CRiBS
LIVING VALUES GROWING FAITH

AUTUMN 2026 NEWSLETTER

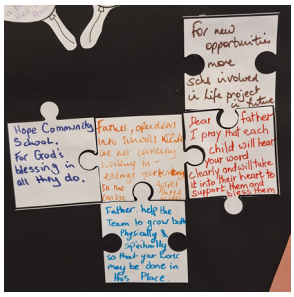
BACK TO SCHOOL

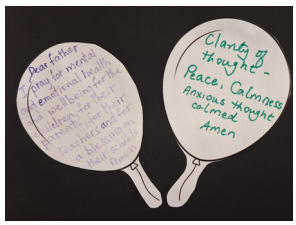
I was reflecting at the start of this new academic year that I have now been involved in education in various capacities for 30 years. In that time - as a student, staff member, governor, going into schools with CRiBS for now over 11 years and, prior to that, as a sports coach and youth worker - I have seen a variety of extreme situations.

So often staff are burnt out and overwhelmed by the increasing pressure that is put onto schools. There's a massive increase in the amount of children and young people from challenging home situations and those struggling significantly with their mental health.

However, CRiBS has the privilege of **sharing the light, love and life of Jesus with children and young people**. One of our mentors described her role as a mentor is to "bring things from the darkness into the light" which is an incredible opportunity for us.







At our recent Prayer for Schools evening that we held in September, I shared some reflections from the chorus of the worship song 'Way Maker'. The chorus emphasises that our God is:

Way maker - Isaiah 43:1: "Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea and a path through the mighty waters."

Miracle worker - Psalm 77:14: "You are the God who performs miracles; you display Your power among the peoples."

Promise keeper - 2 Corinthians 1:20: "For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through Him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God."

Light in the darkness - John 8:12: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

For all the challenging situations, the darkness that we find in schools, we go in with the **hope that Jesus brings**. With the knowledge that we are sharing the Good News of hope that, as it says in John 1:5: "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness will not overcome it." We can go into schools with the hope that our God can overcome these situations and be the **Way maker, Miracle worker, Promise keeper** and the **Light in the darkness** to the staff and children we encounter in schools.

We hope that you will find this Newsletter informative and inspiring as you read about what has happened and what is planned. **Thank you for your continued support of CRiBS**.

Dan Milne (CRiBS Operations Manager)

LIFE EXHIBITION

In September, we were pleased to partner with London City Mission (LCM) and Bexley Christian Life Centre to facilitate Bexley's **Life Exhibition**, an initiative developed by the charity 'Counties'. 453 pupils and 51 staff and parent helpers, from seven different schools, attended the exhibition. We received this feedback:

"Years 5 and 6 recently visited Bexley Christian Life Centre on Upland Road for the Life Exhibition. Using tablets, graphics and videos, the children explored the life and teachings of Jesus and what Christians believe about him. This interactive experience encouraged them to ask questions, think independently and consider Jesus' influence in today's world. Thank you to the team at the Centre for welcoming us."



Abigail (former CRiBS team member, now working at LCM) said ***"What a privilege it is for those of us who love and follow Jesus to be able to share the Good News about Him with children in our local community."*** If you're interested in holding a Life Exhibition at your church we can put you in touch with Abigail at LCM.





SHARING THE LIGHT, LOVE AND LIFE OF JESUS

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SUPPORTING SCHOOLS SINCE 1993

to donate to CRiBS use the QR code or visit www.cribsonline.org/donate

REFLECTING ON 2025/2026

We've taken the time to look back at what God enabled us to do during the last Academic Year. Across the year **over 15,000 children and young people engaged with CRiBS**, whether that be through watching a production, wellbeing support, workshops, mentoring, or RE lessons.

Check out our social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, and our newly launched WhatsApp channel) to keep updated.

"CRiBS consistently deliver exceptional, age-appropriate Religious Education lessons that align with our school's RE scheme of work. Their team brings remarkable creativity and high-quality resources to every session—from captivating puppet 'discussions' that excite and engage our youngest learners, to interactive and hands on lessons that bring core Christian narratives to life within lessons. Beyond standard RE lessons, their targeted workshops, such as those supporting Year 6 pupils with their transition to secondary school, provide vital emotional and spiritual guidance at key milestones in our children's development.

The professionalism and dedication of the CRiBS team are outstanding. Booking and administration are always smooth and well-organised, making collaboration effective for our staff. Above all, the members of the CRiBS team are respectful, warm, and friendly. They do not feel like external visitors; they are genuinely regarded as valued members of the St Paulinus school team.

The impact of CRiBS' teaching on our pupils is both deep and lasting. By presenting Christian truths and Biblical stories in an accessible, hands-on manner, they help pupils develop a deep understanding and appreciation of Christian faith and values."

Sarah Young, Headteacher

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING

In September, as part of team CPD, we had training to be Mental Health First Aiders. A 2-day course, delivered by an MHFA England trainer, covered many mental health issues that can be experienced, and gave instruction on how to support those who struggle with their mental health.

Mental Health First Aider® MHFA England

Thank you for your support, whether that be financially, prayerfully, or advocating the work that we do. Get in touch if you'd like to receive prayer updates, and to let us know if you'd like to be part of a Prayer Pod.

STAFF FOCUS

How long have you been working for CRiBS?
I've been working for CRiBS since 2003, although I started volunteering with CRiBS in 1999.



What is your current role at CRiBS?
I'm the Administrator, liaising with schools for RE lessons, seasonal productions and workshops; helping to create promotional material; liaising with CRiBS Ambassadors and supporters; managing the general team diary; co-ordinating events; occasionally performing in seasonal productions or supporting Heartsense wellbeing sessions; plus whatever is passed my way!

What do you enjoy most about working for CRiBS?
I really enjoy the variety of my role! I'm grateful to be able to support the Team in sharing the light, love and life of Jesus through all the work that we do.

Fiona Davis



PRAYER POINTS

- for the team as they work with children and young people.
- for continued access to schools for CRiBS and for God's presence and leading in all the schools we visit.
- for this year's Christmas production.
- for our churches and local community.

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