



Directors Note

January 2020



Happy New Year! For how long can I get away with that? When does it cease to be the New Year? Answers on a postcard please, but, in the meantime, here's how we've started off and how God continues to answer your prayers....

These are the 5 prayer points with which I concluded the last prayer update at the end of November:-

- 1) Individual young people and children to hear the Gospel afresh and to ask Him into their hearts this Christmas.
- 2) Our newly established contact with 3 secondary schools to bear fruit quickly.
- 3) Continued provision financially.
- 4) Abby as she prepares to join us.
- 5) Cast members for Easter Experience to be found. We are short of a few vital role players and we need these filled before the end of January, and preferably before the end of December!

Well, lets take each one in turn.

- 1) We can never fully assess this, but we certainly were able to challenge many more young people. A complete surprise (if we're allowed to call ourselves surprised when we have a God who does the unexpected and we should expect it!) was when Sutton Grammar School called us in a slight state of panic with 3 days to go until the end of the term. The Headteacher had just asked the CU to take part in a full school assembly on the last day, something the school hadn't conducted for over 20 years. The pupils were asking if we could help, which of course we could, so on the last day, as a final event before school closure, we were able to present a challenging, engaging and thought-provoking assembly to the entire school, including all the teachers, that asked them to consider Jesus as the Son of God come to Earth. What a God-given opportunity and another answer to your prayers! We've seen growth in all our Christian Unions, and a special delight is the number of non-churched young people who are attending.
- 2) We've already attended 2 of the new schools and begun to plan new things with them, and have attended 1 Christian Union that we had not been able to get to previously, and have started discussions with another school to commence a CU there. Please continue to pray for these schools... Wallington Girls, Glenthorne and Wallington Boys.
- 3) We have been so blessed by our Lord, and are continually grateful for his provision. Obviously, the most important thing is that we can fulfil our commitments, and we can certainly give testimony of His generosity in this area! Giving last financial year was significantly up on the previous one, and again we cannot stop praising Him for this. Even as I type this update Sara has just opened up yet another envelope containing a substantial donation from a church. Many of you contribute towards our cost yourselves, and we thank you daily. Some local charities are interested in our work and have made contributions as well, so please continue to pray for even more! Without the additional giving, we couldn't have employed Abby in her new role, and I would love to be able to announce yet another job opportunity one day!
- 4) Abby started with us yesterday (Monday 6th January). She's already run 2 assemblies and got more to come this week. I think the fact she closed off today as she left the office with a very simple 'Thank you so much for this job. This is like a dream come true', sums it all up! Please uplift her in prayer as she continues, and Sarah as she begins to explore the new opportunities that will come her way.
- 5) And we were genuinely beginning to wonder how God would answer this one. We were short of 3 main character actors for North Cheam just before Christmas. Not any more! All roles filled and ready to go, praise God!

Your prayers make a difference. It's as simple as that. Thank you, thank you all.

This year we start off with a new member of staff, new opportunities to witness that we didn't have 2 months ago, let alone 1 year, and genuinely new young people hearing of the Good News of our Saviour for the first time.

God is good, and we are witnesses to that goodness. Please continue to pray for us as we present the truth of His saving grace to as many people as we can.

Bless you all

Simon Ellingham

Director

Sutton Schoolswork

Prayer Update: January 2020

What's happening this month?

Thurs 9 Jan- Assemblies at Overton Grange and St Dunstons, Lesson at Overton Grange, Faith Club at Sutton High

Fri 10 Jan- Assembly at Overton Grange, CU at Sutton Grammar

Mon 13 Jan- RE day Culvers House, Assembly at Westbourne.

Tues 14 Jan – CU's at Carshalton High and Overton Grange, Assemblies at All Saints Benhilton and Nonsuch, RE lesson at Sutton Grammar.

Weds 15 Jan – Lesson at Sutton Grammar, Assembly at Robin Hood Juniors and Green Wrythe, CU at Oaks Park.

Thurs 16 Jan – Assemblies at All Saints Carshalton, Robin Hood infants, and Beddington infants, Faith club at Sutton High.

Fri 17 Jan – Assemblies at Tweedale and St Elpheges, CU at Sutton Grammar, RE lesson Sutton Grammar

Mon 20 Jan- Assemblies at Homefield, Devonshire and Abby, RE lesson at Carshalton boys

Tues 21 Jan – Assemblies at Abbey and Dorchester, RE lesson at Carshalton boys, Sonshine club at St Dunstons, CU at Carshalton High and Overton Grange.

Weds 22 Jan – Assemblies at Avenue and High View. CU at Oaks Park.

Thurs 23 Jan – Assemblies at Abbey and Cheam Common Infants. Lesson at Overton Grange. Faith club at Sutton High.

Fri 24 Jan- Assembly at Foresters, CU at Sutton Grammar.

Mon 27 Jan – Assembly at St Cecilia's and Seaton House, CU at Nonsuch.

Tues 28 Jan – Assemblies at Hackbridge and Muschamp, Sonshine club at St Dunstons.

Weds 29 Jan – Assembly at Muschamp, RE day at St Elpheges, CU at Oaks Park

Thurs 30 Jan – Assemblies at Sutton High and Hackbridge, Faith club at Sutton High.

Fri 31 Jan – Assembly at Sutton High, RE day at Westbourne, CU at Sutton Grammar.



1. Pray for SonShine club at St Dunstan's as it starts on 21st Jan, that the children coming along will really enjoy it & it will help them to understand & learn more about God in a fun way.
2. Pray for Easter Experience as we book schools in, try & find rehearsal dates & pray for the rest of the cast gaps to be filled asap.
3. Please pray for this half term's primary school assemblies, based on Mary and Martha, about taking time to stop and rest. Pray that the children we speak to would know God's peace in their lives, at school and at home.



1. Lessons - we have been blessed enough to get lots of lessons booked in to a number of schools in January & February. Please pray these go smoothly and a clear Christian message will be heard.
2. Open Doors - please continue to pray for opportunities in Schools that we now have contacts in! Particularly in Glenthorne and Wallington Girls!
3. Christian Unions - please continue to pray for the Christian Unions & Faith Clubs we are running. As we enter a new term, we have lots of new topics and exciting plans. Please pray we will see the same faces (and new ones!)