

BEING FRUITFUL

I hope that you enjoy reading this Newsletter, which I think gives a good overview of **what has happened, is happening, and is due to be happening** in the life of CRiBS. There are such a variety of activities and ways that we are able to be involved in schools, with churches and the community, and with our supporters.

We don't take for granted the **opportunities** that we have for **sharing the light, love and life of Jesus**, whether through our words or our actions. It's great being part of a team that is so creative, motivated and passionate in doing this. The Easter Play was another reminder of the scale of **impact** that we can have on the Borough of Bexley and beyond – 50 performances across 40 different schools to more than 13,500 children and staff – and again received so positively by the children and adults alike. It was great that so many of our supporters could join us at our Easter Celebration, and were able to see a performance of the play.

I'm pleased to report that plans to work with churches to offer **Mentoring Hubs** – wellbeing support outside of the school setting – have developed well. The first Hub commenced in March at Bexley Christian Life Centre and now has five mentors working with nine mentees. Initial feedback from parents has been very positive. The next churches are lined up to start, hopefully in September.

This term I taught a lesson about the 'Parable of the Sower and the Seeds' (Matthew 13:1-23) in a Year 4 class... as in that parable, we reflect and pray that many of the **seeds that are scattered will fall on good soil where they will grow and bring much fruit.**

We can't do this without you - thank you so much for your **continued prayer and financial support!**

The five runners that participated in this year's London Landmarks Half Marathon have together raised over £3,500 to help fund the work that we do – **many thanks** to the runners and to those who sponsored them.

We hope to see many of you at our **quiz night**, which will be an opportunity for staff and supporters to meet and chat, raise further funds, and have fun together!

Paul Davis (CRiBS Director)

- * **Pray for** children and young people in your churches and community.
- * **Pray for** continued access to schools, and for bookings for the next academic year.
- * **Pray for** Year 6 pupils preparing for their move to secondary schools, and our Moving Up workshops.
- * **Pray for** the team as they go into schools, and for a time of rest and refreshing over the summer break.

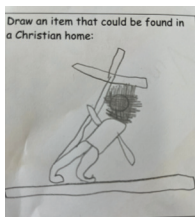
EASTER PLAY

We could hear the whispers '... it's Jesus ... it's the bread and wine ... it's the cross ...' as each image appeared on the reversible sequin board. These kinds of responses from the children were very encouraging for us, as for the first time, we used giant stencils to tell the Easter Story. We were also able to leave each school with a smaller poster of the images as a memento of the key events of Holy Week. As well as these new ways of working, a couple of 'castaway' puppets managed to tag along with each team; in our changing world, may there always be a space for them! **Jason**



"The performance not only entertained but also encouraged reflection, helping the children connect with the message of Easter in an accessible and interactive way. It was a fantastic opportunity to explore an important story through creativity and imagination." **Dept Head**

RE LESSONS



This term I've had the pleasure of teaching year 2 pupils at a local primary school on the topic of 'What it means to be a Christian in Britain today'. In the first lesson we looked at how Christians might

show their beliefs in their homes. I took in some items from my own home to show the children, including this figure of Jesus carrying the cross that a talented friend had recently made as a house warming gift. One pupil chose to draw this object to demonstrate something that could be found in a Christian home. **Alexa**

UNLIMITED

This term, Unlimited Primary are working with over 150 children in 7 schools across Bexley and Kent. This consists of working through our HeartSense programme as well as providing ongoing mentoring support. Please continue to pray for the children, as a number of them are going through really difficult times including bereavement, family break-ups, domestic violence and some really messy situations where a child is just caught right in the middle. A lot of the children we currently work with are heading towards transition for secondary school and we are working with them to feel as ready as possible for this. Please also pray for the team in all of this. **Dan**

"The school said they are very happy to have CRiBS in, as we pick up in our mentoring sessions things that they cannot, because our sessions are one to one. Particularly from a safeguarding perspective." **Teresa**

Use **easyfundraising** to raise money for CRiBS. Scan the QR code for a link to our page. Look for special offers when you use the easyfundraising website, app or donation reminder.





EVENTS

Come and pit your wits at our annual quiz night! Will a new team take the trophy from the current champions, or will they retain it?



To book, email us or scan the QR code.

Bring a team or join one...



UPCOMING
QUIZ
night

Friday 19th June '26
Doors open 7pm
St Paul's, Mill Road, N'Heath, DA8 1HN

£10
£5 U16s



Teams of up to 8 people

To book, email info@cribsonline.org



National Day of Prayer for Schools
7:30pm Friday 25th September
Bexley Christian Life Centre, 17 Upland Rd, Bexleyheath, DA7 4NR

Come and join us to pray for local schools.

CRiBS
For more information contact: info@cribsonline.org

Friday 25th September is the 'National Day of Prayer for Schools'. A prayer event, led by CRiBS, will be held at Bexley Christian Life Centre.

You're invited to attend to pray for our local schools, for children, young people, staff, and other organisations, and Christians who support schools and colleges within our community.

THANK YOU!

The day of the London Landmarks Half Marathon in April was a mix of weathers, but this didn't dampen the spirits of those taking part (or of our puppets who brought many smiles to the runners as they passed - some even took selfies with them!) Our team's times were:

Tega in 1:37:29
Billy 1:42:42
Steve 1:45:10
(1st in his age group!)
John 2:00:55
Christian 3:20:42

It's not too late to support the team, scan the QR code below:



STAFF FOCUS

At Christmas we said farewell to Abigail and James, as they moved on to pastures new. During the Spring term we had three new school workers join the team - Alexa, Jack and Bee. We asked them a couple of questions:

What is your current role at CRiBS?

Alexa: This term I've been involved in a mix of projects: RE lessons and an after-school club (both in primary schools), plus mentoring secondary-aged young people, in and out of the school setting.

Jack: I work in primary schools, mainly working on the Unlimited Team. I also do Money Management workshops.

Bee: I work with energetic pre-schoolers, bringing Biblical values to life through songs, movement, dancing, and plenty of fun along the way. I also work in schools delivering our Unlimited programme to primary school children.

What do you most enjoy about working for CRiBS?

Alexa - I really value the variety of work that I have been privileged to be a part of so far, and am enjoying the new challenges that each day provides. It has been great to be back working with young people and the awesome CRiBS Team!

Jack - The best part of the job is being able to personally see a change in the wellbeing of the children that I work with, and knowing that God's love has been shared with them.

Bee - The team is incredible. It's such a joy to work alongside people who genuinely care. Seeing the positive impact on young people, the friendships built, and the Christian values brought to life in a relevant way.



Left to right: Bee, Jack & Alexa