



**The BRAVE Trust**

## **Summer Newsletter July 2021**



### **CHAIR of TRUSTEES writes....**

Dear Supporters,

Welcome to our Summer 2021 newsletter. Although it's been a difficult period for everyone, we at the BRAVE Trust have much to give thanks to God for.

For a start, God has graciously kept the door open for Rachael to continue to lead acts of common worship at Edwinstree Middle School online throughout the pandemic. And, we're giving thanks to God that she's now been allowed to resume visiting the school since the start of June. This will allow her to build more and deeper relationships and support both staff and pupils at the school.

Additionally, as you'll see from our Treasurer's report, God has continued to supply all the BRAVE Trust's financial needs through the generosity of our supporters.

However, we have also faced challenges during this period. You may remember that at the start of March 2020, we were able to begin a Christian lunchtime club at King James Academy in Royston. Sadly, after just one session, this club was halted due to the start of the first lockdown. Since then, we have been unable to visit King James Academy. Please pray that God would re-open this door to us during 2021-22.

As a management committee, we would also value your prayers for God to guide us as to the direction in which he wants the work of the BRAVE Trust to develop in the coming years. Please pray that we would be sensitive to his guidance and leading as we plan.

With gratitude to all of you for your continuing support and prayers,

Jonathan Scott  
Chair of the Trustee

## **SCHOOL WORKER UPDATE**



**RACHAEL writes.....**

### **Edwinstree C of E Middle School, Buntingford:**

In the second half of the spring term, I managed to deliver two Collective Worship (CoWo) sessions online– the first one about Lent and the second about Easter. I presented various clues as to why Christians believe that the resurrection is real and included a short video clip of Bear Grylls talking about his Christian Faith.

Now in the summer term, I have delivered more online Collective Worship sessions on the theme of Endurance. For one of them, I included the famous (and moving!) video clip of Derek Redmond's 200M race at the Barcelona Olympics in 1992 when his Dad helps him finish the race. It felt like a great analogy of how God the Father enables us to endure to the end!

Since half-term at the end of May, it has been a real joy to be able to return to the school in person! I have re-started the CoWo club on Monday lunchtimes. Six children signed up, but, so far, 3 new boys have attended for the first 3 weeks. They are keen to be involved and have contributed to the Collective Worship session I led on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June. This half term's value is on Trust. Next week I lead the CoWo session again and each of the boys will be involved again.

After the lunchtime club (which finishes at 1pm) I sit in the staff room and work until the CoWo starts at 2.30pm. This has afforded opportunities to chat to a few members of staff. So far, no deep and meaningful conversations but I am grateful for the chance to start building relationships there.

### **King James Academy, Royston**

I have continued my best to stay in regular communication with KJAR. I have not heard anything at all from them but I know that the Head is leaving soon and the executive head of the DLPT will be stepping in for a while. So I will keep contacting them from time to time and keep praying that I get results soon!

### **Other areas:**

I have recently heard back from Joy at British Youth for Christ about their touring teams. At the moment they are only sending out their band, The Sense (<https://yfc.co.uk/thesense/>), but it looks like this is a great option for an event or week of events in schools. This

conversation is ongoing but I will be in touch with the Trustees about various aspects of this possibility.

### **Prayer points:**

- **Thanks for being able to return in person to Edwinstree.**
- **Prayer for the continued involvement of the 3 boys in the CoWo club.**
- **Continued prayer for making a more meaningful contact with KJAR and opportunities to reach out to students and staff there.**
- **Prayer for the possibility of an event in Schools with "The Sense"**

### **Our financial position**

I am pleased to report that the finances of the BRAVE Trust have continued in a healthy state. We finished 2020 with enough money in the bank to keep us running for a year or so, thanks to a few large grants and one-off donations in addition to the faithful regular support we receive. The year-end accounts have been filed with the Charity Commission. If you would like a copy, you can find them there, or email me and I'll send you one: [treasurer@thebravetrust.org](mailto:treasurer@thebravetrust.org).

Whilst the Covid restrictions made life challenging in many ways, and continue to do so, they have had the side effect of reducing our outgoings! This year we are anticipating spending a bit more money as opportunities in schools start to open up again. The current prediction is that we will finish 2021 with a small surplus of funds. Looking to next year, assuming schools work reopens fully in person, we will be looking for new funding to avoid running at a deficit.

As always, we are extremely grateful to those who support the work of the Trust financially – both individuals and churches. Thank you! May I encourage you all to think about the following.

- **Please pray for continued financial blessing.**
- **If you do not already, could you make a regular donation to the BRAVE Trust? Even a small amount makes a big difference.**
- **Could you encourage your friends or your church to become supporters? Perhaps by sharing this newsletter with them.**
- **If you shop online, please use Easy Fundraising or Amazon Smile to support BRAVE.**

Please contact me if you want to set up a Standing Order, make a Gift Aid declaration, or make a donation through Stewardship, CAF or online fundraising sites

Thank you once again to all our supporters.



Paul Brown,  
Treasurer,  
[treasurer@thebravetrust.org](mailto:treasurer@thebravetrust.org)

**YOU CAN SUPPORT THE BRAVE TRUST'S WORK IN A NUMBER OF WAYS:**



Standing Order forms can be downloaded from the website: or alternatively, our secretary, Gill Stemp, will be happy to send one to you [Secretary@thebravetrust.org](mailto:Secretary@thebravetrust.org)

**Online Shopping:** If you shop online, you could be raising additional funds for the BRAVE Trust without further cost to yourself by using [EasyFundRaising.org.uk](http://EasyFundRaising.org.uk). Simply log on to the website and complete a simple registration process. By logging on to the EasyFundRaising website every time you shop online, you will donate additional funds to the BRAVE Trust! Please contact Simon Rice at [webmaster@thebravetrust.org](mailto:webmaster@thebravetrust.org).