



Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust Newsletter, Summer Term 2026

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“Serving school communities by providing Christian learning and support”



THANK YOU, SUE!

On 1st November 2007, Sue Evans started work for BSCWT as a Schools Worker with particular responsibility for primary schools. In 2023 she became our Lead Schools Worker. Over the last 19 years, Sue has done a remarkable job, using her creative and relational skills to grow and develop our work in local primary schools beyond all recognition. She has written and delivered countless assemblies, created new workshops, lessons and prayer spaces, helped pupils explore Christianity at lunchtime clubs, and provided much-needed pastoral support to numerous children. And, in all of this, Sue has served with extraordinary grace, a cheerful spirit, a reassuring calmness and a deep dependence on, and faith in, God.

As we announced in our Spring Term Newsletter, Sue has decided it's time to bring her work with BSCWT to a close after the end of this term (see her reflections on page 2). Although we will miss Sue tremendously, we are enormously grateful for the time she has spent with us in this ministry and I hope you might be able to join us at our **End-of-Year Celebration on 16th July** (see details below) to give thanks to God for her and also for all that He has been doing in schools through BSCWT this year. Thank you, as always, for all your support.

Ian Kemble, Director of Schools Work

8 things we're doing this term...

- 23 'It's Your Move' lessons in 22 primary schools with over 800 Year 6 pupils.
- 61 assemblies in 26 schools.
- 45 lunchtime club sessions in 5 schools.
- 2 Exam Stress workshops.
- One-to-one pupil support in 8 schools.
- Supporting Year 6 pupils at their secondary school inductions Days.
- 2 Pre-SATs prayer spaces.
- 16 OT/NT Mini lessons.



Sue with pupils at 'It's Your Move'

From a teacher at 'It's Your Move':
“A brilliant workshop... A huge thank you to BSCWT for guiding our pupils through this important milestone.”

You are invited to our End-of-Year Celebration

Date: Thursday 16th July
Time: 7pm for refreshments
Celebration: 7.30pm-9pm
Place: Trinity Church (in the Fellowship Hall)
Coxtie Green Road, Pilgrims Hatch, Brentwood, CM14 5PS

Please join us to celebrate and give thanks to God for all He has been doing through BSCWT in our local schools this year. We will also be celebrating 19 years of Sue's dedicated commitment to BSCWT and thanking God for her service to local schools and young people. Please join us for refreshments from 7pm.

It's Your Move

Our 'It's Your Move' lessons happen between the SATs and secondary school induction days – the perfect time for year 6 students to engage with their imminent move from primary school to secondary school!

The workshop lessons consider changes, challenges, choices and the 4th C ... consequences, and offer 'Top Tips' from the Bible, including Jesus' story of the Wise and Foolish Builders.

These lessons reach most of the year 6 children in the Brentwood area, and with the help of local churches, offer them the gift of the amazingly helpful 'It's Your Move' book (published by Scripture Union).

Thank you to the volunteers and churches who make these lessons such a success. Please pray for these young people over the next few months.

Sue Evans, Lead Schools Worker

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Sue with pupils at 'Love Easter'

Sue's Reflections...

Many things have changed in the almost 20 years I've spent with BSCWT, but what is constant is the Faithfulness of God. He has allowed me to ...



- spend my days not only telling young people the GOOD NEWS of Jesus, but BEING the Good News too!
- be blessed by the welcome and invitation of schools to be part of their communities, journeying with some children through their entire school lives.
- meet, work, pray with, and be inspired by wonderful people of all ages – especially some amazingly patient, kind and dedicated volunteers.
- every year find NEW reasons to marvel at God's Grace, Love and Mercy in the Christmas and Easter Stories!

From the start God has taught, equipped and enabled me. He has given me deep peace that this is where He called me to be - but He has also made it clear that it is time to stop! I am eternally grateful to all those who have encouraged and walked with me, but most of all thankful to Him through whom all things are possible – because without Him, this would be nothing.

Sue Evans, Lead Schools Worker

OT/NT Mini



This term, I am teaching NT Mini to a Year 6 class and OT Mini to two Year 5 classes.

As a conclusion to a set of OT and NT Mini lessons, Barbara led a Big Quiz with a large group of Year 6 children and it was amazing to witness their knowledge and enthusiasm. We are thankful that some schools are keen to book us to teach both OT and NT Mini on a rolling programme.

Last term, whilst teaching OT Mini to a Year 5 class, I was really encouraged by a special noticeboard that the children made in their classroom, containing photos of them demonstrating the actions, along with the words that I had taught them to show the storyline of the Old Testament.

Alison Carmichael, Schools Worker

Q&R LESSONS

At the end of last term we took part in some 'Question and Response' lessons at a local secondary school. The students were Year 11 pupils preparing for their Religious Education GCSEs and they asked some great questions including:

- Do you take the Bible literally?
- Do you ever have second thoughts about your faith?
- What do you think about other religions?
- What happens to people who never hear about Jesus?

Our team had the great privilege of exploring these questions, and more, with the students. We hope that the lessons not only helped these young people in their exam preparations but also in their faith journeys.

Ian Kemble, Director of Schools Work

From a teacher at our 'Love Easter' project:
"Thank you so much for running such a brilliant workshop, reminding our pupils about the real meaning of Easter."

Our Easter Projects



We received such a positive response from our Easter Project sessions with both Year 2 and Year 6 this year.

We took 34 sessions overall, reaching over 1000 pupils. One pupil wrote on their feedback (from the forgiveness zone): **"It helped because when I dropped the tablet in the water it made me think about all my sins and made me realise I could be forgiven"**. How amazing for a pupil to write!

One teacher wrote: **"This was one of the most engaging ways of teaching the Easter story. Highly recommend for all schools."**

I would also like to say a huge thank you to all the churches for their ongoing support and prayers for all the work we do and for so generously providing their time and church buildings as venues to enable us to hold our Year 6 Easter Project sessions.

Evie Bartlett, Administrator & Schools Worker



Frances at 'Love Easter'



Pre-SATs Prayer Spaces

Pre-SATs prayer spaces were held with two primary schools this term. The purpose was to help pupils relax and reflect in preparation for SATs, and to get into a positive and healthy mindset. The themes were: Encouragement, Gratefulness, Rest, Prayer and What is truly important?

Many pupils expressed that they now felt a lot calmer about their SATs and some beautiful prayers were written by the children which some chose to read out to others present. In feedback later, a pupil said:

"It made me think that SATs can be easy with God."

Frances Coe, Schools Worker

Comments from a teacher about our Pre-SATs Prayer Space:

"This was a calm, inclusive experience, where every child could take part regardless of faith or belief, whether through quiet thinking, reflection, prayer or simply having a peaceful moment. It was a powerful reminder that our pupils are supported as whole people and that wellbeing, confidence and reassurance matter just as much as test results."

Primary & Specialist School Assemblies



This term, we conclude our year-long exploration of the Biblical story of Peter with the primary and specialist school assemblies. We have followed him as he went from fisherman, to friend, to fearful denier, to brave evangelist, all because of his encounter with Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

In our final assembly of the academic year, we are delving into the story of Peter's miraculous escape from prison, being encouraged that when we are following what God wants us to do, He will help us and protect us, and that there is power in praying for one another!

Holly Coleman, Schools Worker



Pupils at our pre-SATs prayer space

Primary School Clubs

We are continuing to run four weekly lunchtime clubs in local primary schools. This term, we are focusing on miracles in the New Testament from Jesus' resurrection onwards, mostly from the Bible book of Acts. We are covering some lesser-known miracles e.g. Philip's transportation, the resurrection of Eutychus and Paul's protection from a snakebite. We hope that the children will understand more about God's power and involvement in people's lives. Some of the clubs are now able to use outdoor spaces for games, which is a lovely bonus during these summer months.

Alison Carmichael, Schools Worker

Wonder Space

Our 'Wonder Space' club at a local secondary school continues this term with themes of Space, Worries, Remembering and 'Is there a spiritual realm?'

The club gives a forum for pupils to explore and question the big topics of life and spirituality.

Our 3rd round of 'Wonder Space' bags are also ready for pupils to take home to explore: space, what to treasure, the Lord's Prayer and praying for others.

Frances Coe, Schools Worker

'Bouncing Forward' in Secondary School Assemblies

Our assemblies in secondary schools this term are focusing on 'Resilience', inviting students to reflect on the idea of 'bouncing forward' from the challenges we all face in life sometimes. We share a great example of this in the Biblical story of Joseph (and his amazing technicolour dreamcoat!) and the incredible story of a Christian woman called Bethany Hamilton.

We have also had the great privilege of speaking with Year 11 students in an assembly on coping with exam stress, as well as praying for students in a Year 13 Leavers' assembly.

Ian Kemble, Director of Schools Work

Exam Stress & Pupil Support

In a recent BSCWT Chaplains' meeting, we explored the ministry of 'being there', and the importance of consistency in our pupil support work, as well as the privilege of making time to listen to pupils one-to-one each week. We reflected on the complex issues that young people face, which sometimes make concentrating at school a real challenge. We are grateful to the schools for welcoming our team each week.

We have also had the opportunity to support pupils in 3 secondary schools, by providing exam stress workshops and/or assemblies. These occasions allow us to bring tips and practical advice and share helpful Bible verses to encourage pupils during these stressful times.



Fiona Mason, Operations Manager & Schools Worker

View from the Chair



As we near the end of the academic year, we have so much to be thankful for. This newsletter is full of the different ways in which the Trust has been able to share God's amazing love in schools and positively impact pupils.

Our team has also been planning how to manage Sue's retirement from the Trust and replace some of her hours. From September her leadership responsibilities will be divided between Alison, Frances, Holly and Fiona, who will each lead on one aspect of schools work, and Evie will increase her hours in school. Please pray for Ian as Director and for staff as they adapt to expanded roles and begin to book events for next term. Their work is sustained and multiplied by your prayers.

Sally McMahon, Chair of Trustees

Back to School Sunday

The next school year begins on 1st September, so we encourage all churches to celebrate Back to School Sunday (or Education Sunday) on a nearby Sunday. This is an opportunity to pray for, and show our support for, everyone going back to school at this time, or starting school for the first time.

More information is available at:
<https://www.suscotland.org.uk/get-involved/pray/back-to-school-with-god/>
and <https://cte.org.uk/education-sunday/>

Finance update from the Treasurer



We are extremely grateful to all individuals, churches, organisations and charitable trusts for their continued generous support of BSCWT. The annual accounts for 2025/2026 are currently being prepared and will be published in due course. Over the last year the number of regular donors has grown to over 100 and we have received numerous large donations which will help us to cover our costs over the next three years. Your donations allow us to continue to communicate with the young people in our local schools and to look and pray for new opportunities to expand the work that we do. If you would like to become a regular donor please do not hesitate to contact me, treasurer@bscwt.org. Please continue to pray for all the children that we are reaching.

Claire Lim, Treasurer

RUNNING FOR BSCWT!

On 11th April, one of our Associate Workers, Rosie, ran a 5km 'inflatable race', along with her husband Pete and their 2 sons. Pete even suffered an injury in the process but kept going! They managed to raise an amazing £1,185 (including gift aid) for BSCWT! Thank you so much to them and everyone who sponsored them.

If you want to follow their example and do a sponsored event or fundraising event for BSCWT, please let us know!



Rosie & Pete

All photos in this newsletter are used with permission.
Photos of our projects are provided by PhotographybyAnnaMarie.

Could you help us provide Christian learning and support to the next generation? Read on...

PRAY: We believe praying for our local schools, children and young people is really important...

- To receive weekly prayer updates, termly prayer calendars and other information to help you pray, please visit www.bit.ly/BSCWTconsent.
- Why not start a prayer group for schools in your church or start/join a prayer group for a particular school?
- Just pray - on your own or with others!

VOLUNTEER: There are over 40 people who give their time and energy to volunteer with BSCWT, either in schools as 'Associate Workers' or behind the scenes as Trustees, Support Team members or Church Reps.

- Visit www.bscwt.org/vacancies to find out more.
- To express an interest in doing an internship or work experience placement with us, contact us at office@bscwt.org.

DONATE: We are immensely grateful for everyone who supports us financially - thank you! In addition to our existing income, we are looking to raise up a new generation of supporters to help us reach the next generation of young people and children in our local schools. If you can donate, or if you can increase your existing support, we appreciate every contribution.

- To set up a standing order or a one-off donation via your online/phone banking, please contact us at office@bscwt.org for our bank account details.
- To complete a Gift Aid Declaration form, if applicable, visit www.bit.ly/BSCWTgiftaidform.
- Go to www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/20028156 to donate via Stewardship.
- We can also accept cheques (payable to BSCWT).
- Visit www.bscwt.org/donate for further information.



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