



Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust Newsletter, Autumn Term 2022

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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"

WE HAVE MOVED!



Our New Address:

Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust
49 Coxtie Green Road
Pilgrims Hatch
Brentwood, Essex CM14 5PS

Email: office@bscwt.org;
Website: www.bscwt.org
Phone Number: 01277 249275
(please note that this number will be
changing in the near future)



I am delighted to be writing this from the new BSCWT Base which we have been settling into since September. We are grateful to God for his provision of a bigger space which is already allowing us greater flexibility and creativity in our work to serve our local schools. Thank you so much to everyone who helped us with the move!

This term we are excited to have many opportunities to provide assemblies, lessons, pupil support, clubs and prayer spaces to local schools and we are immensely thankful for all your support.
Ian Kemble, Director of Schools Work

Schools Work Sunday 2023...

is on **5th February**. Please take this opportunity in your church to celebrate and pray for all the Christian ministry that goes on in serving our local schools. We will publish more information nearer the time.

Office Open Day

Thank you so much to everyone who visited the new BSCWT Base for our Open Day on Friday 30th September. It was a super-busy day and it was great to have so many 'old' and 'new' friends coming to see us and to check out our new location!

'It's Your Move'

It was our great privilege, last term, to take our 'It's Your Move' project 'in person' in schools, for the first time since 2019! For the last 2 years, we have provided a digital version of the project for schools to use. 'It's Your Move' is all about helping Year 6 pupils to get ready for the transition to secondary school.



The project included an engaging 70-minute lesson, which we took in 24 schools. Generously sponsored by 16 local churches (thank you very much!), we also provided Scripture Union's "It's Your Move" book to nearly 900 Year 6 pupils.

*Gelila Melaku, Project Administrator
& Ian Kemble, Director of Schools Work*

8 things we are doing in schools this term.....

- Assemblies in 31 schools
- Weekly lunch time clubs in 5 schools
- Pupil support in 8 schools
- At least 13 'Darkness to Light' Christmas lessons for Years 1/2
- At least 12 'Christmas Wonder' 'prayer space' lessons for Years 5/6
- 10 'OT/NT Mini' (formerly Bible Explorer) lessons in primary schools
- 2 whole-day 'prayer space' events
- 'Caterpillars' support group in a primary school

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'Caterpillars'

Caterpillars is a support group for primary aged children who have experienced loss through a change in their lives. The group aims to give space to children to acknowledge and find ways of dealing with difficult things in their lives. We hope that the group will help them to understand that, although we are different, we are all valuable and important, and that Christians believe that God loves each and every one of us. During our sessions, we explore feelings

such as happiness, sadness, love and anger, and develop strategies of how to manage them. We meet for about 8 sessions, each of which includes a game, story, and craft as well as time to chat and share, and a quiet time to be. We are currently running our first set of sessions after the pandemic lockdown in Warley Primary School, with the help of two of our associate workers.

Sue Evans, Schools Worker

Caterpillars

Growing through change and loss



Primary School Prayer Space

It has been wonderful to be able to finally run our latest whole school prayer space with St Mary's Primary School. We were all planned and ready to go this time last year (having already postponed from earlier in the summer) when a rise in Covid resulted in a last minute cancellation! Prayer spaces are designed to provide a place where pupils can ask, and reflect on, big questions and respond through a number of different activities.

This year our theme focussed on our relationship with God – with zones thinking about how big God is, how important we are to God, and how we can be part of God's team working in the world.



Prayer space zone

We are grateful for St. Mary's Church, Shenfield, which every class in the school visited the prayer space for half an hour each.

Sue Evans, Schools Worker

'OT & NT Mini'



In 2021, I trained with Walk Through the Bible to become an OT Mini presenter. One of our Associate Workers, Barbara, has presented OT and NT Mini for many years.

OT and NT Mini are programmes of 5 lessons each for 9-11 year olds which support the R.E. curriculum by covering the key stories of the Old and New Testament. We take children back in time, helping them to understand the individual stories of the Bible, and also how the underlying narrative ties them all together as **ONE INCREDIBLE STORY**. We transform the room into an imaginary map to trace the movements of all the key characters of the Bible. OT Mini and NT Mini cover 40 stories and handsigns each.

It is amazing to see the children perform the 40 handsigns at the end of the 5 sessions. Last term, I taught OT Mini to 90 children at Ingatestone Junior School. Barbara has taught OT Mini at Ingrave Johnstone earlier this term and is currently teaching NT Mini at St Joseph the Worker.

Alison Carmichael, Schools Worker



Pupils taking part in a prayer space activity

Feedback from a pupil:

"At the beginning of the prayer space today I didn't believe in God, now at the end, I do!"

LifeSpace

After a 2-year gap, due to the Covid pandemic, it was great to be able to run LifeSpace in a secondary school last term, one of the hottest days of the year! Over 200 Year 10 pupils visited this 'prayer space' as part of their Careers Day. The zones encouraged them to think about themselves and their future choices. Our boards displayed themes such as: 'Who are you as a person?', 'What is important to you?', 'What are your gifts, skills and passions?', 'What direction are you going in?', 'How does faith feature in this area of your life?'. The pupils engaged well with the topics, and our team helped them reflect on questions in life they often don't get a chance to think about. Our hope is this event provided space and time to help prepare them for the big decisions they have to make as they start Year 11.



Fiona Mason, Administrator & Schools Worker



LifeSpace zone:
What direction are you going in?

Christmas Projects in Schools

'Darkness to Light'

This year we are excited to be able to restart the 'Darkness to Light' project for the Year 1's and 2's in local primary schools. This is a fun project during Advent, which takes the children on a journey about the birth of Christ, discovering elements of 'darkness' such as King Herod and feelings of exclusion, as well as the 'light' in the bright star and the angels rejoicing. Guided by puppets and dressing the children as shepherds along the way, this interactive project is always an enjoyable one both to deliver and participate in.



"Knitvity" scene

At the time of writing, we have lessons booked with 13 schools, with possibly more still to come. We hope and pray that we will be able to enable the students we meet to see this wonderful story in a new light and that it will leave a lasting impression on them about the miracle of Christ's birth.

Holly Coleman, Schools Worker



Christmas Wonder



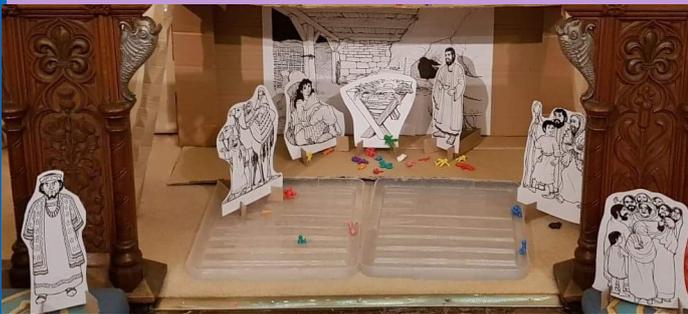
Thinking and questioning deeply, being curious, exploring a wondrous moment... these are the foundations of the Year 6 'Christmas Wonder' project that we are running for its second season from late November. This 'prayer space' lesson enables reflection on the Biblical Christmas story and the pupils' own lives. Perhaps you would like to wonder yourself with the questions below from the project:



Jesus came from heaven to earth as a baby, many angels appeared and more!

- What is the most 'wow' moment for you?
- Where would you like to be in the Christmas story?
- What can you do to bring light?
- What are you afraid of?
- What is really good news?

Frances Coe, Schools Worker



Christmas Wonder 'Nativity zone':
"Where would you like to be in this scene?"

Thank you to all the churches and schools for hosting and taking part in our Christmas projects once again this year!

Gelila Melaku, Project Administrator



Pupils at a recent prayer space

Feedback from a pupil support session this term:

"I already feel like so much has lifted off me just knowing I can talk to you."

Assemblies

We continue to be grateful for the many opportunities we have to provide assemblies to our local schools. By the end of this term, we will have led around 70 assemblies in 31 schools in the Brentwood area.

This term in primary schools and specialist schools, we have started a new series on the life of Moses entitled the "The 2nd Greatest Rescue Mission Ever!" We are inviting pupils to consider how they too can make a difference with God's help.

In secondary schools this term, we are helping students to reflect on themes including 'Responsibility', 'Could God be closer than you think?', 'Are we made by design?' and 'What's your mission in life?'

Ian Kemble, Director of Schools Work



VIEW FROM THE CHAIR:

We have so much to give thanks for this autumn term. There have been significant changes during the summer holidays with our new premises. We are very grateful that we were able to move in and get all the required building work completed and new insurance grade locks fitted before the staff returned at the start of September. They were able to set-up in the new base and begin working at the start of the new term. We are grateful to the Trinity Church Trustees, the Trinity site staff and all the builders and workers who enabled this to happen.

We are looking forward with excitement to working from the new base and for what God has planned for BSCWT.

Going forward we are looking for **new Trustees** to help lead the work of the Trust. If you have a heart for reaching the children and young people of Brentwood for Jesus and would like to join the group of Trustees in supporting the development and growth of BSCWT, we would like to hear from you. Please contact me, Mick Bastable, for further information via trustees@bscwt.org

God bless.

Mick Bastable, Chair of Trustees

Finance Update from the Treasurer & Trustees



The Trust continues to be grateful and thankful to all individuals, churches and charitable trusts for their continued generous support of BSCWT working with the young people in the schools of Brentwood.

I have just about got my feet under the table and am enjoying my role within BSCWT and am looking forward to communicating with you all more.

To the end of September, general income was £40,054 and expenditure was £65,956 giving a deficit of £25,902 (a portion of the costs were works on the new premises to make them fit for purpose). The deficit is covered by legacies and donations.

If in the past you have gift aided your donations but are no longer in a position to do so, please let us know. If you do not gift aid your donations and you would like to do so, please ask us for a gift aid declaration form.

Please continue to pray that the current opportunities remain open and also for new opportunities so that every advantage God has given the Trust to communicate with the young people in the local schools can be taken.

Claire Lim, Treasurer

Feedback from a teacher about recent 'prayer space' days:
"The children loved it and the whole school has thoroughly enjoyed their time in church this week."

Amazon Smile: If you shop online with Amazon, you can raise money for BSCWT at the same time with 'Amazon Smile'! Visit www.smile.amazon.co.uk, choose the Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust as your charity and Amazon will donate to BSCWT with every qualifying purchase you make. Thank you!

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:

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).
- Contact us for a standing order mandate (or download one from www.bscwt.org/downloads).
- Donate online at www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/20028156 or send a cheque to our office.
- For on-line banking/standing orders, please contact the BSCWT office for our bank account details.

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.

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 us at office@bscwt.org or 01277 249275 or visit www.bit.ly/BSCWTconsent
- 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:

- Our **Associate Workers** volunteer with us in schools, working with children and young people.
- Our **Trustees** oversee the running of the Trust.
- Our **Support Teams** assist the Staff and Trustees by doing important tasks in areas such as prayer, finance, human resources, policy-writing, events, 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.



In association with

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