

WHOSE RE IS IT ANYWAY?

ON THE FINAL DAY OF CELEBRATING RE MONTH, 100 PEOPLE, SACRE MEMBERS AND OTHERS, GATHERED IN BIRMINGHAM TO DEBATE THIS QUESTION, EXPLORING THE CREATIVE TENSIONS THAT EXIST AROUND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION. MANY DIFFERENT INTEREST GROUPS AND STAKEHOLDERS WERE REPRESENTED AND TOGETHER THEY CONSIDERED WHAT RE IS ALL ABOUT, WHY WE SHOULD BE BOTHERED ABOUT IT AND WHAT PUPILS SHOULD GET OUT OF IT.



THE DAY OFFERED OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE PERSPECTIVES AND LISTEN TO THOSE OF OTHERS.



A VARIETY OF WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS FOCUSED ON RE FROM DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES: LEARNERS, PARTNERS, TEACHERS, COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL



THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE DAY WAS UNDOUBTEDLY THE AWARD OF FIRST PRIZE IN ONE OF THE CELEBRATING RE COMPETITIONS TO CLARE DEMPSEY FROM BISHOP CHALLONER SCHOOL IN THE CITY. HER ASPIRATION TO BE AN RE TEACHER, POWERFULLY EXPRESSED IN HER BLOG AND ACCOMPANIED BY ONE OF HER VIDEO CLIPS, IMPRESSED EVERYONE IN THE AUDIENCE, EVEN THE MOST EXPERIENCED OLD-TIMERS!



THE 'TALKING HEADS' PANEL RESPONDED TO QUESTIONS FROM DELEGATES



THE DAY FINISHED ON A VERY POSITIVE AND HOPEFUL NOTE WITH UPBEAT SUMMATIONS OF THE IMPACT OF CELEBRATING RE BY BOTH ALAN BRINE HMI AND BRIAN GATES, CHAIR OF THE REC.