



Brentwood Schools Christian Worker Trust Newsletter, Autumn Term 2019

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"

A New Season

If you were following our journey last term, you will know that we were in the process of looking for new staff. I am thrilled to report that, in September, we had four new team members begin working with us and they are settling in wonderfully! They introduce themselves on page 2 of this newsletter.

We feel very much that we are entering a new season of our work, but our mission remains the same as before — to serve school communities by providing Christian learning and support. Thankfully, we continue to find so many opportunities to do this with so many schools, some of which you can read about in this newsletter.

Thank you so much for all your support. I hope you enjoy catching up with our news.

Ian Kemble, Director of Schools Work



Pray for Schools Day



This year, 'Pray for Schools Day' will be on **Tuesday 19th November** (it's held annually on the third Tuesday in November). Please pray for local schools and for those involved in education. For further prompts on what to pray for, please visit: <https://www.prayforschools.org/>

'Pray for Schools' is a partnership between CARE, Youth for Christ, Scripture Union, the Association of Christian Teachers and several other groups. Together these organisations promote 'Pray for Schools' in their networks, and provide resources for 'Pray for Schools' groups and events. As a local ministry partner of Scripture Union, BSCWT seeks to raise awareness of this in Brentwood.

Recent feedback from school teachers:

"We always feel very supported as a school by BSCWT."
"We really value the work of BSCWT. They feel part of our 'family'."

FROM THE TRUSTEES



This is my first article as the new Chair of Trustees and as with anything new there is a degree of uncertainty involved. Firstly, the easy part. Big thanks to past Chair, Jeff Fair, who juggled this job with a frenetic lifestyle and kept the Trust on track whilst at the same time being always eager to see its work move

forward and to take advantage of all opportunities offered.

Secondly, what next? We are each different in our make up, in God's great design, and although that means that different individuals have different approaches and perceptions, I trust that the core centrality of Christ will remain. Therefore my hopes for the Trust going forward are as follows:

- We remain faithful to Christ and his words
- That we boldly use the opportunities we have in local schools to continue helping children and young people learn about Jesus and the Christian faith
- That Trustees, Staff, Associate Workers and all manner of faithful volunteers work in unity to this goal
- That we will be wise in our decisions and actions and faithful in prayer

Under God, continuing under these hopes will be my aim in my new role. May God bless you.

Kevin Gilderson, Chair of Trustees

9 things we are doing in schools this term:

- Lunchtime clubs in 7 schools
- Assemblies in over 25 schools
- 19 *Christmas Unwrapped* workshops (see page 3)
- Supporting pupils pastorally in 6 schools
- 8 *Fantasy vs Reality* lessons (see page 3)
- OT/NT Mini lessons (formerly Bible Explorer)
- 6 *From Darkness to Light* lessons (see page 3)
- *Caterpillars* and *Butterflies* groups in 2 primary schools
- 2 Primary School *Christmas Prayer Spaces* (see page 3)

Inside this issue:

	Page		Page
From Ian: A New Season	1	'It's Your Move'	3
Pray for Schools Day	1	'Fantasy vs Reality'	3
From the Trustees	1	New BSCWT Support Teams	3
9 things we are doing in schools this term	1	'LifeSpace'	4
Recent feedback	1	Finance Update	4
Our new-look staff team	2	Schools Work Sunday 2020	4
Christmas is coming!	3	How can you be involved?	4

Meet the Team - Our New-Look BSCWT Staff Team!



Alison Carmichael
(Schools Worker)



I go to Ingatestone Elim Church. I'm married to Lee, who is the pastor of our Church, and we have an 11 year old daughter called Martha. I have a degree in History and am a qualified teacher. I have previously worked in teaching and support roles in schools, as well as doing Christian Schools Work with Youth for Christ. I've been enjoying visiting many aspects of BSCWT's work over the last few weeks and have started leading Supamega Club at Hollytrees School and serving as a Chaplain at Brentwood County High School.



Fiona Mason
(Administrator & Schools Worker)

I have been the Trust's Administrator for 12 years and more recently added some aspects of Schools Work to my role. My responsibilities include supporting the Staff, the Trustees and Support Teams in the day-to-day running of the Trust. My Schools Work elements involve supporting 6th Form students pastorally at Shenfield High School, a weekly Christian Union (led by a 6th form student) and the 'LifeSpace' events held with older students considering life and career choices. I continue to worship with my family at St. Paul's Church, Bentley, where we have been involved for nearly 25 years.



Frances Coe
(Schools Worker)



I attend Breakthru Church and I am married to Deane with 2 children aged 6 and 4. I have recently enjoyed being a non-working mum whilst running the 'Precious Gifts' playgroup at church and being a committee member for my children's preschool. My whole working and volunteer life has involved either children or teenagers. I have felt very welcomed into a lovely BSCWT team and, so far, have been visiting various activities, such as OT Mini, Caterpillars and Butterflies and joining in assemblies. I am eager to get creative and thoughtful about how to help children learn about Jesus and the Bible and to give pastoral support to those who are struggling.



Gelila Melaku
(Project Administrator)



I am originally from Ethiopia. I have three children of school age. I am part of Trinity Church and I serve as one of the leaders of the Children's Choir. Previously, I had worked for a local authority as an IT Support Analyst. I had also held some volunteer positions over the years including with The National Autistic Society as an Education Rights Service advisor. I am enjoying being part of the BSCWT staff team. It excites me to know that school children are given the opportunity to have Christian learning and support in their lives.



Brentwood
Schools Christian Worker Trust



Holly Coleman
(Schools Worker)



I have joined the BSCWT staff team as a Schools Worker serving in primary and secondary schools. I am married to David and have three children, Amelie, Asher and Jasper. We attend Trinity Church where I'm part of the youth team. My degree was in history and I am also a qualified early years teacher. I am thrilled to have joined the team here at BSCWT and it has been great to immerse myself in all the activities in which the Trust is involved. I'm particularly enjoying starting to build relationships with the pupils I will see regularly.



Ian Kemble
(Director of Schools Work)

My wife, Pennie, and I are part of Doddinghurst Road Community Church and we have two grown-up sons. My first involvement with BSCWT was as a church youth worker back in the early 1990s and I have been involved in various ways since then! I am a qualified teacher and have also worked for churches in Brentwood and Canada. Since 2006, I have been on the staff team as Director of Schools Work and I am thrilled to see how God has enabled our work in schools to grow and develop over the years. I continue to feel deeply the wonderful privilege of being involved in this amazing ministry.



Rosie Graham (Schools Worker)

I go to Doddinghurst Road Community Church with my husband, Pete, and our little boy. I have been working with the Trust for just over two years now, having previously volunteered for some time. I work in primary schools as well as secondary schools, doing pupil support, clubs, assemblies and lessons. I particularly enjoy the secondary school lessons exploring topics such as the Christian perspective on sex and relationships and the impact of pornography. These are fantastic opportunities to have good discussions with the students and to answer questions they may have about the Christian faith and why we believe what we believe.



Sue Evans (Schools Worker)

I am part of St Peter's Church, South Weald, and I've been working for the Trust for 12 years. My focus is mainly on the work in primary schools, taking assemblies, running clubs, lessons and prayer spaces as well as providing Chaplaincy pupil support individually and in groups. I developed the 'Caterpillars' and 'Butterflies' programmes for primary-aged children, which help them to express feelings associated with change and loss. My favourite part of the work is whatever I've just done - I am so thankful to be involved in such a range and variety of activity!



Christmas is coming!

Christmas is getting closer and we are looking forward to running a record number of Christmas lessons with local primary schools!

Christmas Unwrapped will be taking place mostly in churches local to the schools involved, with pupils from years 5 or 6 coming along for a 1½ hour workshop focusing on the Biblical story of the first Christmas and

how it is celebrated by Christians today.

Our lesson for Infants is called **From Darkness to Light** and follows the Advent idea of Jesus bringing light into a dark world. The children hear the Christmas story through an interactive lesson making good use of a 'Knitivity' set and some friendly puppets, answering questions about 'dark' and 'light' events in the story.

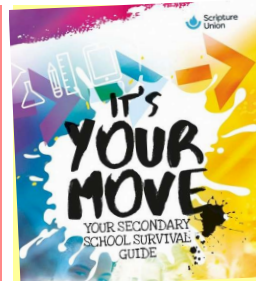
For a couple of schools we run a **Christmas Prayer Space**, providing a reflective space for pupils to think about the Christmas Story in five different ways – the idea of making journeys like Mary and Joseph, the shepherds and wise men; thinking about the Good News message of the angels; the greeting from God to humans which starts, "Do not be afraid"; Jesus as the Light of the World; and reactions to the birth of Jesus from different characters in the story.

Our Christmas 'Knitivity' set



All of these activities provide wonderful opportunities for many children to explore the Christian Christmas message!

Sue Evans, Schools Worker



Last term we were able to take a record number of **It's Your Move** lessons, running 30 sessions in 28 schools with nearly 1000 year 6 pupils.

The lessons explored the changes, challenges, and choices of starting secondary school and encouraged pupils to think of ways they could approach each. The children were also able to reflect on Biblical stories from the life of Peter and look at some of the changes, challenges and choices he had to face.

We were grateful to have some year 8 students from Becket Keys School join us to share their firsthand experience of starting secondary school. We were also thankful for the large team of volunteers who helped run the lessons and for the many churches that supported the project by sponsoring the **It's Your Move** books given to the year 6 pupils.

Overall it was another great year and we are thankful to God for giving opportunities for us to take this to more schools.



Rosie Graham, Schools Worker

Fantasy vs. Reality

During November we are teaching our **Fantasy vs. Reality** lessons in Shenfield High School. These lessons are with the year 10 students and look at the impact of pornography. We are so encouraged to be asked to run these lessons once again and it is a great opportunity to prompt thoughts and discussions about a topic of which students may have a distorted view, or on which they may never have reflected before.

The lessons focus on three main areas: the heart – how pornography can affect your relationships with others; the brain – how pornography can be addictive and can create many physical, emotional and mental difficulties; and the world – how pornography can have a negative effect on those around us and is tied to sex trafficking and exploitation. I will be leading the lessons with Fiona, associate worker Pete and other team members and we will be seeing all 8 classes in Year 10. Our hope and prayer is that these lessons will spark deeper thinking for students on this important topic.

Rosie Graham, Schools Worker

New BSCWT Support Teams

As a result of a review of the Trust's structure, following its transition to a CIO, it has been decided to form a number of teams to support the activities of the Trust. Many of these would be considered as 'back room' activities but are still vital to the operation of the Trust. Currently many of these are done by the staff when their time could be more valuably used in schools. We are currently looking to form teams to cover the following activities:

Human Resources (HR) Team: to support the Trustees on issues concerning employees and associate workers, regarding recruitment, employment law, worker support and child protection.

Policies Team: to ensure that BSCWT's policies are reviewed at appropriately regular intervals and kept up to date (this may involve writing/updating policies as well as ensuring other appropriate individuals and teams are writing/updating policies).

Events Team: to assist staff in the logistical planning, promotion and preparation of BSCWT events, such as the Annual Celebration (including planning any catering required).

Fundraising Team: to encourage fundraising activities for BSCWT's work, to explore possible funding opportunities and to make grant applications.

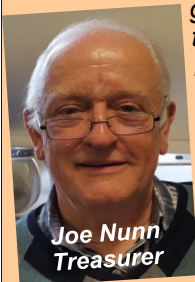
If you believe you have the required skills for one of these teams and would like to help please speak to one of the Trustees, Ian Kemble or one of the Staff team.

Mick Bastable, Trustee



Finance Update from the Treasurers & Trustees

We continue to be grateful and thankful to all individuals, churches and charitable trusts for their generous support of the activities of the Trust working with pupils in Brentwood's schools.



Joe Nunn
Treasurer

The Trust finances continue to be in a healthy position. We have been blessed with legacies which have had a significant impact on our finances. We have also been blessed with a further grant from The Mulberry Trust. Please continue to pray for wisdom for the Trustees as they consider how the money will be spent. A number of new staff have been taken on which has had a significant impact on our salary figure. To the end of August our regular donations were below our expenditure by £8,666. This deficit has been covered by the legacies and grants previously received. The annual accounts have been completed and signed off by the Trustees and our Independent Examiner. They will be posted onto the Charity Commission website shortly for public information. Again, many thanks for your ongoing prayerful and financial support. Please pray that the current opportunities remain open and that every advantage of the privilege God has given us to communicate with the young people in our local schools will be taken and expanded.

P.S. If you recognise the payment reference PROVERBS ONE FIVE BSCWT TRUST DONATE, please contact us as we have no contact details for you and we need to advise you of a change of bank details. Your donation is going into our old account. Thank you.

Peter Embling & Joe Nunn, Joint Treasurers



Peter Embling
Treasurer

Schools Work Sunday 2020

For the last few 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 Christian groups and individual Christians serving schools in different ways.

Schools Work Sunday 2020, will be on **Sunday 2nd February**. Please make a note of this date and plan to mark this occasion with your church. Further resources and ideas will be available from BSCWT soon.

LIFESPACE

We held two LifeSpace events in the summer term, one for the first time with older students at Grove House School, to help with the transition to college/leaving school.

The second was part of the Practice Interview Careers Day for Year 10 students at Shenfield School. Both events went very well with about 170 students taking part overall. Our thanks go to the team that managed the stations and supported the students as they explored some of the deeper questions of life.

Fiona Mason, Administrator/Schools Worker



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.give.net or send a cheque to our office address (see front of newsletter).
- For on-line banking/standing orders, please contact the BSCWT office for our bank account details.

BSCWT is a Local Mission Partner of



Scripture Union

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 <https://forms.gle/VUjcfbi1QhuSNvFP6>.
- 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!

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.