

Newsletter

Spring 2014

PRAY FOR SCHOOLS

As I write this the sun is shining, bulbs are flowering and new shoots are emerging. When I attended the recent World Prayer Centre conference, I was reminded that the "sap will rise and Spring will come again". Promises that God has given in the past will sustain us.

This year's theme for Pray for Schools Fortnight (4th to 18th May) is "Rooted in Love". How important it is as we serve our schools; to know where our love and security come from and to draw strength from the King of Kings. Leslie Hollingworth has kindly given permission to use her beautiful illustration. We hope it will inspire you as you reflect on the verses in Ephesians 3. Full study notes will be available on our website shortly.

Many of you have told us about your Pray for Schools fortnight events for this year. We are delighted to be joining you for some of them. Celia will be in Nuneaton and I am going to Stoke and Calderdale, West Yorkshire. I have also plans to visit Somerset and Bristol over the summer and we will be at an exciting new Education conference on September 20th in Birmingham organised by the Free Churches. This May, why not get together with other groups in your area to pray together during PFS Fortnight or, if you are a home intercessor, join with other like-minded people to pray for the local schools. You could even do a prayer walk. We are joining with Wales and setting up a 24-7 prayer diary, so please let us know.

Our bookmarks continue to be popular. We have launched a competition to design a new front for it. Perhaps the children in your local school or church could get involved? Poster attached with this newsletter and full details on the website.



*I pray that you, being rooted and established in love,
may have power, together with all the saints,
to grasp how wide and long
and high and deep is the love of Christ.*

Picture by Leslie Hollingworth. Used by Pray for Schools with permission

After Christmas I took the Twitter plunge and started to regularly tweet and retweet! Our Facebook account keeps individuals and groups up to date with events and provides prayers. Do follow and like us and keep sharing your answered prayers.

Jane Newey



A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN...

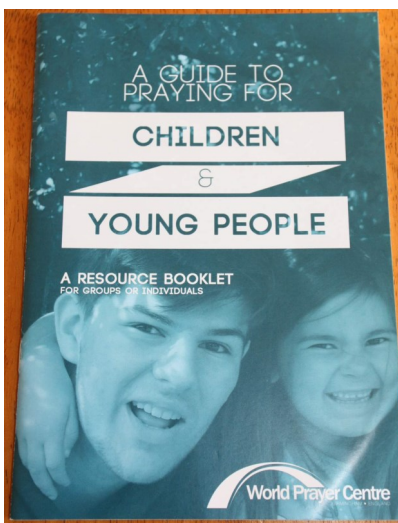




Spotlight on ACT

The Association of Christian Teachers (ACT) is one of Pray for Schools' partners. ACT works with and supports those working in education: teachers, support staff and governors. At this time of great change in education ACT speaks out in the media from a Christian point of view on all issues relating to education and produces weekly newsletters and a wide-ranging monthly prayer diary. Find out more by visiting our new website www.christians-in-education.org.uk, follow Twitter at [@ACTClive](http://www.twitter.com/ACTClive) - Clive Ireson - the Director (Strategy) Association of Christian Teachers. Email at clive@actforhim.org.uk or telephone 07772436532.

Education has always been the 'family business' of the church in Britain and we need to ensure that Christian values remain at the heart of our education system. Join ACT if you can help in achieving that and let us know how we may help and support you in your work.



I came across this book published by the World Prayer Centre. Some great ideas and it will give you fresh insight for your prayer group too.

Available from <http://www.worldprayer.org.uk/shop/>

For just £1



Details about our Bookmark competition are found on the last page of this newsletter and on our website <http://www.prayforschools.org/2014/03/bookmark-competition/>



A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN...



News from Northern Ireland

Pray for Schools NI was officially launched in September and since then we have seen a continuous flow of God's faithfulness in leading us to people who are passionate about praying for our schools here in Northern Ireland.

We have had two board meetings where people from across the country who are working with young people in a range of capacities have come together.

It is wonderful to be able to share and discuss how to reach all generations from young people to grandmothers and grandfathers to pray for our schools.

We already have two school prayer groups registered and we are hoping to run an event in May to call others to pray during the Pray for Schools fortnight. We are currently working with local experts to design some material to raise awareness of our vision and to update our area of the website.

Each one of these adventures stretches us as a team to use gifts that we have or connections that we have to further build God's kingdom and move towards our vision. At the heart of this whole venture is a loving God who calls us to our knees because of his wonderful sacrifice which lets us draw near to him.

"But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³ Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. ³⁴ It's like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with their assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch"

Mark 13v32-34.



News from Scotland

"Around 200 teenagers recently came together to pray in Scotland at *Pray for Schools Scotland's 'Strictly Come Praying'* events. Held in two locations, the events were planned by a group of young people, who then hosted it and led worship and prayer stations. After a 'confession' station where young people wrote down things they wanted to ask forgiveness for, a boy told his leader, "It's just amazing. I can write my deepest darkest secret or the worst thing I've done and know that Jesus will see it. But once I smash that tile it's gone forever."

News from Wales

Claire has been travelling the country and visits include Bala, Caerphilly and Cardiff. Please pray that more people will catch the vision.

Once again Pray for Schools Wales will be holding 24-7 events during Pray for Schools Fortnight and this year they are looking forward to Christians from around the British Isles joining them.


Please pray for a PFS event in Bridgend in May

A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN...



Are you creative?

*Why not help us design a new
bookmark for Pray for Schools?*

**PRAY FOR
SCHOOLS** 

**Draw a picture or a design
for the front of our bookmark
Size 20cm x 5.5cm**

**Prizes for the winning entries!
(Primary and Secondary)**



Send with name and age
by 11th July 2014 to
england@prayforschools.org

See website for details

www.prayforschools.org