

Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
Isaiah 43:18-19a

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A Letter from the Chairman

But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not be faint Isaiah 40 v41

As I write this article we are just beginning our half term break. It has been yet another very busy and exciting time for both the trustees and our staff team, we certainly feel we are running fast to keep up with the way the Lord is taking us, but it has also yet again been a time of change.

September saw us welcome Sarah Williams onto our staff to work mainly in the primary sector, it also sadly saw us say goodbye to Andy who has gone off to do further studies and serve his local church. We will miss Andy and are so thankful for all he has been able to do in our local secondary schools and for sharing the love of our Lord with so many young lives. We know that God will use and bless him as he continues to serve him in a different way. In October

the staff team welcomed Jen Anderson who joined us to replace Andy, we hope and trust that the Lord will grow the work in the secondary sector though her.

In obedience to what we believe we are being called to do, the staff also began to reach out into new schools and are walking boldly into new areas. Following an invitation from Christians at the Anglican and Baptist churches in Disley, we have begun to work alongside them in Disley primary school and we have also begun to make contacts in Poynton. The trust now employs five workers and although I understand this was a vision and hope quite a few years ago, the trustees have remained patient and have waited on the Lord and on his timing for this to become a reality. We are so amazed and thankful for what God is doing in opening more school doors to us, however this comes at a cost and I would plead with you continue in your support for us, continue if you can to pray for the trustees and

our workers, continue to support us with your financial giving and share with others in your church something about our work. If there is any opportunity to visit your church or fellowship for us to share, please do contact us, we would love to come.

Thank you again for all your support and interest in this very special work.
Steve Innes

OUR DETAILS

Our team

Senior Leader: **Emma Hinds:**
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Secondary School worker: **Jen Anderson:**
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Primary School worker: **Josh Openshaw:**
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Primary School Worker: **Sarah Williams:**
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Heatons Worker: **Jill Elston**
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Say 'Hello' to Jen!

We are so excited to introduce our new full time secondary worker, Jen Anderson! Jen joins us with lots of experience after working as a youth and children's worker on the Methodist Church circuit. She very recently got married and joined our team this month! She answers some questions here:

Hi Jen! Can you tell us what your passion is when it comes to schools work?

Being present in a place that can be difficult for so many young people and walking with them in that. Whether it's an R.E lesson where I can talk about the Christian faith (and hopefully show them normal people believe in

God) or in mentoring, or a lunch club, where I can build trusting relationships with them and journey with them.

Can you tell us what you are most looking forward to in this role as secondary school worker?

The variety of projects from educational R.E lessons, to mentoring, to lunch clubs. Each project gives an opportunity for a different kind of interaction and I'm looking forward to being able to get stuck in to each one.

Lastly, do you want to share with us a bible verse which has been very inspirational in your life?

I would have to say Galatians 5:13-14!

There are so many inspirational verses but I often come back to this verse to remind myself of the importance of loving. It seems obvious but I can get so busy and this always re-focuses me reminds me that the most important thing I can do is love; love God and love people – exactly where they're at.

Jen is going to be working really hard over the next few weeks to build on Andy's contacts in secondary schools and develop her own relationships with staff and pupils. Please pray for her as she does this, as secondary schools can be very difficult to build up rapport in! Please pray that staff are responsive and open and that they are as excited to work with Jen as we.

You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Galatians 5:13-14



Say "hello" to Sarah!

We are so excited to introduce our new part time primary worker, Sarah Williams! Sarah is a local girl, and joins us with lots of experience after working as a Church children's worker in Poynton! She, her husband and her two daughters worship at St Thomas' Church in Poynton. We asked her some questions:

Hi Sarah! What's your passion in school's work?

My passion is to get alongside children in schools and teach them about Jesus and the Christian faith in fun and creative ways. I love talking about God and the love that he has for each and every one of them, and to convey that through lessons, workshops, assemblies and lunchtime clubs, is a real joy.

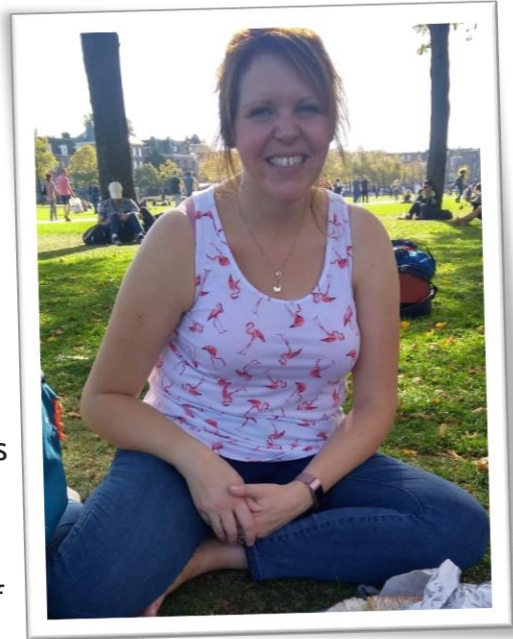
We've really enjoyed working with you since September - What have you enjoyed most so far?

I have loved all of it so far! Thinking creatively and writing lessons and workshops with the CIST team has been great, and going into schools to teach and get to know staff and students is a lot of fun and a real privilege. I have especially enjoyed growing and developing relationships with schools and doing lots of different lessons and assemblies with them - it's so lovely to become a familiar face in schools to the adults and children.

What bible verse do you find most inspiring?

There are lots of verses that I find inspiring but the one that has meant a lot to me over the past few months is 1 Samuel 7:12 - "Thus far the Lord has helped us." This was a verse close to my heart as I prepared to come and work for CIST, and it also has great truth in it for me, reminding me of God's faithfulness and his help as I seek to serve him in schools.

We are so thankful that Sarah and Jen have joined our team



and brought their talents to our work. Praise God for his faithfulness to us, and every blessing he has show us!

