

Newsletter

Spring Term

2022



It is great to be able to meet in person again and I recently enjoyed visiting a church near Shrewsbury and meeting with pray-ers from across the West Midlands at a Mission Mercia event in Coventry.

This May we are encouraging you to join with thousands of Christians around the globe to light up the world in prayer and take part in Thy Kingdom Come.

"But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit." Jeremiah 17:7-8 (New International Version)

Thy Kingdom Come is looking at the Fruits of the Spirit in particular Faithfulness, Joy, Love, Kindness and Patience. All qualities that we pray will be manifested in our own lives and within our schools. Let's focus our prayers on the children and young people in our area and all those who work in our local schools. See flier on page 2 and arrange a time to pray.

We welcome Andy Hughes to Pray for Schools Wales and look forward to working with him. He introduces himself on page 4. We also have an update from Scotland on page 5.

Youth for Christ has recently updated their RE:QUEST website, an invaluable resource for RE lessons and whenever you have a question and need a clear explanation (see page 8)

Wishing you a relaxing Easter time

Jane

Jane Newey and Andy Hughes
PFS England and new PFS Wales Chair
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YOUTH
FOR CHRIST



Free
Churches
Group





This year we are encouraging individuals and prayer groups to join in with Thy Kingdom Come and commit a time to praying for your local school.

Pray during Ascension and Pentecost

- **Meet with your local school prayer group**
- **Host a prayer event with churches in your area**
- **Include prayers for schools in your church service**
- **Prayer Walk around the local schools**
- **Pray on your own using Thy Kingdom Come resources**

Why not [pray for 5 children that you know](#)—maybe using the prayer from Richard of Chichester

“That they may see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, and follow thee more nearly, day by day.”

Pray for [5 teachers that you know](#) at church or from the local schools

Pray for [a Christian you know](#) who visits a local school

Pray for [5 schools in your area](#)

Thy Kingdom Come have provided loads of resources to encourage us as we pray.

This year’s theme is the Fruits of the Spirit with a focus on Faithfulness, Joy, Love, Kindness and Patience. All qualities that we pray will be manifest in our own lives and within our schools.

See the Thy Kingdom Come [website](#) (new material is being added for 2022)

Father, please pour out Your blessings upon our whole school community so that everyone grows in the knowledge of Your truth, love, wisdom and peace. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.





10 WAYS TO PRAY FOR SCHOOLS

We have updated our new **Ten Ways to Pray for Schools** pdf. Great to use on line or in person. Download a copy here

<https://www.prayforschools.org/prayers/assortedprayers/>

From teaching staff to children with special needs, the resource provides ten short prayers for schools with Bible verses.

Father, please pour out Your blessings upon our whole school community so that everyone grows in the knowledge of Your truth, love, wisdom and peace. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.



A new leaflet is available in the **Ten Ways to Pray series**, looking at ways to pray about children and the internet.

The resource has prayers for vulnerable children, various support organisations and for the strengthening of the law, as well as giving thanks for the benefits of the internet.

Read on line <https://care.org.uk/cause/online-safety/ten-ways-to-pray-for-children-and-the-internet>

Or order free copies from CARE emailing mail@care.org.uk or by calling 07718494586.

We are currently having our website updated—please bear with us while we improve the site.





News from around the UK:

Wales

My name is Andy Hughes and I have recently agreed to become Chair of the steering group for Pray for Schools in Wales /Gweddi dros Ysgolion. My regular job is as Senior Impact Team Leader with Urban Saints Wales/ Saint y Gymuned with whom I have worked for the last 25 years.



We are at a crossroads with Pray for Schools here in Wales – there are some fantastic things already in place thanks to the dedication and hard work of our co-ordinator Claire Wall who is shortly retiring from her role. Claire’s work has raised the profile and led to a solid database of pray-ers and an established steering group.

In recent times, we have gathered supporters from every corner of Wales to regular prayer Zoom calls. It has been a real pleasure to hear key practitioners inspire us and to pray together. Mae wedi bod yn bleser arbennig gallu trefnu’r rhain yn y ddwy iaith/ It has been a delight especially to be able to facilitate these in both languages.

Moving forward, we’re continuing our prayer Zoom calls and also looking at the challenge of seeing local (perhaps county) co-ordinators who will work to facilitate and connect pray-ers covering every school in Wales. If you’re reading this and interested in getting involved, please do contact me at ahughes@saintygymuned.org

Join PFS Wales

On Wednesday April 27th

At 7pm as we pray for schools in Wales

Register [here](#)



News from around the UK:

Scotland

Pray for Schools Scotland recently created a new video and launched a new promotion of schools' prayer. The video was taken up by the Church of Scotland in January and shared among congregations, particularly encouraging women who meet as The Guild (a ladies' association) to start praying for local schools. Praise God this has resulted in a number of new registrations, including schools which had never previously had prayer cover. One of the challenges here is the number of very tiny rural schools in the Highlands & Islands, where the population is sparse. A cause of thanksgiving is that someone recently got in touch from the Isle of Lewis, offering to translate the video into Gaelic! This is currently happening right now, and we pray that soon the message will reach the Gaelic-speaking community. You can see the video (in English) at www.prayforschoolsscotland.org.uk – and if you have family, friends, or teaching acquaintances north of the border, please do share!





Further to our article about The Eternal Wall of Answered Prayer featured in the Autumn Newsletter we would love people to continue to get in touch with Eternal Wall and let them know your answered prayers.

Do see their testimony page (remember confidentiality)

<https://www.eternalwall.org.uk/>

Eternal Wall will house 750,000 answered prayers from the UK, including 75,000 'Heritage' bricks, which will celebrate the faith and impact of Christians and their prayers throughout the history of the nation. 250,000 answered prayers will be collected from overseas, declaring the faith of Christians around the world; that Jesus is alive, he listens and he answers prayers.



Built near Coleshill on the outskirts of Birmingham, Eternal Wall will stand at 169 feet,

RE:QUEST

RE:QUEST is the 'go-to' site for relevant and engaging resources to help RE teachers and their students explore the Christian faith.

Get free access at
request.org.uk





Everything changed during the pandemic; life was turned upside down and many of us came through the experience with fresh perspectives. The same can be said for [RE:QUEST](#). With lots of 'working from home' time on our hands, we decided to give the site a makeover!

RE:QUEST is the go-to site for relevant and engaging resources to help RE teachers and their students explore the Christian faith. Recently relaunched, it has a brand new look, designed to help you organise and deliver authentic lessons which meet your curriculum needs.

Recognising the variations of syllabus and educational terminology across the UK, we felt it would be a good idea to have a completely different section for Scotland. With the new curriculum coming to Wales this year, we will be creating a separate Welsh section very soon.

We're committed to ensuring that the content meets curriculum needs and, as such, there has been an overhaul of our resources. Many new resources have been added, particularly within the GCSE section.

The new '[Boards](#)' section is an exciting addition to the site. A feature of this section is the ability for teachers to create 'learning boards,' collating resources on specific topics, before sending their students a link which enables access to them. It's also a useful way to organise and store resources for future use; once created, teachers can return to them again and again.

To create an individualised learning experience, we have installed an accessibility menu. Students who have specific learning needs can now alter many aspects of our resources by adjusting text size, font type, line height, contrast and background colour.

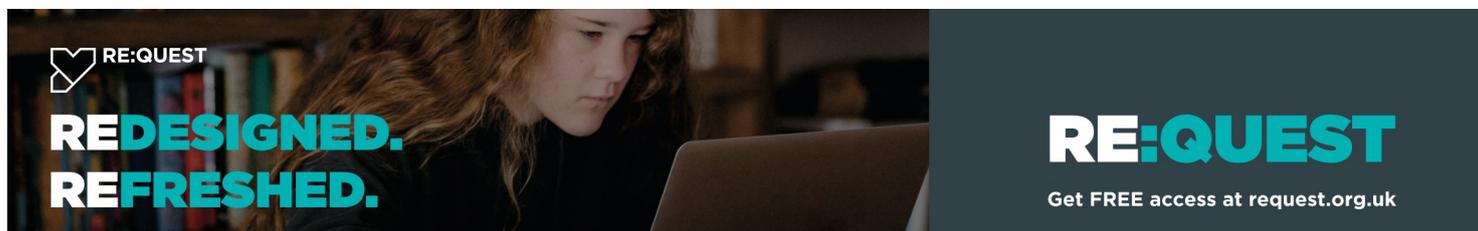
However, we don't intend to stop there, with plans afoot to further develop the site over the coming months. The following represents just some of what we hope to achieve over the next year:

- New and exciting video resources
- A Welsh section
- Separate KS1 and KS2 sections
- Separate exam board sections.

We are constantly adding new resources, so please check back regularly at [request.org.uk](#). You can find out how to make the most of RE:QUEST by watching the [helpful videos on the site](#).

Enjoy!

Bev Smith, Head of Schools Work, Youth for Christ





BOOST



RE-IMAGINING SCHOOLSWORK

DAY CONFERENCE EXPLORING A NEW NORMAL
FOR SCHOOLS' MINISTRY

Join us for an innovative event
offering spiritual rocket fuel through
three different strands...

FOR CHILDREN

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

FOR CHILDREN'S/YOUTHWORKERS,
CHURCH LEADERS, VOLUNTEERS &
PARENTS/CARERS



...all re-imagining what it means to be
a Christian presence in schools whether
you're there every day or just visiting!

Saturday June 18th

10am-4:15pm

Emmanuel Centre

Westminster

GET YOUR TICKETS AT

WWW.SEPARTNERSHIP.ORG.UK/BOOST



Free Bookmarks with this prayer can be ordered from england@prayforschools.org Available in English or Welsh
A donation for postage etc would be appreciated payable to CARE



A prayer for our schools (Our bookmark prayer)

Loving Father, thank You

for all who are part of our school.
Please grant them Your
encouragement, wisdom and peace.

Strengthen teachers

with heavy workloads.
May they be firm yet patient,
expecting excellence but forgiving mistakes.
May they support their students,
playing to strengths, helping with
struggles and motivating them to do their best.

Comfort and restore

those living under shadows of
unhappiness, abuse, pain or fear.
May many find faith, discovering
their identity in You and knowing
Your amazing grace in their lives.

Please pour out Your blessings

upon our whole school community.
In Jesus' name, Amen.



Our Vision—Every School a prayed-for School.

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