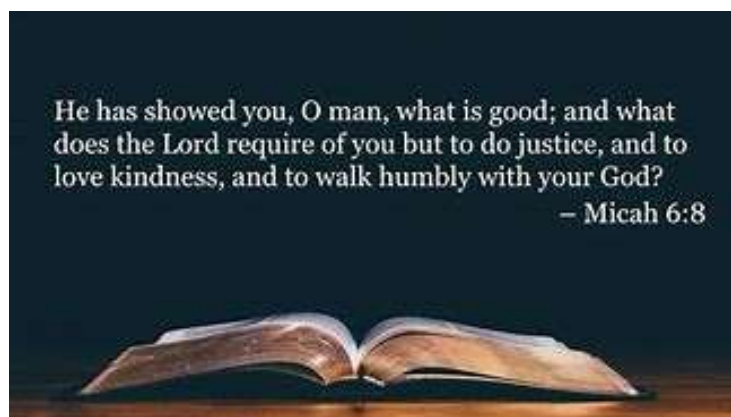


Welcome back to the new school year!

I hope you have had a great summer and a chance to recharge your batteries ready for new children and staff, returning faces and working within a marvellous staff and governor and student team.

Since the end of the summer term, to name just a couple of things which have had a major impact, there has been the excitement of the Olympics and continuing now with the Paralympics, times to celebrate the wonder and resilience of the human body and mind. But we've also had the terrible riots in cities across the country including in the South West. Church schools are called to be part of ongoing change in our communities as we support our young people to develop strong values, engage and live well alongside their fellow human beings of all ages, learning to understand others points of view, whether in total agreement or disagreeing well.

The prophet Micah 6:8 calls us to 'act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly. How can each of us live out these values as a leader, educator, friend or parent? How do your actions foster justice, compassion, and humility within your school community and the lives of the pupils you influence? We commend to you the resources below to support you in Collective worship and the discussions you will be having with staff. We will continue to use these in our training as we all seek to work out how to learn to live well together.



**The Lord is good, a strong refuge when trouble comes. God is close to those who trust in him.**

*Nahum 1.7*



## Special Edition Newsletter

### **Responding to the Summer Riots - Educating for Community and Living Well Together**

We are committed to supporting schools in addressing racism, believing that every student deserves a safe, valued, and respectful learning environment. To achieve this, we are providing resources, training, and guidance to help educators and administrators confront and dismantle these issues within their schools.

Over the next three newsletter issues, we will offer resources tailored to support schools, MATs and Dioceses in creating diverse and inclusive environments. Our goal is to help foster school cultures where both staff and students can thrive, with educators feeling safe and supported in their roles.

This initiative goes beyond responding to incidents; it's about creating proactive strategies that promote understanding, empathy, and respect for all. By addressing these critical issues, we are building a school system that embraces differences, leading to a more just and equitable educational environment for everyone.

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*Nahum 1.7*

## Education Newsletter – September 20204 (Term 1)

### Upcoming training events during Term

Event	Details	Booking Link
<b>Welcome and briefing to headship in a CE School</b>	<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September</b>  <b>4pm-5pm</b>  <b>Online</b>	<a href="#"><u>Welcome and briefing to headship in a CE school (online) Tickets, Thu 12 Sep 2024 at 16:00   Eventbrite</u></a>
<b>A full day of flourishing! All you need to know about SIAMS</b>	<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September</b>  <b>9am-4pm</b>  <b>Hillside House</b>	<a href="#"><u>A full day of flourishing! All you need to know about SIAMS Tickets, Wed 18 Sep 2024 at 09:00   Eventbrite</u></a>
<b>Governor session I - Introduction to Church School Governance</b>	<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September</b>  <b>6pm-8pm</b>  <b>Online</b>	<a href="#"><u>Governor Training Package Tickets, Thu, Sep 19, 2024 at 6:00 PM   Eventbrite</u></a>
<b>Leading great CE Primary RE</b>	<b>Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October</b>  <b>9.30am - 12.30pm</b>  <b>Hillside House</b>	<a href="#"><u>RE and Understanding Christianity Tickets, Thu 3 Oct 2024 at 09:00   Eventbrite</u></a>
<b>Understanding Christianity</b>	<b>Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October</b>  <b>1.15pm-4.15pm</b>  <b>Hillside House</b>	<a href="#"><u>RE and Understanding Christianity Tickets, Thu 3 Oct 2024 at 09:00   Eventbrite</u></a>
<b>New Headteacher Commissioning and Church School Commissioning service</b>	<b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October</b>  <b>9am-3pm</b>  <b>Bristol Cathedral</b>	<a href="#"><u>New Headteacher Induction morning and Church School Commissioning Service Tickets, Tue 8 Oct 2024 at 09:00   Eventbrite</u></a>
<b>Annual DBE Conference</b>	<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November</b>  <b>9.30am-3.30pm</b>  <b>DoubleTree by Hilton, Swindon</b>	<a href="#"><u>DBE Annual Conference 2024: Love Mercy, Act Justly, Walk Humbly Tickets, Fri 22 Nov 2024 at 09:00   Eventbrite</u></a>

Our complete training schedule for the 24/25 Academic year can be found [HERE](#)

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*Nahum 1.7*



*Love*  
**MERCY**

BRISTOL DIOCESAN  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2024

*Act*  
**JUSTLY**  
*Walk*  
**HUMBLY**

Leading the church school community into life

**FRIDAY 22ND NOVEMBER 2024 9.30-3.30PM**

**KEYNOTE: REVD NIGEL GENDERS**

Chief Education Officer for the Church of England

**WORKSHOPS INCLUDE:**

Christian Aid, Commando Joes, Difference

Concluding remarks and optional Eucharist with

Rt Revd Neil Warwick, Bishop of Swindon

**DoubleTree by Hilton, Swindon: Just off J16 M4**

£120 per delegate, second delegate half price (clergy and Trust CEOs FREE)

Book [Here](#)

Book tickets at- [DBE Annual Conference 2024: Love Mercy, Act Justly, Walk Humbly Tickets, Fri 22 Nov 2024 at 09:00 | Eventbrite](#)

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*Nahum 1.7*

**A MESSAGE FROM BRISTOL SCHOOLS CONNECTION.....**

WELL DONE for another academic year and all that you have given and given into the life of your school community(ies) in 2023/4. Absolutely precious and wonderful work.

As you look ahead to the next academic year we would encourage you to prayerfully consider what you have in your hands as a church community, and how you might be able to serve, bless, and work in partnership with your school and wider community. Continuing this dialogue throughout the year with your local school(s) is key. There are so many exciting pathways that can emerge if we are open to being and doing church in new and fresh ways.

A few important things to consider all in one big email:

1. Jesus Out of the Box – our new resource

Jesus Out of the Box webpage has gone live! All the resources are now available for downloading! Click the link below:

<https://www.bristolschoolsconnection.co.uk/jesus-out-of-the-box/>

We are going to have another in person training session in September – hopefully Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September 7pm, location in Bristol - TBC. Please email me if you would like to book on.

We will also have 2 x online training sessions in September. Click the Eventbrite link below to book your place:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/bristol-schools-connection-16793571838>

If you are in the Bristol area, and you would like to borrow one of our box set of resources, for Jesus Out of the Box, then please get in touch.

2. Training opportunities in the Bristol area:

BIG GREEN HEART – Experience morning, Hope Chapel 19<sup>th</sup> August, followed by optional training days – 19<sup>th</sup> August afternoon and 20<sup>th</sup> August.

This course has been tried and tested to use in youth work settings/school settings – focussing on forgiveness.

See attached for more info.

3. Introduction to Schools Work Ministry – Training run by Scripture Union, 24<sup>th</sup> September in Bristol, St.Michael's Church, Stoke Gifford. Or online 16<sup>th</sup> September. This is for anyone you know who is new to the area of schools work ministry and would like some initial training. See attached flier and also the link below. I am hoping to be there for some of the in person training on the 24<sup>th</sup> September.

<https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/introduction-schools-ministry-training>

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*Nahum 1.7*

## Education Newsletter – September 20204 (Term 1)

### 4. Christmas in a Box or a Christmas Trail

September is a good time of year to think about how you can explore the Christmas story in your local school(s). You could prayerfully consider running Christmas in a Box or a Christmas Trail in your local primary school. Attached is a trail designed by Liz Ogborne years ago – tried and tested ‘Christmas Through the Keyhole’. If you need any more information on this resource or would value a chat about running a trail then please get in touch.

Below is the link to our Christmas in a Box webpage and a link to our Eventbrite page to sign up for one of our 3 x online training sessions for Christmas in a Box.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/bristol-schools-connection-16793571838>

<https://www.bristolschoolsconnection.co.uk/christmas-in-a-box/>

### 5. Easter in a Box or an Easter Trail

September is also a good time to look ahead and prayerfully consider how you can explore the Easter story in your local school(s). See our Easter in a Box – The Movie webpage. Or get in touch if you would like a copy of an Easter Trail that we recommend.

<https://www.bristolschoolsconnection.co.uk/easter-in-a-box/>

### 6. Prayer Spaces in Schools

We are HUGE fans of Prayer Spaces in Schools and officially local champions! It's worth signing up on their website to receive regular updates, especially about their monthly online training gatherings which have a different focus every month. It's worth noting that another option at Christmas time, Easter, or during lent is to run a themed prayer/reflection space. Summer is a great time to run an outdoor prayer space, and also July is a fab time to run a transition prayer space for Year 6.

If you are interested in running a prayer space/reflective space in your school this year and fancy a chat – then don't hesitate to get in touch with me.

**For more information, email Jane Gillis [jane@bristolschoolsconnection.co.uk](mailto:jane@bristolschoolsconnection.co.uk)**

**The Lord is good, a strong refuge when trouble  
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*Nahum 1.7*



We're inviting  
your school to  
get up close and  
personal with  
planet Earth

This autumn  
Bristol Cathedral  
will be hosting  
Bristol-based  
artist Luke  
Jerram's touring  
artwork, Gaia.



Gaia helps to make  
the scale of Earth  
and its beauty, a  
reality for all.

**GAIA**  
OUR HOME PLANET

Created using  
NASA imagery,  
the 7 metre  
installation is 1.8  
million times smaller  
than the Earth, with  
each centimetre of the  
internally lit sculpture  
representing 18km of  
the Earth's surface.

**BRISTOL  
CATHEDRAL**

**School  
Visits**



Bring your school to Bristol  
Cathedral to take part in a  
brand new school visit,  
**'How are we responding  
to Global issues?'**

The visit will involve spending  
time taking in the fascinating  
recreation of planet Earth,  
learning about why caring for  
our Earth is important to Bristol  
Cathedral, and how we are  
responding to the climate crisis.

**Awe  
Inspiring**



There will be opportunities for  
awe and wonder, making links  
between Christian beliefs and  
their lived experiences, reflecting  
on pupil's own opinions and  
practical activities.

*"I hope visitors to Gaia get to see the  
Earth as if from space; an incredibly  
beautiful and precious place. An  
ecosystem we urgently need to look  
after – our only home."*

Luke Jerram

**Book  
Now**



2 hour class visits are  
now available to book  
between **15th October  
and 8th November**

For more information or to  
book please email:  
[education@bristol-cathedral.co.uk](mailto:education@bristol-cathedral.co.uk)

**BRISTOL CATHEDRAL**

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*Nahum 1.7*

## Child of Hope Give and Learn Fundraising day

Many schools and churches in the diocese have supported and continue to support Ugandan schools.

Liz Townend visited 'Child of Hope' school last year where Lucy Swift, a previous Deputy Head and teacher at St Mary Redcliffe CE Primary in Bristol now works. Child of Hope is an amazing place of joy, safety and learning for children and young people but they are desperately short of even basic resources. It would be brilliant if you would like to support their fundraising day either as a one off, or even better if you think you'd like to develop a longer term relationship with the school or a class in the school.

Their Give and Learn Fundraising Day is Friday 27th September. This year they are focusing on raising money for their Karamoja Nursery; it's in an area of severe poverty and malnutrition where harvests have failed due to climate change. Currently they have no tables, chairs or play equipment so money raised will go towards that. There are lots of new activities for UK children to take part in including ideas for lesson plans and activities. Details can be found at: <https://www.childofhopeuganda.org/give-learn-day>.

Do chat to Liz if a longer term relationship is something you're interested in and we can put you in touch with Lucy to have a conversation. There are also other schools in Uganda who would love a partnership so just say if this is the next step to develop your curriculum and you'd like help to get it going.

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*Nahum 1.7*



## A Prayer for this term

Heavenly Father

Please pour out Your blessings upon our whole school community so that everyone grows in the knowledge of Your truth, love, wisdom and peace.

We pray for all children - help them to explore what they can achieve and give them confidence to play their part in shaping our world.

We pray for all those who work in schools. Care for them as they care for our children.

We pray for all governors of schools. Grant them wisdom and sound judgement, and help them to keep children's well-being at the heart of everything they do.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen

Don't forget we're here to support you so let us know if you want to chat any ideas through.

*Liz* and the Education Team

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*Nahum 1.7*