



CENTRE FOR
PAEDIATRIC
SPIRITUAL CARE

NEWSLETTER

November 2017

Interfaith week took place from 12-19 November 2017. It's a week dedicated to promoting understanding and good relationships between people of different faiths, and between people of faith and no faith. Events take place which encourage people around the country to learn about different faiths, share in their culture and encourage interfaith groups to work together in their communities.

At Birmingham Children's Hospital we decided to promote the week around the hospital with an art project and a stall showcasing the religious care which the Chaplaincy team provides.

We encouraged staff, patients and families to contribute to our display by creating an origami kite (the instructions that we used are from: <http://katharney.com/dorothys-origami-kite-card/>). We then asked them to think about what faith means to them, or what they have faith in, and to write this on a card which they attached to a piece of string or ribbon tied to the kite. This meant that people filling out the cards did not need to think about faith in a religious sense if they did not want to; it was left open for people to think what faith means to them.

The aim of this was encourage people to think what faith means to them, and then to see what other people had said. Although people may have faith in many different things, we hoped that they would be able to see similarities between their experiences of having faith, and those of others with different beliefs.

The team also visited the hospital's school. We designed a quick board game with question cards. Each card had a question, some about faith and some general questions, to get the kids thinking about faith in a fun way.

Once they have all been made, the kites will be stuck to a sky blue background and displayed in the hospital with an explanation of how it was created.



Did you know we have a Pinterest Account? You can see it here: <https://www.pinterest.co.uk/cpsc123>



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Blog Posts

This month, Ruth Radley, Children's Worker in the BCH Chaplaincy Team, considers the impact that culture can have on social norms, and how this might affect people working with children from diverse backgrounds, who may not have grown up in the UK. Before joining BCH Ruth spent nearly 8 years training student teachers in South Sudan, and she uses this experience to show how things which one culture may take for granted are in fact thought of completely different in other cultures, and explores how this can help in Chaplaincy and spiritual care work.

You can read this [here](#).

New Resource Added

We have added a new spiritual care activity to our website. This activity encourages children to decorate some blank Russian Dolls (available off Amazon) to reflect their emotions. In our guide on our website we suggest some potential ways that these could be used to explore spiritual care, and give some question prompts to help you facilitate discussion.



You can read our guide here: <http://www.bch.nhs.uk/node/13511>

Featured Article

Gatrad, A.R., Brown, E., Sheikh, A. (2004) Developing multi-faith chaplaincy, *Archives of Disease in Childhood* 89, 504-505.

<http://adc.bmj.com/content/89/6/504.full>

In this article, the authors discuss multi-faith Chaplaincy, focusing specifically on minority faiths and ensuring there is adequate provision for these patients. It includes some information specific to children.

Upcoming dates

1st December—Mawlid
Muslim

12th December- Hanukkah
Jewish

25th December—Christmas
Day
Christian

25th December—Birthday of
Guru Gobind Singh
Sikh

**Multidisciplinary Spiritual
Care Accredited Module**
March-June 2018

An accredited module aimed at multidisciplinary spiritual care practitioners working in health or palliative care.

Dates

22nd March, 25th April, 17th May
and 27th June 2018

Assignment due: 10.08.18

Cost: £300 (£250 without the assessment). This includes teaching materials and a resource bag

Visit <http://www.bch.nhs.uk/story/spiritual-care-conferences-and-training> for full details.

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