



Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust Newsletter, Autumn Term 2018

BSCWT, c/o Shenfield High School, Alexander Lane, Shenfield, Brentwood, Essex, CM15 8RY
Phone: 01277 249275 E-mail: office@bscwt.org Website: www.bscwt.org



Registered Charity
No: 1172358

BSCWT can be found both on Facebook and Twitter at:
www.facebook.com/BSCWT and www.twitter.com/BSCWT.

"Serving school communities by providing Christian learning and support"

The Privilege of Serving

At the time of writing, I have had the immense privilege of spending nearly every weekday morning of the last two weeks speaking to nearly 2000 students (in total) in assemblies in local secondary schools, helping them to reflect upon some of the 'big' questions of life.



As you will see as you read this newsletter, assemblies are just one of many ways in which we are finding ourselves able to continue serving local school communities. Each time we visit a school to listen to a struggling young person, to teach a lesson, to run a lunchtime club, to provide a 'prayer space' or to lead an assembly, we experience the amazing privilege of serving others.

We couldn't do this without people's support, help and prayers. So, thank you for helping us to serve our local schools.
Ian Kemble, Director of Schools Work

Pray for Schools Day

is held annually on the third Tuesday in November. This year it will be **Tuesday 20th November**. Please pray for our local schools and those involved in education. For more information on how to pray, please visit: www.prayforschools/pray-day-for-schools/



Welcome to Sue Wellman!

Following our search last term for a Project Admin Assistant to join our staff team, we are delighted that Sue Wellman has taken up this role. Having previously worked as an Administrator at Brentwood County High School, she is working with us in our office on Tuesday mornings and Thursday mornings, organising and co-ordinating the bookings and plans for our primary schools' Christmas projects, *Christmas Unwrapped*, *From Darkness to Light* and *Christmas Prayer Space*.



Being Good News in Schools!

For the past four years the Diocese of Chelmsford have run a conference

called '*Being Good News in Schools*', hosted by the Bishops of Chelmsford, Barking and Bradwell and aimed at equipping and inspiring local churches to serve and support their local schools. This year I have been asked to be part of the organising committee for the next conference which will take place 2nd February 2019 at Brentwood School.

The conference theme is "Bridging the Gap between Church and School" and the day will be run with a series of short 'TED'-style talks from a range of people working to connect churches and schools.

Tickets can be booked (£12 before 20th December) at <http://bit.ly/BGNIS19>.

BEING GOOD NEWS IN SCHOOLS
BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN CHURCH AND SCHOOL
SATURDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2019
THE BEAN ACADEMIC CENTRE, BRENTWOOD SCHOOL
10AM UNTIL 4PM



Sue Evans, Schools Worker

From the Trustees

At the Annual Celebration in July, we all heard how the Trust team engages with so many children and young people at almost every school in the district.

It is easy to be amazed by the statistics for the number of *It's Your Move* lessons taken, the children who have heard an assembly, the amount of chaplaincy and pastoral support opportunities provided.

And then say to yourself: 'I couldn't possibly help with any of these as I have no experience'. But none of us are born with experience – that is gained as we do things.

Thinking back to my first attempt to cook for 100 people at an event, I had no experience. But I wanted to learn, to try things out and to improve – and there were people around me to guide, encourage and support – so now I don't think it is anything to worry about.

Why not talk to the team about how you could help the Trust make the most of all the opportunities in schools that there are at the moment – and you too will have people around you to guide, encourage and support. *Jeff Fair, Chair of Trustees*

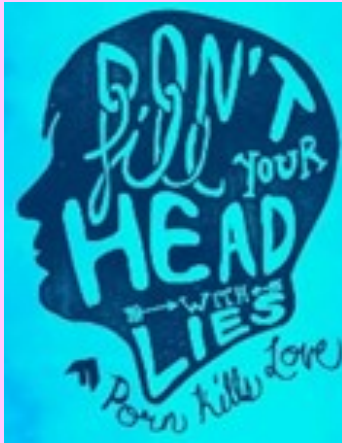


Inside this issue:

	Page		Page
<i>The Privilege of Serving / Pray for Schools Day</i>	1	<i>Congratulations to Rosie & Pete!</i>	3
<i>'Being Good News in Schools' Conference</i>	1	<i>'Caterpillars' & 'Butterflies'</i>	3
<i>From the Trustees / Welcome to Sue Wellman!</i>	1	<i>'LifeSpace'</i>	3
<i>Year 10 'Fantasy vs Reality' lessons</i>	2	<i>'It's Your Move'</i>	3
<i>Year 7 Christmas Lessons</i>	2	<i>Finance Update / Schools Work Sunday</i>	4
<i>Christmas Opportunities in Primary Schools</i>	2	<i>Stay in touch with BSCWT—new GDPR laws</i>	4
<i>BSCWT Training Invitation</i>	2	<i>How you can be involved with this work</i>	4

Fantasy vs Reality

This autumn we will be taking our third year of "Fantasy vs Reality" lessons with Year 10 in Shenfield School. These lessons look at the impact of pornography on three areas: relationships, the brain, and the world. They are hard, impacting lessons, that we and the school feel are important as young people are bombarded regularly with sexual images and unhealthy attitudes even if they haven't actually accessed a pornographic website.



When we look at some statistics we can see why these lessons are so important. In an NSPCC survey (2017), 65% of young people aged 15-16 reported seeing pornography.

The lesson includes media clips of people who all have a story to tell of the negative impact pornography has had on their lives, and our prayer is that

students will be challenged to think differently. We end the lesson by looking at the perfect love of God from *1 Corinthians 13* comparing it to the false and dangerous views of sex shown through pornographic media today.

Mary Thomas, Schools Worker

Year 7 Christmas Lessons

It has been a couple of years since we took Christmas lessons with Year 7, so I am looking forward to the eight lessons we will take explaining why Christians celebrate Christmas.

The lesson begins with a Mr. Bean video of him adding and taking away pieces of a Nativity scene. This introduces nicely the idea that, over the years, we may have added some false ideas of what the Bible



says about Jesus' birth. We look at Christmas adverts and what they portray about the meaning of Christmas, and eventually end up considering the story from the Bible, and why this is so important to Christians today. Some of the students will have been through the excellent *Christmas Unwrapped* lessons that Sue and her team take with primary schools, so with some students we are adding to seeds that have already been sown by the Trust.

At the start of the lessons we ask the students what comes to mind when they think of Christmas. We make a large list on the board, and it is rare that any of them will mention the birth of Jesus, making it so important to take these Christmas lessons with Year 7 once again.

Mary Thomas, Schools Worker

TRAINING INVITATION

We will be providing training on "Supporting young people and children who are struggling with self-esteem" on **Thursday 22nd November from 9.15am to 12pm at Shenfield School**. Please contact our office for more information or if you would like to book a place.

Christmas Opportunities with Primary Schools



Christmas is an amazing chance to tell the Christian story! Of all our festivals, it seems to be Christmas which has been seized upon for all its commercial potential, being in the shops and media as early as the end of the summer holidays.

Although we can be in danger of Christmas 'fatigue', for us as Schools Workers it is an opportunity 'made in heaven' – to tell the story which underlies all those celebrations. We have three main additional activities running this

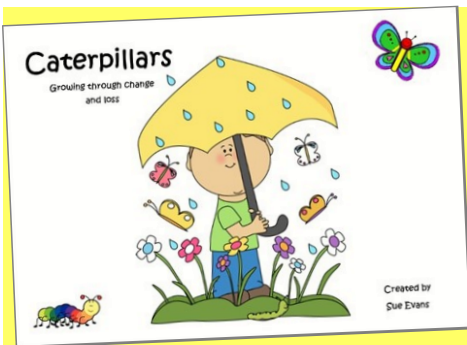


Christmas with primary schools: *From Darkness to Light* in various schools with Infants, *Christmas Unwrapped* with years 5 and 6 in churches, and a *Christmas Prayer Space*.

Our *From Darkness to Light* and *Christmas Unwrapped* lessons have undergone a rapid expansion in the last few years reaching more children and more schools and linking up with more churches. BUT there are still more schools which would really welcome these lessons.

We would love to train teams of willing church volunteers to run these lessons either independently or jointly with the Trust. If you think God might be calling your church to run either of these lessons, or you are interested in being involved, come along and visit one!

Sue Evans, Schools Worker



Caterpillars & Butterflies!

We have run 3 lots of *Caterpillar* groups in Warley Primary School so far, all of which have been wonderful chances to give the young people space to talk and explore their feelings about the changes and losses they have experienced. The children in each group have gradually bonded and formed good supportive friendships with each other as well as the leaders but sometimes we finish the 12 weeks feeling that there is more to be said and done! So, this term, as well as starting another *Caterpillar* group at Warley and one at Mountnessing, we have developed a follow-on resource called *Butterflies*, for those needing a bit more time and help. Please pray for all the children who have been through *Caterpillars*, are currently part of the groups and for those who are now coming back to *Butterflies*.



Sue Evans, Schools Worker

Congratulations...

To staff member Rosie and husband Pete, on the safe arrival of their baby son, Gideon, born in September. We wish them all well and send our love and prayers. Here is a message from Rosie.....

"Thank you all for your kind words, prayers and wishes, not only over the last couple of weeks but over the last few months of my pregnancy. I am officially on maternity leave and Pete and I welcomed our little boy, Gideon, into the world on Tuesday 18th September. We are thrilled to have him here and are loving getting to know him and adjusting to life as a family of three.

Whilst I will miss running the primary school clubs and the various other things I have been involved with at BSCWT so far, we are so blessed to have some amazing Associate Workers standing in and I have already heard how well they are doing this term!

Rosie Graham, Schools Worker



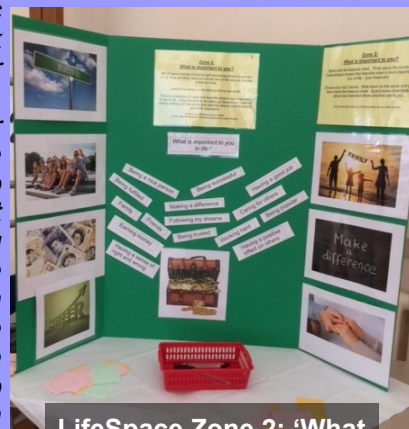
Rosie, Pete & Gideon

LIFESPACE

Thank you for your prayers for our *LifeSpace* event held as part of the Practice Interview Day with Year 10 students at Shenfield School back in July. The day went very well with about 150 students taking part. Our thanks go to the team that helped 'man' the stations and support the students as they explored the deeper questions of life.

Feedback received from a teacher:

"The *LifeSpace* event is a fantastic opportunity for our students to think more deeply about their characteristics, strengths and talents, and how these can relate to their future career choices. Students have the rare opportunity to reflect on who they are as people and what that means for the future they are working towards. The engaging and creative range of activities guide students in tackling some complex and mature questions. The team running the event gave students the space to reflect independently whilst being on hand to guide and support students."



LifeSpace Zone 2: 'What is important to you?'

Feedback from students:

"I felt that Zones 2 and 5 really helped me make decisions today of who I want to be and what is important/not important to me."

"I now know what I want to do and I have a clear idea."

"It was really good to have a think about the future."

"Zone 2 was very useful and it helped me learn a lot about myself and the things I value in life."

Fiona Mason, Administrator & Schools Worker



"It's Your Move..."

Back in May and June last term we ran our biggest primary schools project *It's Your Move!* This transition lesson is taken with year 6's across Brentwood and Ongar and aims to help with the move from primary to secondary school. The lessons are sponsored by our local churches who pay for '*It's Your Move*' books (published by Scripture Union), which are filled with useful tips, quizzes and stories aimed at helping with the move. For the second year running we were thankful for the help of Year 8 students from Becket Keys School, who volunteered to join us in the lessons to give advice and reassurance to the Year 6 pupils. Please give thanks for all those involved in this project and continue to pray for those year 6's, now year 7's, coming to the end of their first term at secondary school.

Sue Evans, Schools Worker



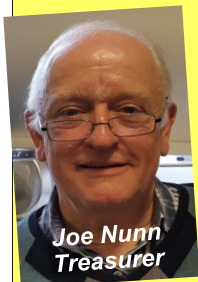
Pupils at 'It's Your Move'

Finance Update from the Treasurers & Trustees



Peter Embling
Treasurer

We continue to be grateful to God's people, individuals, local churches and charitable trusts who support the activities of the Trust in prayer and financially.



Joe Nunn
Treasurer

The annual accounts for both BSCWT CIO and original Trust have been completed and will be posted onto the Charity Commission website once the service is available.

We have financial details to the end of August and are delighted to report that the actual surplus figure is within £230 of the budget figure.

Donations from individuals is slightly below budget but donations from churches and other sources are above budget.

We would like to thank Hutton and Shenfield Union Church for holding a fundraising event and for the generous donation as a result. We would also like to thank all the churches who partnered with the Trust by sponsoring the gifts of the *It's Your Move* books.

Again, many thanks for your continued support and please continue to fervently pray that the existing opportunities will continue and that new doors will be opened to support the young people in our Brentwood schools.

Peter Embling & Joe Nunn, Joint Treasurers

How can you be involved?

If you are a Christian with a passion for schools, education, children and young people, and think you might be interested in being involved, please get in touch with us at the BSCWT office. Please join with us to:

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

- Request our weekly prayer email, termly prayer calendar and newsletter by email or post. Contact the office via email office@bscwt.org or 01277 249275.
- Join us for our team prayer meetings at the BSCWT office every Friday, 9.30-10.30am, during school term time.
- 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!

GIVE BSCWT depends on the continued generosity of people who support us financially. If you'd like to support the work financially, please:

- Set up a standing order or a donation via your online banking. Please contact us for a Gift Aid Declaration form, if applicable (or download one from www.bscwt.org/downloads.asp).
- Contact us for a standing order mandate (or download one from www.bscwt.org/downloads.asp).
- Send a cheque to our office address (see front of newsletter) or donate online at www.give.net.
- For on-line banking/standing orders, please contact the BSCWT office for our bank account details.

VOLUNTEER There are over 40 people who give their time and energy to volunteer with BSCWT:

- Our **Associate Workers** volunteer with us in schools, working with children and young people.
- Our **Trustees** oversee the running of the Trust.
- Our **Management Committee** supports the schools work and the Trustees by doing important tasks in areas such as prayer, finance, human resources, policy-writing, monitoring and publicity.
- Our **Church Reps** help us to liaise with our local churches.
- We are also open to applications from people interested in doing an 'internship' or work experience with us.

If you no longer wish to receive communications from BSCWT, please contact us via the office at office@bscwt.org to be removed from our circulations.

BSCWT is a Local Mission Partner of



Scripture Union

SCHOOLS WORK SUNDAY

For the last two years, we have encouraged local churches to mark an annual Schools Work Sunday as a way of celebrating, encouraging and praying for the work that is done by individual Christians and Christian groups serving schools in different ways.

The next Schools Work Sunday is on **3rd February 2019**. Please make a note in your diary and plan to mark this occasion in your church. Further ideas and resources will be available from BSCWT soon.

Staying in touch with BSCWT—new GDPR laws

You may be aware of the new General Data Protection Regulation and the need for organisations to ask supporters to 'opt in' to receiving information. Hopefully, you have had an opportunity to complete one of our consent forms either via the on-line link that has been provided in our previous communications or the form sent earlier this year via email/post to our mailing list.

If you haven't had an opportunity to complete your contact preferences, or if you wish to change them, please contact the BSCWT office or visit <https://goo.gl/forms/tlaS1bz91N3LknTb2>.

We do hope you will stay in touch with BSCWT!

Fiona Mason, Administrator