



peacemakers



What a day we had! We were delighted to host our first Children's Peace Summit on International Peace Day with children from 8 schools in the region. Lots of ideas and thoughts were shared through discussions, spoken-word performances and games, on how to build peace within ourselves, our schools and the wider community. [Visit our website](#) for our lively video with highlights from the day and to read more about the summit, the pledges we made and the messages we want to send to others. Our tree of peace pledges can be seen at the Peace Hub on Bull Street, Birmingham. Please visit and add your own pledge to the tree!



Peacemakers is now officially 30 years old!

A fabulous day with children was followed by an equally fabulous party where we were joined by friends past and present to celebrate our 30th birthday! We even had a specially-commissioned poem performed for us by Zeddie from Beatfrecks. Thanks to all those who came and made it such a great event to remember.



Anti-Bullying Conference Birmingham's Bullying Reduction Action Group (BRAG) is hosting its annual Anti-Bullying conference on the 15th of November. The theme is '**All equal, all different**': **Contemporary Research and Practice in Antibullying**. The conference is being hosted in partnership with Birmingham City University. Workshops and presentations include discussions around homophobic bullying, sexting and new pupil-led antibullying strategies. Anna from Peacemakers will be leading discussions on Cultures of Blame in schools. Book your places

5 minutes to help us access funding!

We would really value your help to access some funding from the Aviva Community Fund. It takes just 5 minutes to register your votes for us. Click on [this link](#). You will need to register but it's free to take part. Your help will be very much appreciated!

Please share with friends, family and colleagues as the highest number of votes leads to funding. Thank you!



Talk to us about training... Get in touch to discuss Peacemakers courses and Peer Mediation Training for 2018.

Peacemakers courses are for a whole year group. They give children and staff a chance to build relationships with one another and practice what to do when things go wrong. The course equips children to resolve conflicts for themselves and is adapted to the needs and ages of the children we are working with. Our trainers are highly experienced and will work with you to help develop your skills to run Peacemaker circles as part of the course, if you would like them to. **Peer Mediation** courses equip children with the skills to mediate conflicts on the playground. The courses are lots of fun and intensive. Children work hard to learn about the role of blame in conflicts and practice how to support other children in finding their own solutions to problems.



Bursary Funding Available: Please talk to us about the bursaries available to help pay for courses with children.

Peacemakers Recommends: *The Broomworthy Family*, by Lynn Morris

This short story for children and adults has been written by one of the most experienced and longest serving members of our team! Lynn says, 'It is a story meant to lead our children into discussions about the millions of displaced and now stateless people wandering our planet: men, women and children seeking a place of safety, of sanctuary, through no fault of their own, but all too often, encountering hostility and rejection instead'. The story gently leads us into these discussions through the characters living under the stairs—Colin McMop, Sophie the Hand-brush, Bert, her Dustpan and many others. Lynn is also one half of Journeymen Theatre, an amazing small-scale touring theatre company that performs in secondary schools, Quaker meeting houses and other venues all around the country. Their productions on contentious issues are thought-provoking and profound. We highly recommend catching a performance if you can. For information about the book and/or performances contact Lynn Morris at info@journeymentheatre.com or visit the website. www.journeymentheatre.com



Goodbye....and hello to Doreen, Helen and Libbs!

We said a very sad goodbye to **Adrian Platt**, our administrator who left us this term. Adrian is now the Finance Office at the Birmingham Wildlife Trust and we wish him every success in his new role. Thanks Adrian for all the support you gave us during your time here. **Doreen Warner** is our new administrator and we warmly welcome her into the team. We also have two new Peacemakers trainers, **Libbs Packer** and **Helen Carvalho-Gilbert**. Helen and Libbs joined us earlier in the year and have been busy shadowing other trainers and co-facilitating courses. They join Jaishree, Mike and Lynn to make-up our outstanding freelance team!



Libbs and Helen

And finally.... Our resource to support SMSC—Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development—in schools, continues to do well! Many schools have bought copies to support their own SMSC planning. We are currently working with five schools who are embedding the ideas into their curriculum further with training and support from us. We welcome enquiries from schools who would like to work with us in this way. Amanda Lees and Sam Spencer from **Erdington Hall Primary School** have also written about their experiences of using the resource and working with Peacemakers in the latest issues of RE Today [Autumn 2017, Vol35. No. 1]. They found RE a useful place for the work. In their article they say "*Peacemakers gave us the vehicle by which we could bring together RE, SMSC and Peace Education to consider how our children are thriving as young people, and intentionally teach skills they need to help them build more resilient relationships in the future*".

You can order your copy of the book [here](#). Discounts are available for bulk orders—get in touch to find out more!

