



The BRAVE Trust

Summer Newsletter July 2022



CHAIR of TRUSTEES writes....

Dear Supporters,

I'd like to thank you all for supporting us and our work during the last year. Your giving and prayers are vital contributions to the work that's being done.

I'm glad to report that it's been an exciting time for the BRAVE Trust since our last newsletter. Over the last few months, new opportunities have begun to open up at schools in Buntingford and the surrounding villages. You can read about these in this newsletter. We also still hope to be able to go into schools in Royston as well, but, so far have not met with much success. Please pray that this will change.

All of this means extra work for Rachael. As a result, the trustees have agreed to increase Rachael's hours to three full days from the start of September.

Rachael is also available to come and report on the work of the BRAVE Trust at local churches. She recently visited Ashwell Parish Church, and will be visiting Royston Evangelical Church in September. If you would like Rachael to come to report on BRAVE's work at your Church, then please get in touch.

With grateful thanks, and best wishes for a good summer,

Jonathan Scott

Chair of the Trustee

SCHOOL WORKER UPDATE



RACHAEL writes.....

Over the past term I have been into Edwinstree to run the Collective Worship club every Monday Lunchtime. Throughout the academic year, three year 7 boys have attended consistently and in the past four weeks, two more boys have joined the club which is a great encouragement. Every other week I lead a Collective Worship session, with their help

May was an exciting month. I met with staff at Freman College to discuss how I could fit into their school setting. A few weeks later I began some weekly Christian mentoring sessions with five Year 8 students at Edwinstree who have been identified as needing support towards transitioning into Freman College in September. One idea that emerged from my meeting with Freman College was that I could catch up with some of these students in the autumn term, once they are settled into Year 9. There was also a suggestion of doing some pastoral chats and delivering an assembly once or twice a term. This has all yet to be confirmed but the college was interested in what The BRAVE trust could offer.

The same week I had my first morning in Hornead First School, ending with a lunchtime club for the year 4 children. I delivered the Collective Worship, met their Worship council, talked to some children in every class and led the club. Since then, I have taught some RE lessons to various year groups, run the weekly lunchtime club which has been opened to the whole school and delivered a Prayer Spaces activity for the Year 4 children who will be transitioning to Edwinstree in September. This work has been immensely encouraging and enjoyable. Seeing and hearing the children explore the Christian faith has been a huge privilege.

In the past, the BRAVE trust has organised special musical events in schools, and we recently arranged for a Band to come into Edwinstree at the end of June. This Youth for Christ Band, "The Sense," were planning to deliver RE lessons and play their Music over the course of three days. It would have been an exciting event, but, unfortunately, it was cancelled during the previous week, due to some difficult circumstances for British Youth for Christ. Hopefully, we will be able to rebook them for the autumn term and it will hopefully engage the young people, whilst sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with them.

Sadly, two lower schools in Royston – which initially seemed keen to invite me in - have not followed up on this ... yet!

Finally, I had the privilege to do a presentation about the BRAVE Trust at St Mary's church, Ashwell. This was a very encouraging time and it was good to meet some of the faithful supporters of the BRAVE Trust and our work. I have two more presentations booked – one

at Trinity Life Church, Royston, on Sunday August 14th and one at Royston Evangelical Church on Sunday September 18th. I am really looking forward to both these occasions.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Thanks:

- Thanks for CoWo group at Edwinstree and the opportunity to deliver fortnightly Collective worship Sessions, as well as the recent setting up of a Christian Mentoring programme with some Year 8 students there. .
- Thanks for the support of the BRAVE Trust by the Head and Deputy head teachers at Edwinstree
- Thanks for the recent development of working, every week, in Hormead C of E First School, which feeds into Edwinstree Middle School.
- Thanks for a positive meeting with staff at Freman College, the Upper School which Edwinstree Middle school feeds into.

PRAYER POINTS:

- For Further discussions about follow on work with the Year 9s at Freman College, in the autumn term.
- For opportunities in the lower schools in Royston.
- For the YFC band ("The Sense") visit to be rescheduled for next term, reaching many young people with the gospel.
- That I will trust in God's Sovereignty, regardless of what is happening.

Rachael

Our financial position

The BRAVE Trust finances continue to be in a healthy state, thanks to our regular donors, both individuals and churches. We are however operating at a small deficit at the moment, meaning we are spending more money than we receive each month. Nonetheless, we have agreed to increase Rachael's working hours in the Autumn and to award a pay rise reflecting the current rate of inflation.

This is likely to make the deficit larger by the end of this year, but we have prayerfully considered this and agreed it is the right thing to do. We do have sufficient reserves that this will not cause any immediate problem, but we are believing for the monthly income to increase in order to balance our books. Please join with us in this faith adventure.

I would like to ask you to think about the following.

- Please pray for the Trust's finances, as well as for our work in schools.
- Could you make a regular donation to the BRAVE Trust? Even a small amount makes a big difference.
- Encourage your friends or your church to become supporters, perhaps by sharing this newsletter with them.
- Would your church like a visit from Rachael or a member of the team?
- If you shop online, please use Easy Fundraising or Amazon Smile to support BRAVE.

Please contact me if you would like to set up a Standing Order, make a Gift Aid declaration, or for help making a donation through Stewardship, CAF or online fundraising sites.

Thank you once again to all our supporters.

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