

Newsletter

Summer Term

2019



Welcome to our Summer Term newsletter!

The only story we have of Jesus as a child, apart from the nativity, is when Jesus aged 12 goes to the temple in Jerusalem with his parents. Can you imagine the worry when Jesus was not with them as they headed back? It took his parents three days to find him! What was going through their minds? Did Mary remember all the things God had promised her?

I'm sure we have all felt worry and concern for our own children, or those in our care or neighbourhood. It's great that we can trust them to God and pray for each stage of their education.

How good in Luke 2v 52 where it says Jesus increased in wisdom and stature and in favour with God and man. We pray that for this generation.

A great way to help children with the transition from Primary to Secondary School is using the SU Book – It's Your Move – which has been updated this year. Why not get your church to buy some and donate them to your local school? See the details on the last page of this newsletter.

We heard recently that 315 of 357 secondary schools in Scotland are prayed for – that's nearly 90%! More and more schools here in England and Wales are being prayed for and we're keen to see that grow. Our popular website feature is a great way to identify which schools near you are registered with us. Have a look at www.prayforschools.org/getinvolved/nearme

There are some excellent resources available again to help you pray for the new academic year.

SU Scotland has produced new ideas for Back to School with God.

The 2019 service theme is Tasty, Bright & Smelly, exploring Matthew 5:13-16 and 2 Corinthians 2:14 through Bible readings, teaching points, prayers, and activities. As followers of Jesus we are called to make a difference to the lives of others, shining brightly for Jesus and attracting others to Him. In other words, to be Tasty, Bright and Smelly! www.suscotland.org.uk/bsg

September 8th is Education Sunday and this year's theme is "Form and Flourish- to re-form".

Education is often thought of as formation. As we are educated, we discover who we are, our unique gifts and skills, and our role within our community, our country, our world. A Christian view of education sees it as a life-long process, for the whole person, so that, formed in the image of God, we may flourish and live life in all its fullness.

Education Sunday offers us an opportunity to celebrate all that is good in education, to give thanks for teachers and learners, educational leaders and support staff; to rejoice with those who succeed and provide reassurance for those who struggle. This Education Sunday we pray that, through God's power, all those who study or work in schools, colleges or universities, may flourish, and be open to knowing God's love as they are formed and re-formed. Resources are available www.cte.org.uk/educationsunday2019

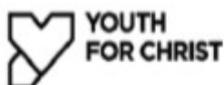
We're looking forward to attending the **Prayer Spaces in Schools (PSIS) Conference on 16 September** and supporting the wonderful PSIS Team. Full details on page 4. Several of us will also be in **Westminster on 7 September with Open the Book**, another of our Partners, In case you haven't heard, they're celebrating 20 years!

We pray that you'll all have a relaxing summer but please do email to tell us about **your events** for the Autumn term.

Jane Newey and Claire Wall,

PFS England and Wales Coordinators

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Prayer Focus on Back to School



EDUCATION SUNDAY



2019: Form and Flourish - to re-form

A PRAYER FOR EDUCATION SUNDAY

Loving Lord,

We think of the children and young people close to our hearts

And know that they are precious in your sight,

fearfully and wonderfully made;

And so we place them into your hands today.

Strengthen and nurture them.

Be with them in their coming in and going out,

At home, at school, at college, at university,

In their sports, activities and clubs, their friendships and their quiet times.

Mould them in your image, forming and reforming,

Through the positive influence of those whose lives cross theirs,

Through the love and example of those who care for them,

And through the constant love of your Son, Jesus,

who walks alongside them each step of their lives, known or unknown.

Amen

Please send us a list of schools and postcodes in your area that you pray for and we will add them to our website feature.

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter for up-to-date news and prayers





About REinspired:

REinspired brings together a team of local Christians to support school's Christian RE syllabus. They are passionate about bringing RE lessons to life for our children using a rich variety of resources and teaching styles. Lessons are lively, engaging and creative. Using art, craft, music, drama, DVD clips and discussion making them accessible to all pupils. They operate under the supervision of school staff who appreciate the value and benefit of what we offer. Their sessions are experiential and interactive providing every pupil the opportunity to ask questions and reflect on what they have learnt. Read more on their website: reinspired.org.uk

We enjoyed reading this from them:

Julia revamped a session for a Yr5 group of pupils just yesterday; the session planned was for 60 Yr6 pupils; with the syllabus questions 'is Christianity still a strong religion 2000 years after Jesus was alive?' The teacher at the last minute (the afternoon before) asked if Julia and her team could still come in to do the session but for 29 Yr5 pupils instead, with a change of focus to 'What's the best way to show commitment to God?' Julia rose to the challenge; she checked with her volunteers if they were happy to go ahead, some elected to have the afternoon off but the majority decided to go ahead with the 'tweaked' session. She dovetailed the session to be suitable for their age, adding activities and included the new syllabus enquiry.

The feedback was awesome ...

"Children could make links to their RE and History lessons Seeing the look in the children's eyes, especially during the whole class input was magical ... you and your team are far and away the most flexible, professional and child-centred agency I have had the pleasure of working with ... Thank you very much again for all of your hard work."

We are currently updating our Friends pages on the website. Do let us know if you work for an organisation that visits schools <https://www.prayforschools.org/local-friends/> and <https://www.prayforschools.org/about-us/friends-of-pfs/>

Do you have stories of answered prayer? We'd love to hear from you.

Back to School **2019**

→ with God ←

TASTY , **BRIGHT** + **SMELLY**

FREE resources to enable your church to hold an all-age Back to School with God Sunday service at the start of a new academic year.
suscotland.org.uk/bsg

SU Scotland



**“It was like that feeling,
like you are stepping on
holy ground”**

**A day conference unwrapping research findings
into the impact of prayer spaces on the spiritual
development of children and young people.**

TED-style talks, discussion, seminars and questions around the four key themes will equip delegates with both theory and praxis.

Monday 16th September 2019

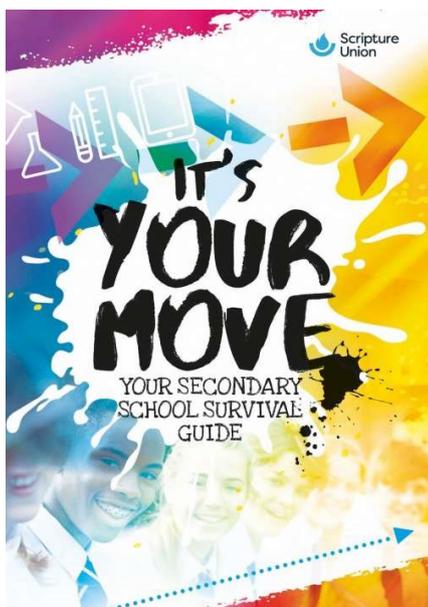
10.30am-4.30pm (Doors open 10am)

Gas Street Church, Birmingham B1 2JT

Tickets £30 (includes lunch)

For more info and to book your place,
prayerspacesinschools.com/events/123



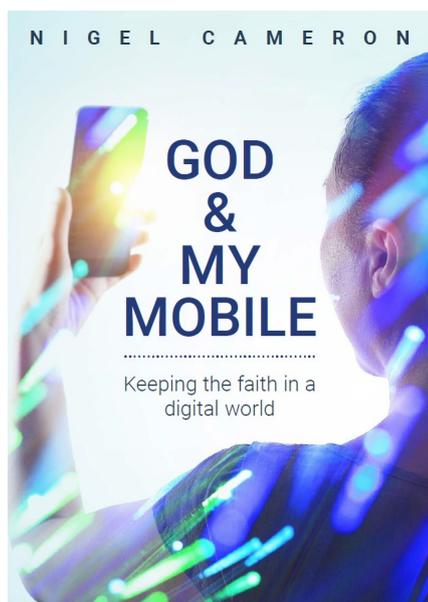


It's Your Move has been given to over one million Year 6 children across the UK each year since 2001, as part of a programme helping them make the transition from primary to secondary school.

This revised edition features all-new real-life story profiles and articles, more interactive elements and an updated design for 2019.

It's Your Move is made up of helpful information and advice for children moving schools. Also included are real-life stories of children who are about to make the move and those who have made it in the recent past. There are puzzles, quizzes and places to personalise the book through doodles, signatures, photo pages etc.

<https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/resource/new-its-your-move-2019-edition>



God and My Mobile - Keeping the faith in a digital world by Nigel Cameron.

"Are you in charge of your mobile phone, or is it the other way around? These little devices are actually powerful super-computers. And they have become the centre of our lives.

Nigel Cameron tackles questions for our time and challenges the Church to take the lead in exploring how we can best use our devices to live a faithful Christian life."

A fascinating book about digit technology with loads of helpful practical ideas on how to best interact with digital devices. Ideas for family life too—see the Ten commandments for mobile users.

Available direct from CARE - phone 020 7233 0455

Quote PFS2019 for special price of £4.99 inc p&p

<https://www.care.org.uk/news/latest-news/god-my-mobile-keeping-faith-digital-world>



Our Vision—Every School a prayed-for School.

Pray for Schools c/o CARE, 53 Romney Street, London SW1P 3RF