

Helen Matter, Schools' Adviser, St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocese –June 2015

Units of Work on Christianity nearly completed and going well

Training focus for summer is on lots of courses for each key stage utilising the new Christianity units. The last 3 units in upper KS2 are now being written. All trials have been going well, with increasing evidence that the units are making a real difference.

Photos: Worlingham Primary EYFS (painting the Christmas story, Baby Jesus mince pies, creating a bridge to 'save' someone, superheroes to the rescue complete with self-made cloaks and masks)

The use of symbols in KS2 to represent the key beliefs of Christianity being taught seems to work and is proving useful in training. We may write a second round of Christianity units to double the number available to Suffolk VA schools during 2015-6.



Succession planning using teachers to deliver seminars

We are increasingly using teachers to deliver sessions on courses – 8 teachers have now taken up this opportunity, including 2 running different workshops at the Derbyshire Diocesan Conference.

Farmington awards – won one and one to go for 2015/6

A Farmington application has been awarded for development of an RE 'supportive' week for each half-term of new English curriculum in primary schools. Helen Peat, St Margaret's CEVA Ipswich

A second Farmington application has been awarded to Wendy Rayner at Kingsfleet Community Primary, Felixstowe for rewrites of all KS2 other religion units along same lines as Christianity units.



REQM – increasing applications in next 2 years?

Gemma Kingston, RESL at St Mary's CE Primary Academy, Mildenhall, gained Gold REQM and Outstanding RE SIAMS last term. She is also working on assessment for a Farmington this year. Two church schools are lined up to apply for silver.

REQM is to be a focus in the next two years with the aim of schools tackling it in between SIAMS inspections and / or as a focus for training new subject leaders. There are some issues to do with cost of REQM to face. The paperwork for REQM is useful to help develop work of subject leaders.

Big Crib 2 exhibition planned for Nov /Dec 2015

St Nicholas and the Big Crib exhibition planned for this coming autumn, with the Cathedral.

Keswick Hall Trust to be asked for next round of grant support for Adviser's post

HM's 2 yearly report goes to KHT this summer for money to support diocesan adviser posts. We have to submit course nos / details, show the impact we have made on learning etc.