



ICONS NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2025

Featured:

- What's been happening?
- Upcoming training and opportunities.
- Key dates and upcoming meetings.
- Ambassadors and Champions.

HELLO AND
WELCOME TO
THE JANUARY
ICONS
NEWSLETTER!

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

Peace Ambassador Training

We started the new year with some more Peace Ambassadors training with students from five different local schools. Together we learned more about reconciliation and how to be an ICONS Ambassador. At the end of the three day training each of the groups in attendance came up with ideas for a change project for their own school community .



Our American intern Sophia joined the training: - “I found the Primary Peace Ambassador’s training to be thoughtful, refreshing, and quite fun. I think it’s often easy as you get older to get lost in the complexity of relationships and conflict. This training and especially working with the kids and hearing their ideas, reminded me of the foundation of reconciliation, of what we’re all trying to do and work towards, and the importance and impact of teaching the next generation to be reconcilers “

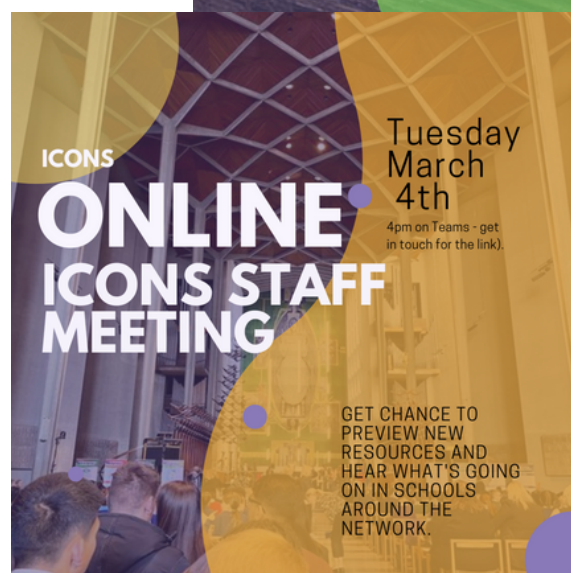


UPCOMING DATES AND OPPORTUNITIES

STAFF MEETINGS

Our next set of ICONS staff meetings are coming this March 4th with a breakfast meeting for local staff and an online staff meeting for those further afield. We would love to see you there!

In these meetings we share experiences, look at new resources and discuss how to get the best out of ICONS. It's also a great opportunity to network with other schools and staff in our international community!



SECONDARY SCHOOL AMBASSADORS TRAINING

IN-PERSON Peace Ambassadors training for 11 - 18 year olds.

If you are interested in our training programme for pupils aged between 11 and 18. The next dates are 9th, 16th and 24th of June. Once we have ideas on numbers and how many are 'in person' or online we can coordinate what dates work best for your school academic calendar.

Please let us know by completing the expression of interest form <https://forms.office.com/e/bi7UuUzpah> or sending an email to jessica.weale@Coventry.Anglican.org

UPCOMING DATES AND OPPORTUNITIES

2025 Training and Meeting dates

Check out our upcoming Ambassadors and Champions training dates and get in touch to book on or for more info!

ICONS DATES 2024-25		
Tuesday 4th March	ICONS staff meeting	8am Breakfast @ Cathedral
Tuesday 4th March	ICONS online staff meeting	4pm Microsoft Teams
Wednesday 19th March	ICONS Staff Champions training Session 2	1pm - 3pm Online
Wednesday 19th March	ICONS Staff Champions training Session 2	1pm - 3pm Online
Friday 21st March	ICONS Staff Champions training Session 3	1pm - 3pm Online
Wednesday 14th May	ICONS staff meeting	8am Breakfast @ Cathedral
Wednesday 14th May	ICONS online staff meeting	4pm Microsoft Teams
Wednesday 14th May	ICONS online staff meeting	4pm Microsoft Teams

UPCOMING DATES AND OPPORTUNITIES

2025 Training and Meeting dates

ICONS DATES 2024-25		
Monday 9th June	Secondary school Ambassador training	9.30am - 2.30pm @ Cathedral
Monday 16th June	Secondary school Ambassador training	9.30am - 2.30pm @ Cathedral
Tuesday 24th June	Secondary school Ambassador training	9.30am - 2.30pm @ Cathedral

KEY DATES FOR YOUR SCHOOLS DIARY *2025*:

The updated Peace calendar for 2024-5 can be found through the link below and through the website also and is packed with ideas and prompts on how to weave ICONS work and practice into the heart of your schools learning and teaching! Perfect for preparing and writing plans for collective worship/ R.E.



Peace Calendar for Schools 2024-25		
Below are key dates, focus weeks and months, which you may want to use as vehicles for developing the 3 themes of ICONS in your school.		
1. Healing the wounds of history	2. Living with difference and celebrating diversity	3. Building a culture of peace
Focus	Icons	Icons
14th September	UK Remembrance Week	1
15th September	International Day of Peace	1 & 3
16th September	European Day of Languages	1, 2 & 3
17th September	National Sporting Heritage Day	2
18th September	UK Black History Month	1 & 2
19th September	International Older People's Day	2
20th September	Minorities	2
21st September	World Refugee Day	1 & 3
22nd September	World Suicide Week	2
23rd September	World Mental Health Day	2
24th September	International Day of the Girl Child	2
25th September	National Learning Day	2
26th September	National Hate Crime Awareness Week	2 & 3
27th September	World First Day	2
28th September	Child Poverty Day	1
29th September	Conflict Resolution Day	2
30th September	Anti-Racism Day	1
1st October	National Mental Health Week	2
2nd October	World Teacher's Day	2
3rd October	World Food Day	2
4th October	World Trade Day	2
5th October	World Freedom Day	1 & 3
6th October	Remembrance Sunday	1
7th October	World Youth Week	2 & 3
8th October	World Teacher's Day	2
9th October	World Teacher's Day	2
10th October	World Teacher's Day	2
11th October	World Teacher's Day	2
12th October	World Teacher's Day	2
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31st December	World Teacher's Day	2

ICONS AMBASSADORS

COULD YOUR PUPILS BECOME PEACE AMBASSADORS?

ICONS Ambassadors is a leadership programme for children and young people which will develop their understanding of the following:

Theory behind ideas of prejudice, conflict transformation, forgiveness and reconciliation and how to apply their understanding to schools contexts

Skills and values of peace-makers and reconcilers and how to plan for change within the school context

Coventry Cathedral's story and the lasting, global legacy of peace and reconciliation that has grown out of it

The 3 themes of ICONS: 1) Healing the wounds of history, 2) Living with difference and celebrating diversity, 3) Building a culture of justice and peace

The Primary programme is most suitable for pupils in Y4-Y6 and involves sessions run at Coventry Cathedral or by arrangement for schools further afield. Each ICON School can send up to 15 pupils. (£20 per student)

For our Secondary School programme, we are offering onsite training this June (see calendar on page 6). Additionally we are now looking at booking in our sessions for the next academic year but want to make sure that our dates work for YOUR calendars so please fill out this form to indicate when would be best for your pupils - [CLICK HERE FOR FORM](#)

For further information or to book in please email

Jessica.weale@coventry.anglican.org or

emma.griffiths@coventry.anglican.org

ICONS CHAMPIONS

WE ALSO OFFER ICONS CHAMPIONS TRAINING TO STAFF TO EQUIP YOU WITH THE CLASSROOM SKILLS THAT FURTHER RECONCILIATION CENTRED LEARNING AND PEACEFUL PRACTICE IN THE CLASSROOM.

What is an ICONS Champion?

An ICONS Champion is a member of staff who is passionate about the concept of ICON Schools and understands the story of Coventry Cathedral and the Cross of Nails as a symbol of peace and reconciliation. This person will drive forward peace-building and reconciliation initiatives and encourage children and staff to engage with the school's work in this area.

This training is for staff in ICON Schools who are intending to take a lead on embedding their ICONS status so that there is ownership across the school community.

Smaller ICON schools may wish to send only one member of staff but larger primaries and secondary ICONS are encouraged to send more than one member of staff, especially if they want to spread impact across several key stages or different departments.

Over time, many members of staff from the same school may attend the training each time it is run to foster the greatest level of ownership.

If you would like to attend this course please email Jessica.Weale@Coventry.Anglican.org.uk or emma.griffiths@coventry.anglican.org and we will send you an application form - please be aware that this course costs £90 for all three sessions, which can be discussed with the cathedral if this is a fiscal difficulty.

**THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR
READING AND INTERACTING
WITH THIS NEWSLETTER.**

**DON'T FORGET TO FOLLOW
OUR SOCIAL MEDIA AND GET
IN TOUCH TO TELL US ALL
ABOUT YOUR EXCITING ICONS
ACTIVITIES!**

**WARMEST REGARDS,
THE ICONS TEAM.**