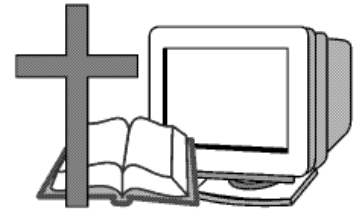

CHRISTIANS IN SCHOOLS

Newsletter



May 2004

IT'S YOUR MOVE

Transferring from primary to secondary school is a big step for all children. From being in an environment where they know all the teachers and most of the children to an enormous complex with over a thousand students is scary (and exciting!) when you are eleven. You are used to one teacher and one classroom and you are plunged into a variety of different subjects and different rooms with fellow pupils you don't know - most secondary schools will be receiving over two hundred year six pupils in September.

At CIST we want to help children to transfer successfully and provide a connection between primary and secondary schools. Our workers are planning to visit the feeder primaries of Avondale, Reddish Vale, Priestnall and Stockport School (Mile End) and plan to be available at these secondary schools in September. One proven tool to help in this transfer is the Scripture Union book "***It's Your Move***". It is full of sound advice as well as fun activities and it points the youngsters to the support they can have from Jesus.

Why not help by funding "***It's Your Move***" to some of the pupils at these schools? They cost £1 each when bought in bulk. Our treasurer would love to hear from you! Or, you could talk to your church leadership about blessing **your** local primary schools by providing an "***It's Your Move***" book to each of its leavers.

One local church is giving "***It's Your Move***" books to every year six child in its four local primary schools, after presenting an assembly to the whole school. They are also inviting all year six children from these schools to a party where they can meet new friends who will be starting high school with them.

Does this project excite you? If you want to know more, I would be delighted to hear from you. (0161 285 0346)

Philip Clarke

If you do not receive a personal copy of this Newsletter and would like one, please contact your Church Representative or the Trust Treasurer who maintains our address list.

Christians in Schools Trust - Web site: www.cist.org.uk

40 Bakewell Rd, Hazel Grove, Stockport SK7 6JU Telephone 0161 355 7489

Secondary Schools

"Give thanks to the LORD, for his love endures for ever."
2 Chronicles 20:21

Sue writes:

- Ø **NEW!!** You'll see from my prayer diary that I have a number of new regular commitments including a HAM at Kingsway Lower School, a new day and time for the Christian club, Flood, at Kingsway and a new club at Avondale – a Philosophy Club. I'll be running this club with two teachers and it's part of the Government's incentive for schools in the Excellence Cluster. It's a really big opportunity to have a Christian voice in an otherwise secular project. Please pray for these new ventures and thank you for praying faithfully for all the work we do.
- Ø **IT'S YOUR MOVE** For the first time this year, I'll be working in the summer term alongside our Trust volunteer, Kate Clements, in the Primary Schools which feed into Avondale. Kate has been working faithfully with her 'Bible Explorer' presentations and has built up good relationships in the schools. We'll be taking the Scripture Union material "**It's Your Move**" (see front page) to children in Year 6 who will be attending Avondale in September. We'll have some Year 11 volunteers with us too, to answer questions and offer reassurance. We intend to do assemblies at Avondale at the beginning of the next academic year and hope we'll be friendly faces in what can be a daunting and strange environment.
- Ø **OFFICE** I want to give heartfelt thanks to Tony and Geraldine Sullivan for giving us office space in the wonderful new Stockport Christian Counselling building just off Greek Street. It's right in the heart of Stockport and will form a base for the work of the Trust. I'll be so glad to get out of my kitchen!! We'll keep you posted about events we'll be holding there for Christian teachers and others working in Stockport schools. Praise God for his bounty!
- Ø **THANK YOU** Many churches and church groups have invited me to come and tell them about the work of the Trust and I've had a great time meeting CIST supporters at a wide range of events. If you'd like me to come to your church, please let me know. It's great to be able to say thank you in person as well as giving you the very latest news.

UNWIND 04

Perhaps the most major event this half term is UNWIND 04, a residential holiday at the beautiful Crusaders house, Cae Canol, in North Wales, from June 1st until June 4th. We're taking 22 youngsters from Kingsway, Avondale and Cheadle Hulme schools (and 8 helpers) for fun and Bible study. Some of the young people are struggling to find the £70 they need to pay for the trip. Would you be able to help sponsor a child to go? Please pray for fine weather and safety for all. We are expecting God to do some seriously cool stuff whilst we are there!

Secondary Schools

FUSION - the event that reaches parts other schools' work can't reach!

Thank you so much to all of you who helped at and gave to the last amazing Fusion event at Reddish Vale on March 19th. You were all essential in making the event the best Fusion yet. Once again, God provided exactly the amount of money we needed, which is fantastic.

Please continue to pray as we look at another venue for the June 18th event. We had around 120 last time but are expecting around 200 to see the awesome bandwithnoname. Please consider helping financially with this event, as we seek to reach young people we can't reach in other ways.

Many, many thanks.

Andrew writes:

- Ø **Refreshed and Ready to go!** I trust you had a fantastic Easter. I enjoyed two weeks off, which I felt I really needed and am fully recharged and raring to go for it during this summer term!
- Ø **Schoolswork** is almost back in full swing -
 - ◆ **Priestnall** We are having some great times at Splat! on a Thursday, playing loads of games and giving the young people something to think about.
 - ◆ **Stockport School** Theclubwithnoname is struggling at the moment. My helper has had to return to America and so I have no helpers. Due to the size of the group, I can't really manage it on my own. Please pray URGENTLY for some help.
 - ◆ **Reddish Vale** I am currently sorting out more teaching dates. This term I will be teaching year 7 and 8. Carol Kyle and myself also hope to launch a 'HAM' style club on a Friday dinnertime to get to now year 7 and 8 much better before we start a Christian group. Please pray for that and also for my good relationships with all the staff.
- Ø **Prayer** Thanks for all your prayers – I really need them!

Primary Schools

Reflections

As the end of May draws nearer, and with it my 'retirement' from the Trust, I suppose it is only natural to look back and reflect on what I have done and hopefully achieved. I realise only too well though, that entries in the diary may mean nothing in the 'time sheets' of heaven! Whereas hidden struggles in prayer or preparation may one day be worthy of a 'well done' from God.

I think my role in seeking to develop the work has been (as one prophetic pray-er declared in March 1999) 'tying the knots in the net!'

It has been so encouraging over the past five and a half years to meet people who acclaim the concept of CIST and its work. The Trust **is** seen as a vital reference point for Christian action for the benefit of children and staff in schools.

My job has included 'being available', speaking to churches, communicating, linking with agencies, giving educational advice, researching projects and writing material for Acts of Worship. I have worked with Stockport LEA in adapting Primary Vision to support in the delivery of the 2004 Religious Education syllabus. All this has been a part of the variety of 'knot tying' to support the net which is thrown into the deep of schools and children's lives. Encouraging and helping people pray, going into schools to help, and training other Christians to do the same, have also been significant parts of the job.

Just as reflection is looking back, it can also be that glance in the looking glass, to make sure we are presentable for meeting the world out there! A pause with a purpose - for future tasks!

So what lies ahead?

For the Trust - it is the need for more workers, office space with administrative help for Sue, and the increase needed in wisdom and courage to meet the social and spiritual needs of young people in schools nowadays.

For me - it is the responsibility and joy of helping in the care of my grandchildren, continuing to work as a helper in a local Primary school and planning another visit to the orphanage and schools in Uganda.

So please continue to PRAY. Thank you most of all that you do! Thank you that you know about your local schools, their staff and the pressures they experience in today's 'blaming' world. Whenever we hear the voices of the youngest generation, let us send up prayer to our heavenly Father who cares about them far more than we can ever do.

With love and thanks

Audrey Bamford

Please note that Audrey's work phone number 0161 449 0800 will be disconnected from 31 May.

Philip Clarke, Chairman 141 Dialstone Lane SK2 6AU Tel 0161 285 0346 Email philip.clarke@cist.org.uk
David Scott, Treasurer 40 Bakewell Rd SK7 6JU Tel 0161 355 7489 Email david.scott@cist.org.uk

Sue's Prayer Diary

May

- 10 Marple Hall Assembly
Rehearsals all week for Wizard of Oz at Avondale
Meeting with Kate Clements about It's Your Move Y6/Y7 project in Avondale Feeder Schools
- 12 Marple Hall Assembly
Classroom support @ Avondale (**once a fortnight**)
Last term of **Reader Training** starts
- 13 Marple Hall Assembly
- 14 Marple Hall Assembly
- 15 CIST Prayer Meeting @ Norbury
- 16 Rehearsals for Wizard of Oz @ Avondale
- 17 Team meeting
Meeting at Hartford for RST
- 18 Meeting with In Yer Face re new Agreed Syllabus
Wizard of Oz Rehearsals all week
- 20 Performance of Wizard of Oz for Primary Schools @ Avondale
- 21 Performance of Wizard of Oz for Primary Schools @ Avondale
- 23 Re-arranged talk at St John's Lindow morning service
Youth Workers' Get-together at Brown Lane Methodist Church
Missionary Update talk at St Mary's Cheadle
- 24 Team Meeting
Wizard of Oz rehearsals all day @ Avondale
- 25 Rehearsals all day
First Public Performance of Wizard of Oz
- 26 Rehearsals all day
Performance 2
- 27 Performance 3
- 28 SCHOOLS BREAK UP

June

- 1 – 4 Christians in Schools Trust
Residential for children from Kingsway, Avondale and Cheadle Hulme to Cae Canol in North Wales
- 7 Poynton Youth Alpha Group talk
- 14 FUSION Build-up all week
Assembly @ Avondale
Meeting with Churches and other Christian agencies about the work in Kingsway
- 15 Assembly at Avondale
- 16 Assembly @ Avondale
RST @ Knutsford
- 17 Assembly @ Avondale
- 18 **FUSION with bandwidthname** – venue to be announced. Please pray for funds to be available for our most ambitious Fusion so far. Also for lots of volunteers and **YOUNG PEOPLE!**
- 21 **IT'S YOUR MOVE PROJECT** – all week in Avondale feeder schools with CIST volunteer Kate Clements and Year 11 volunteers from Cheadle Hulme College. Please pray that schools will want us and that churches will provide the It's Your Move booklets. Also, please pray for all the youngsters who are making this daunting move to 'big school' this year.
- 26 Heald Green Festival
- 27 Heald Green Festival Songs of Praise

Prayer Pointers

Regular Commitments

for Sue; *for Andrew*

Weekly

- Team meeting for Sue *and Andrew*

Monday

- **Flood** at Kingsway Lower School now meets after school

Tuesday

- **POG** Cheadle Hulme College CU with Jane Nanono, Careforce worker from Uganda & volunteer Nicola Smith both from All Hallows, Cheadle

Wednesday

- **Icthus** Kingsway Upper School CU with Alex Gardner, Careforce worker from St Cuthbert's, Cheadle, Mr Cawsey & Mr Nicholas

- **Classroom support** at Avondale

- **Impact** Avondale CU with Andrew, Rachel Heath & Chip from Stockport Family Church

- ***theclubwithnoname*** Stockport School lunchtime CU

Thursday

NEW - **HAM** Kingsway Lower School

NEW - **Philosophy Club** Avondale

- ***Splat!*** at Priestnall with Steve and Steph

Friday

- **Avondale HAM** with Rachel Heath and Rev Helen Scarisbrick from St Augustines

- **Reddish Vale HAM** with Carol Kyle

Give praise for the launch of Stockport Revised RE Syllabus

March 23rd 2004 saw well attended meetings for this launch. It was so good that teachers throughout the borough have been delighted with this easy-to-use syllabus called 'Learning for Life'. Our web site for Primary Vision will be recommended by the Education Authority's Guidance as a prime resource for supporting Primary RE teachers in their delivery of the RE curriculum. Trust members have had considerable input in the working party for the syllabus revision over the past three years. All Mark Hamill's work is still being well used - not only throughout Stockport, but also all over the country and abroad!

Do come if you can to

Pray for Schools

on Saturday, 15 May 2004

from 10 am - 11 am

at Norbury Parish Church

London Rd, Hazel Grove

and

on Saturday, 2 October 2004

from 10 am - 11 am

at Hazel Grove Baptist Church

Station Rd, Hazel Grove

Thank you for your faithful support of the work through prayer.