



Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust Newsletter, Summer 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"



A TIME TO MOVE!

An old song by The Byrds (based on a passage from the Biblical book of Ecclesiastes) reminds us that "to everything there is a season."

After 7 years of having our office at Shenfield High School, it will be time for us to move at the end of this school term. We are immensely grateful to Shenfield School for our time there and we are also thankful to God for opening the door for us to begin a new season based in buildings currently occupied by Trinity Community Nursery on the grounds of Trinity Church.

As we prepare for this move and a new season ahead, I hope you will be encouraged by all that you read in this newsletter. Thank you so much for all your support.

Ian Kemble, Director of Schools Work

From 1st September 2022, the new BSCWT office address will be:



**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: to be confirmed

Office Open Day / Celebration



With our office move taking place at the end of this term, please note that we are not holding an Annual Celebration this July.

However....watch this space! We plan, instead, to hold an 'Open Day' in the autumn term at our new office to celebrate the work of the Trust and God's provision.

Further details will be available in due course!.....

Back to School Sunday / Education Sunday

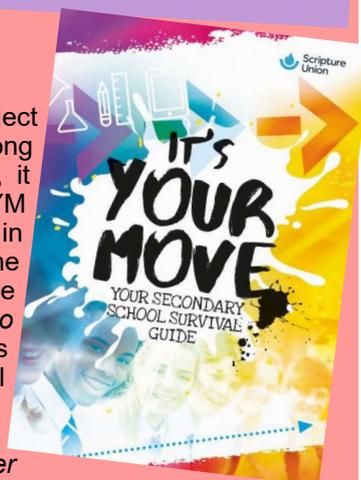
The start of the new school year presents a great opportunity in church services to pray for everyone going back to school/college or starting somewhere new for the first time! Please encourage your church to take this opportunity on Sunday 28th August, or 4th or 11th September. For more information visit: www.prayforschools.org

'It's Your Move'



At the time of writing, we are enjoying running our "It's Your Move" project (IYM) in schools once again, after a two year absence. It seemed a long gap to us, but enthusiastic school staff are telling us that, to them, it hasn't seemed that long, because they have seen us in our digital IYM lesson and in assemblies! We have had a continued presence in schools even though we couldn't be there in person. IYM prepares the year 6 pupils for secondary school, giving them the tools and confidence to navigate the changes, challenges and choices ahead. Through the Biblical story of *The Two Builders*, the lesson explores the foundations we build our lives on, and each student is given an "It's Your Move" book, published by Scripture Union and sponsored by local churches. The eagerness the schools have shown to have us back for IYM is a testament to how much these lessons are valued.

Sue Evans, Schools Worker



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FOCUS: OUR LUNCHTIME CLUBS

It's been wonderful being able to start up some of our lunchtime clubs in primary and secondary schools again. Clubs provide a unique opportunity to provide a safe and fun environment to share Bible stories, crafts and activities with children and young people. Our team share some of their thoughts and experiences below...

'JAFFA eXplore' lunchtime club



This term we have been able to restart our 'Jaffa eXplore' club at Warley Primary School. The club is open to Years 4 & 5, and we already have a core of 9 children eagerly turning up to explore Bible stories and have fun with games and craft. Most of the children came to 'Jaffa' before lockdown and are so excited to be back with us again. Our theme this term is 'Who is Jesus?', seeing Him as God's Son, teacher, miracle worker, healer, someone who changes lives and includes everyone.

Sue Evans, Schools Worker

Holly Trees 'eXplore' club

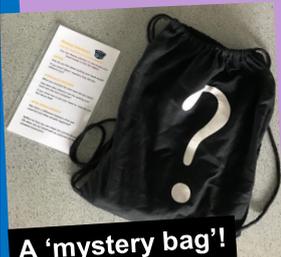


I have been very excited about re-starting our lunchtime club at Holly Trees Primary School after a very long gap! Myself and Meena, one of our Associate Workers, started the weekly club called 'eXplore' in May and offered it to Year 4 pupils. 3 pupils came on the first session, but now we have 7 regular attendees. This term, we are looking at the theme of 'Who is Jesus?' Each session is fairly short, due to staggered and alternating lunchtimes, but we are managing to fit in a game, Bible story and craft each week. The children seem keen to come and are participating enthusiastically.

Alison Carmichael, Schools Worker

Wonder Space

The 'Wonder Space' club has completed its pilot and is now continuing for the rest of the term for Years 7 – 9 in St Martin's School. It's a place to 'wonder' using globes, wobble boards, microscopes, telescopes, mystery bags, and questions. Fun has been had using interactive props to explore Life Questions, Life Journeys, The Unknown, Perspective, Steadiness, Amazing Things. We are beginning to get a regular group coming and have had positive feedback from the pupils. So we look forward to the next phase.



A 'mystery bag'!

Frances Coe, Schools Worker

Christian Union



"Yeah, but... who Actually is God?" – 250 readers of this Christian Union story book will be able to explore this question as the book has been launched across parts of Shenfield School. A fantastic achievement written by the student who has led the Christian Union, with our support, for the last 2 years – a book that communicates deep spiritual teachings in a down to earth and funny way! A wonderful finale to his time at the school. It has been such a privilege for us to be able to share in this experience with him!

Frances Coe, Schools Worker



Larchwood Bible Club



Easter Gardens at the Bible Club

Larchwood Bible Club, originally started by Pilgrims Hatch Baptist Church (PHBC), has been running for many years. Rev Neil Bywater, from PHBC, is a regular member of our team. The Bible Club, the name chosen by the school, had to stop during the pandemic but we were delighted to restart the club for Year 6 pupils in September 2021. Our group of children enjoy Bible stories, told or read straight from the Bible. We have some great discussions. They also enjoy crafts and games like snakes and ladders. During the Easter term we made Easter gardens.



Joan & Nina celebrating the Platinum Jubilee with pupils at a primary school

Joan Dewhirst & Nina Cooper, Associate Workers

Thank you, churches!

At the time of writing, our team are delivering our *It's Your Move* lessons in schools and they are being very well received by pupils. We would like to extend our huge thanks to local churches for sponsoring Scripture Union's *It's Your Move* books for our local schools, enabling us to give these books to nearly 900 Year 6 pupils. Your support is very much appreciated, and we are very grateful to you for coming alongside us to make this project achievable.

Gelila Melaku, Project Administrator



Assemblies

Since September, we have been enjoying re-connecting with many schools face-to-face again through our assemblies. In primary schools, we are continuing with our annual theme of relationships: with ourselves, other people and the world around us. This term, we are looking at how we treat people that we don't like, using the Good Samaritan story. In some schools, we are also considering the theme of 'What we Believe', and in others we are continuing to share stories from the life of the apostle Peter.

In secondary schools this term, we have been helping students reflect on themes including "Making Wise Choices" and "The Importance of Having Fun!", incorporating stories from the lives of Abraham, Solomon and Jesus, among others.

*Alison Carmichael, Schools Worker,
& Ian Kemble, Director of Schools Work*



Last term we created a new workshop for Easter using the Easter story as a springboard for reflection and discussion. The lesson aims to encourage Year 6 pupils to understand what happened at Easter, and then to explore its relevance to their lives.

The lesson is focused on God's love for us seen through the last week of Jesus' life, His death and His resurrection. It starts with a brief telling of the Biblical story, then moves on to a journey visiting different zones linked to the story. At each zone the children had the opportunity to explore the story's meaning, and to share their own ideas and experiences through a relevant activity.

The sessions were mostly hosted in local churches where there was room to create an atmosphere of reflection and quiet, something which was appreciated by the children and school staff who visited.

*Sue Evans,
Schools Worker*



Reflecting with pupils at 'Love Easter'

New School Chaplain

In April, I started pupil support work as a Chaplain at the Anglo European School. This came about due to an inter-schools partnership meeting regularly attended by Fiona. The school showed an interest in our work after hearing positive feedback from other schools. I now attend weekly and support 3 students. Our staff contact has said it is great to see how enthusiastic the students are to meet with me. She has also commented that it is encouraging to know they have a safe space to talk and offload. We hope to continue building positive relationships and to offer other ways to serve the school.

Alison Carmichael, Schools Worker

Feedback from a teacher on 'Love Easter':
"The children engaged so well with every mini session. There were lots of incredibly thoughtful comments and reflections. Excellent session - thank you so much to everyone involved."

Pupil Support

As the academic year draws to a close, our Chaplains supporting students sitting exams have already conducted our final sessions. It's hard to say goodbye to students we have got to know so well, and we pray that they thrive as they move on to new adventures. Meanwhile, we continue to see pupils throughout the rest of the school years, both primary and secondary, all facing a range of issues that require a listening ear and support. Recently, dysfunctional family situations and the subsequent effect on children, and the consequences of online bullying through social media platforms are just some of the many issues we have been facing.

Please pray for these pupils as we bring our sessions to a close for this academic year – knowing that some will face the summer holidays with potentially little or no support.

Holly Coleman, Schools Worker



I was approached by the Headteacher of a primary school to work with a group of children addressing different issues they were all struggling with, under the umbrella of resilience. Over several sessions, we have been looking at different topics such as kindness, forgiveness, our thoughts, and how we manage and control them. Through a combination of stories, conversations and practical activities, we have had fun exploring these different themes which help to build resilience, learning valuable life lessons.

Holly Coleman, Schools Worker



A resilience group activity

LifeSpace

It's great to be invited to run 'LifeSpace' in a secondary school this term. 'LifeSpace' is a reflective 'prayer space' and forms part of a school careers day for Year 10 students. During the event, students get opportunities to reflect on themes such as: how they see themselves, their values, morals, gifts and skills, what direction they feel life is going in, what they would like to change or leave behind, their hopes and dreams for the future and how faith can feature in this area of their lives. Please pray with us for this event, that it will provide much needed reflection for students at this important time of their lives.

Fiona Mason, Administrator & Schools Worker





VIEW FROM THE CHAIR:

Much to give thanks for since our last newsletter. At the time of writing this we have just finished celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, a time of joyous coming together for people up and down the country and gratitude for a dutiful, selfless monarch. We are also grateful for her faith in Christ, which has sustained her throughout her 70 year reign, and her dedicated service for so long to so many.

And closer to home we are equally grateful for God's provision of our new offices in the grounds of Trinity Church. This has come after an intensive search and a willing partnership to enable the work of the Trust to continue. Much is still to be done but hopefully most of this will be completed by the start of the autumn term. We give grateful thanks to Shenfield School for homing us for the last 7 years – may God bless you.

Our thanks to all our supporters and those who do so much for the Trust.

God bless.

Kevin Gilderson, 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 generous support of BSCWT working with the young people in Brentwood schools.

This is my first newsletter. I am delighted to have come on board and become part of the team at BSCWT. I look forward to communicating with you all in the future. Peter and I are working on the annual accounts and we are pleased to report that, despite all the challenges of the past year, the finances continue to be healthy. To the end of the financial year 2021/22, general income was £70,081 and expenditure was £85,952 giving a deficit of £15,871. The deficit is covered by previous legacies and a generous donation from a local church. We are grateful to the Mulberry Trust for their continued support. Please pray that the current opportunities remain open and that every advantage God has given the Trust to communicate with the young people in the local schools will be taken and expanded.

May I take this opportunity, on behalf of the Trust, to thank Peter Embling for his hard work and support for so many years, and personally for helping to make the handover so smooth.

Claire Lim, Treasurer

Recent feedback from a school teacher:
"I love your assemblies– they're always so uplifting!"

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

Scripture Union