

# Redbridge

## RE-NEWS

London Borough of  
**Redbridge**



JANUARY 2011 – FEBRUARY 2011



## CELEBRATINGRE

*... exploring values and beliefs for tomorrow's world*

### A month long celebration of religious education in England and Wales in March 2011

*Celebrating RE* month aims to:

- provide a showcase for enjoyable and relevant religious education with pupils of all abilities and age groups
- celebrate RE and its contribution to the education and personal development of all pupils and to society at large
- strengthen links between RE and local, regional and national faith communities
- connect RE professionals nationwide and encourage the sharing of good practice to foster lasting relationships between sectors, teachers and the wider RE community
- raise public awareness of RE's distinctive and positive contribution to society and social cohesion
- develop and maintain a strong presence for RE in the online community and news media
- promote imaginative examples of exploring questions of meaning, purpose and moral responsibility
- encourage creativity and excellence in RE, and
- highlight the excellent work that teachers, pupils and communities in England and Wales are already doing by shining the spotlight on the subject for a whole month

[www.celebratingre.org](http://www.celebratingre.org)

### News from Redbridge SACRE

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Plans are underway to ensure that Redbridge is fully involved in Celebrating RE in March 2011.

SACRE would like to invite all schools to get involved by taking part in one of the events or competitions organised nationally, taking part in or organising a local event or by planning something to take place in their own school.

Please log on to the Celebrate RE website to see what is planned and add some plans of your own.

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## Opening the Church Doors for the National RE Celebration in March 2011

Redbridge SACRE has won a NATRE bursary to encourage more schools to visit their local churches. The bursary focuses on the use of Labyrinths and reflective exercises in learning about and from Easter in Key Stage 2.



There will be a training day led by Rev Ian Tarrant, RE Today Adviser Fiona Moss, and Deborah Weston at St Mary's Woodford Bridge on **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> January from 10.30am-12.30pm.**

Teachers as well as church workers are invited to share good practice and ideas about this exciting methodology.

The church can be found at 207 High Road, South Woodford. Please book your place by telephoning the Teachers' Centre on 020 8478 3706 or booking online via the website [www.redbridgepdc.org.uk](http://www.redbridgepdc.org.uk)

All participants will receive a scheme of work for teaching Easter at Key Stage 2 and guidelines for managing a Labyrinth type exercise in a Church.

## New Resource on the Redbridge RE Website

SACRE is working with local communities of religion and belief to update the faith directory and make it easier for schools to identify suitable places of worship for visits. The 2006 directory can be found on the VISITS section of the website. A new directory, so far just for Churches, is also online. It is incomplete, but should already provide schools with more information about the facilities on offer and the correct person to contact.



Thanks to Gordon Beckett for all his work on this website. The URL is [redbridgerenet.co.uk](http://redbridgerenet.co.uk)

## News from NATRE

Assessing Pupils' Progress in Religious Education.



Making assessment meaningful and manageable continues to be a challenge for teachers of foundation subjects and RE. In secondary schools QCDA's exemplification of standards project has helped teachers to standardise work at each level.

The new government decided that the APP project would not be published but the level criteria may be helpful for those looking for a different outlook on what characteristics to look for when recording levels of progress.

A guide to using APP in secondary RE can be found on the NATRE website in the free resources section.

[natre.org.uk/docstore/RE%20AFs\\_2010.pdf](http://natre.org.uk/docstore/RE%20AFs_2010.pdf)

## Department for Education

### Religious Education in the English Baccalaureate

News from the Department of Education in December that Religious Studies GCSE would not be included in the Humanities section of the English Baccalaureate caused much concern in Redbridge Schools.

SACRE discussed the matter at its December meeting and Chair Ian Morris wrote to the Secretary of State to add voices in Redbridge to those calling for this

decision to be reconsidered.

The Secretary of State; Michael Gove has acknowledged that many people believe that RS should be included. In his evidence to the Education Committee he also stated that he did not want to prejudge the outcome of the debate.

If you have a view on this matter, I would urge you to write to the Secretary of State yourself.

We hope that an announcement will soon be made to remedy this situation especially at a time when many schools are preparing for Year 9 options choices.