

Newsletter

Autumn Term

2020



Prayer is the key to revival! Over the centuries we know that prior to any move of God, people were praying. One of the great encouragements over Covid-19 is seeing a real upsurge of prayer – especially online. In February, before we knew the lockdown was coming, our Pray for Schools Steering Group had its termly meeting and as we finished, Lisa – who represents Scripture Union, came over and handed me a key, saying I should have it. She believed that praying for schools and children and young people was the key to revival and reassured us that although she only had this one key, she could get another cut for Claire, our Welsh Coordinator. I felt 'Wow – what a responsibility!' and then something amazing happened. Claire piped up "It's ok, Lisa, a girl gave me a key out of the blue and did not really know why, except that it was for Wales– to go in and take the ground."

The following day I had a phone call asking about PFS. I don't generally give out my home number, so was surprised. The man was talking about his local schools and praying for revival. Could he send me a book that he and his wife had written? It was called "The Key to Revival Praying".

I've kept Lisa's key on my house keyring and I'm still praying. Then on the 24th September we held our first PFS nationwide Zoom prayer meetings – we were thrilled that 100 people joined in - I realised how significant it was that Zoom brings us together from around the country to pray for the children and young people, instead of scattered prayer groups or individuals in their local areas that wouldn't otherwise connect. Here was one way the key of prayer was unlocking revival.

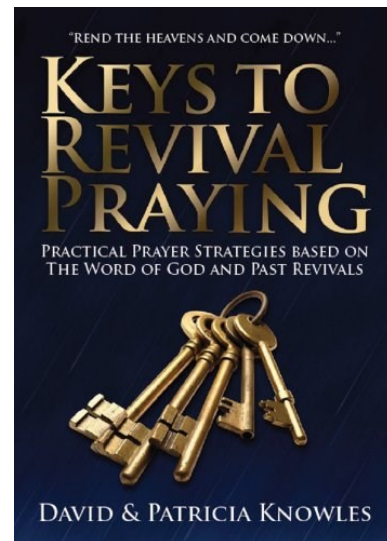
So let's keep praying every way we can. Prayer that is listening to God, responding to Him and doing what He asks us to do. May the Holy Spirit guide and encourage us! *Jane*

'When you walk, you won't be held back; when you run, you won't stumble. Take hold of my instructions don't let them go. Guard them, for they are the key to life.'
Proverbs 4 v 12-14

Jane Newey and Claire Wall

PFS England and Wales Coordinators,

Please send all emails to england@prayforschools.org until January 2021



See Page 2 for details of our Pray Day Zooms on the 17th November



CARE
FOR WHAT
YOU BELIEVE



YOUTH
FOR CHRIST



Scripture Union



Free
Churches
Group





SHINING AS STARS

TUESDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2020

This year's theme [shining as stars](#), encourages us to pray for young Christians in our schools and sixth form colleges.

See full resources on our website. <https://www.prayforschools.org/pray-day-for-schools/>

Inspired by Scripture Union's '[Shine in Schools](#)' initiative, we are focusing on young people in schools who follow Jesus; the opportunities they have, the pressures they face as well as organisations supporting them.

SHINE is a partnership between Crown Jesus Ministries, Scripture Union NI, Logos Ministries International, Scripture Union England and Wales, Scripture Union Ireland and Scripture Union Scotland. It is run in November right across the UK and Ireland. SHINE aims to equip young people to live for God at school and create opportunities for them to explore the Christian faith for themselves. SHINE is a 3 week video resource designed to equip young people to share their faith within school. If the group is for Non-Christians it also has videos to explore who Jesus is and explore faith.

<https://www.shineinschools.com>

This PrayDay you're warmly invited to join us online !

Celia Bowring and Jane Newey will host two Zoom PrayDay Sessions on Tuesday 17 November

- 9.30am - led by Lisa from SU and Bev from YFC
- 5.30pm - with Ebony from Prayer Spaces in Schools and Toni of Chaplaincy Central

Sign up to one or both via Eventbrite

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/pray-for-schools-pray-day-tickets-126814209715> to receive Zoom details

In addition Worcester Diocese is hosting an afternoon Zoom Prayer session which will include Julie from Open the Book. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pray-for-schools-tickets-120157792191>

PRAYING FOR YOUNG CHRISTIAN PEOPLE IN SCHOOLS

Do everything without complaining or arguing.

Then you will be innocent and without anything wrong in you.

You will be God's children without fault.

But you are living with crooked and mean people all around you.

Among them you shine like stars in the dark world.

You offer to them the teaching that gives life.

Philippians 2:14-16 (International Children's Bible)





**PRAY FOR
SCHOOLS**

www.prayforschools.org

10 WAYS TO PRAY FOR SCHOOLS

We have used our new **Ten Ways to Pray for Schools** resource in many online prayer meetings. Download a copy here

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

From teaching staff to vulnerable children, 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.

Our New Prayer Walking Video is also available to watch and download

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

Or direct on You Tube <https://youtu.be/KjRGg9AHibA>



Love our Schools 2021 will run from 31st January – 14th February 2021



PRAYER FOCUS ON HEADTEACHERS & SENIOR LEADERS

Prayer Pointers



Do pray for Head Teachers/Senior Leaders physical and mental well-being, as they are coping with schools and colleges open, but England in lockdown.

- ♦ For many who are having to teach in the classroom themselves , as well as normal responsibilities because staff are self-isolating, awaiting Covid19 tests.
- ♦ Maintaining staff morale as some are extremely stressed and anxious about being back in the classroom.
- ♦ Having to make decisions in a world of ever-changing guidelines.
- ♦ Working with parents. Many who are simply concerned but some who are simply not following any guidelines.
- ♦ The pressure of having to fill in the gap of learning with groups of children who are at very different levels. Coping with remote learning where this is still needed.
- ♦ Relationships with the local churches – it is so crucial that this is positive especially at this time.
- ♦ Preparing for Ofsted and SIAMS, and GCSEs / A levels /SATs
- ♦ Preparing for the unknown – What needs to happen if there is a case of Covid19 in the school/college?
- ♦ Trying to work out how to celebrate community festivals without breaking guidelines – eg Diwali/ Hannukah and Christmas

Thanks to Alex Wolvers, Lead CDA for Mission, Lichfield Diocesan Board of Education for providing these suggestions

'In Search of Christmas'. From SCRIPTURE UNION

This is a fun, interactive Christmas trail resource using QR codes to discover what Christmas is all about. It features downloadable QR code posters for use as part of a fun Christmas trail. Find and scan QR codes to uncover video clues and crack the final code to discover that Jesus is the reason for the season!

The resource will be free to download and available from mid-November. It includes the QR code, posters and ideas of how this resource could be used in schools, church, Zoom, and in the community.

Scripture Union are also offering a free 30-minute Zoom training to go through how the resource works in more detail. This will be on 19th November at 2:00pm and repeated at 7:30pm.

<https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/resource/in-search-of-christmas>

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.



YOUTH
FOR CHRIST



Free
Churches
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ACT



Our Vision—Every School a prayed-for School.

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