



"Who is this?" - a question asked by amazed disciples, confused Pharisees and curious crowds in the Bible, and one that has been discussed in our schools throughout March as we've explored many accounts of Jesus' life and teaching with pupils. We have been challenged and enlightened by the ideas and questions raised by our pupils and blown away by their knowledge and insights! What a joy it has been to chat about Jesus every day!

Our secondary groups have built a picture of Jesus each week by looking at different accounts of his interaction with others: his love for the man with leprosy, his compassion for the woman caught in adultery, his teaching of his disciples through the act of washing their feet and his righteous anger in the temple to name but a few. Pupils have talked about what life looks like when people choose to put God first and how easy or difficult it is to be humble, love others no matter what and not judge others. They made Holy Week boxes so they can also reflect on the Easter story at home. Over 40 sessions, there were so many brilliant

questions and observations, and our secondary staff and church volunteers have been blessed by the respect and creativity shown by everyone who engaged with our sessions.



In our 95 Easter workshops in primary schools, eggs were hunted that opened to reveal the Easter story, Palm Sunday was recreated with great enthusiasm and our older pupils played detective and tried to find out what people thought of Jesus as he visited their towns and cities. Even the youngest pupils shared lots of knowledge about the Easter events and an understanding of why Christians call Jesus 'Saviour'.

Our secondary groups continue to grow, and March has seen many pupils inviting their friends along to join the groups which is wonderful to see, and new church volunteers working with our secondary team.

We worked with our growing group at Aquinas College on a worship event which was really successful and hopefully the first of many! We have also responded to requests for RE lessons at Bramhall High and there were interesting discussions around some very big questions!

It was lovely for our secondary worker to help out the team at All Saints Church Marple with their Easter Experience and pupils from her weekly group at Castle Hill High were delighted to see her in a different role!

CIST was delighted to partner with Ford's Lane Church as Ros Wilson and one of our primary workers delivered an Easter session to Year 1 pupils at Hursthead Infant School. The church gifted each child a copy of 'The Empty Tomb' by C.B Martin which caused much excitement when pupils realised it was theirs to keep!

1 Corinthians 12:27: "Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it"

We want to say a big thank you to all the people from various different churches who have worked with us this half-term to share the life-changing message of the Easter story. We have been praying for more connections with churches, and we believe God is opening doors and helping us work together to support local schools in amazing ways. We are continually amazed by how God works when his people team up! Thank you to everyone who supports us- we pray that you all have a blessed Easter time as we celebrate the one who makes all our work possible.

If you think your church would be encouraged by hearing what God is doing through our organisation, we'd love to come and share with them!

Just email teamleader.cist@gmail.com and we'll be in touch!

