

Inter Faith Week 18-22 November www.interfaithweek.org

This year Inter Faith Week 2012 is taking place from Sunday 18 to Tuesday 27 November. It is a special, extended Week for the Diamond Jubilee year.

Information and resources for event organisers can be found on the Inter Faith Week website, www.interfaithweek.org, together with listings of events.

Secretary of State for Education, Michael Gove MP singled Inter Faith Week out when writing to congratulate IFN on its 25th Anniversary this year, noting that the:

“extended Inter Faith Week that will take place in November this year gives even more opportunity for schools and young people to participate, and I hope they will take advantage of this to build new partnerships and celebrate the diversity that exists across the UK.”

SACREs have played an important role in Inter Faith Week since it began, both by holding events to mark the Week and by encouraging schools in their area to get involved and forwarding information to them.

A number of Inter Faith Week resources for SACREs and schools – produced in 2009 by NASACRE and NATRE respectively – are available on the website at <http://www.interfaithweek.org/resources/for-schools>. These are also available this year from the Times Education Supplement website.

The Inter Faith Week website will again be listing events taking place throughout the country, and **we would like to encourage more schools and SACREs to list events they may be planning**. Many school events are, of course, not open to the general public, but it is possible to explain this, whilst still benefitting from the publicity of being listed on a national website.

If you are looking for inspiration, reports on past Inter Faith Weeks can be downloaded from <http://www.interfaithweek.org/resources/reports> along with full lists of all events known to have taken place. Ashley Beck at the IFN office would also be happy to have a conversation with you about the Week if this would be helpful. He can be reached at 020 7730 0410.

Events which schools have run in the past include:

- ‘Shared Values Ethics Conference’ for GCSE pupils
- Presentations from religious and non-religious people on subjects relevant to the RE syllabus
- Discussion workshops for Sixth Form students tackling difficult issues
- Focused assemblies on similarities between faiths, such as ‘festivals of light’ and ‘searching for peace’
- Screening films with an inter faith theme, such as ‘The Imam and the Pastor’ and ‘Of Gods and Men’
- Visits to places of worship
- Inviting performers or musicians from faith communities to feature in school assemblies
- Themed lunchtime menus from different faith or cultural traditions