate on moral, religious and ethical issues from BBC Radio Ulster , which you might find interesting for case studies.

Useful on-line resources for RE

1. **RE Matters YouTube channel** has plenty of films you can make use of in your RE at school. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCF1Uluqeb14jOVUTAoyH-9A>
2. **RE On-line** – <https://www.reonline.org.uk/>
3. **NATRE** – <https://www.natre.org.uk/>
4. **Pennine Learning**-<https://www.youtube.com/@penninelearning7521>

So, another busy term as you can see with lots of great RE opportunities. I hope to meet you at some or all of the events and training we are running this term and wish you well in leading RE at your school. Do get in touch if we can support you in any way.

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