



BEVERLEY SCHOOLS CHRISTIAN TRUST

NEWSLETTER SPRING-SUMMER 2021

Isn't it comforting to know that God is watching over you? He doesn't sleep or slumber whilst on duty; His loving gaze is on you. In Psalm 121 the psalmist remembers that even the strength of majestic mountains pales in comparison to the strength you can find in God who is watching over you. *"I look up to the mountains; does my strength come from mountains? No, my strength comes from God, who made heaven, and earth, and mountains. He won't let you stumble; your Guardian God won't fall asleep. Not on your life! Israel's Guardian will never doze or sleep. God is your Guardian."*

Psalm 121 v 1-6, The Message Bible

Our work with schools is looking very different this academic year. Whilst we are still unable to deliver to groups in person in school, Beverley Schools Christian Trust is still actively contributing to school life. We asked all our schools what support they would like from us and tailored our resources to their requests of assembly ideas and RE support - Festivals and Celebrations.



"I just wanted to write to thank you for the super resources you have dropped off today. They will be really useful for us in the weeks leading up to Easter."

Headteacher

"I am sure the children will enjoy these Advent activities; we are so appreciative of your support."

Class teacher

Local Primary schools continue to receive our ongoing support. During the Autumn Term, a whole range of creative and tailored resources benefited hundreds of Primary children. PrayerSpace materials for use in classrooms enabled children to explore *Thankfulness* and *Perseverance*, plus a special Advent series during December. Pre-written assemblies were gratefully received, enabling children to lead their classes in worship. Fortunately, our Christmas 2020 Advent resources were ready prepared before lockdown, and then distributed with RE-focused lessons to accompany them.

“Thank you for taking the time to reach out to us and we are grateful for the resources you dropped at school today.” Headteacher

Some benefits of tailoring our support are stronger relationships with local schools, together with opportunities to devise and develop new materials.



Adam and Petra from *Label of Love* have been working with **Cathy** from *BSCT* to produce a new *Wellbeing* series for primary schools, complete with videos and materials which teaching assistants or teachers can use with small groups of children.

“On behalf of us all at Beverley St. Nicholas Primary, I would like to thank everyone for all their hard work in preparing resources during this difficult time. It is all especially useful just now, when children’s emotions are all mixed up. We have been able to pick up the individual packs and use them for different circumstances. Before Christmas, some children in one of my classes were feeling worried about not seeing their family. I picked up one of the packs I’d used before when we could meet for SPACE. It was really for remembering soldiers and wrapping a peg in wool whilst remembering what soldiers had done for us. We used the peg and thought about our family whilst wrapping the wool around. We all said a prayer at the end. This was very helpful.”

HLTA (Higher Level Teaching Assistant)

Easter resources comprised prayer spaces to be set up in classrooms. We made these reusable so they could be used in several classes. Our Lent lunchtime club programme was adapted into RE lessons with bible stories and activities. The children valued the hands-on aspect of these lessons.



"I have used all of your lovely activities whilst retelling the story of Holy Week.

Some of the children said that it was the best R.E. lesson ever!"

HLTA

During the Spring Term, we prepare Summer Transition sessions for Year 6 pupils to be used alongside *It's Your Move* booklets (Scripture Union) kindly purchased for each child with grants from The James Graves Trust of Beverley Minster. Schools are grateful for such support from outside organisations in such challenging times.

In September our Play Worker, Karen Eyre, left BSCT to move to new role. Cathy Beynon - furloughed until November - continues in her role coordinating Primary work.



From Peter Spencer:



"BSCT has maintained contact with East Riding College and provided an introductory video for inclusion in the virtual Freshers Week at the start of the current academic year. This briefly explained the role of our tutorials and the kind of subjects we explore, such as mutual respect and destiny. As much of the material is topical, all of the modules have been updated in the light of recent current affairs. Whilst willing to support online activities, none have taken place under the present constraints, and we're hoping to resume normal face-to-face sessions next term.

Previous sessions have proved lively and popular and so we look forward to a resumption of this engaging activity. As the principal visiting tutor, I look forward to time spent with students and learn a lot from it. Hopefully, I contribute something useful in return."

Funding

We are very grateful for your continued prayerful, practical and financial support, and the commitment of our partner churches and individual supporters. If you would like to make a one-off or regular donation to enable our work in schools to continue, please email Julia who can send you details of how to do so: bsct@juliapeplow.karoo.co.uk

Prayer Requests

For the children, please pray they adapt to the constant change this academic year has brought. Give thanks for their resilience in facing the challenges before them. Pray they continue to grow and develop in their exploration of faith. Pray especially for families who are finding home-schooling difficult.

For staff in school, please pray for vital energy and motivation in these difficult times. Pray for good health and the ability to manage all the changes the COVID situation brings.

For Cathy, Petra, Adam and Peter, please pray for inspiration and the ability to rise to the challenge of new and diverse ways of working. Give thanks for the support they receive and pray for their faith to be strengthened at this time.

Thank you

Would you like to volunteer with us?

**To begin the autumn term we are looking for 10
new volunteers**

Contact Cathy Beynon 07913378148



Beverley Schools Christian Trust is a registered charity

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