



The BRAVE Trust

Summer Newsletter

July 2023



Chair of Trustees writes....

Dear Supporters,

As another school year draws to a close, a big thank you to all of you for supporting us and our work during 2023. Your prayers and giving are vital contributions to everything that's been achieved this year. It was also good to meet some of you at our open evening back in June.

Since our last newsletter went out in the Spring, the work has been continuing in the schools in Buntingford and Great Horstead. You can read about these in this newsletter. We still hope for an opening into the schools in Royston as well, and continue to pursue this. Please pray that we would be successful.

Rachael is available to come and report on the work of the BRAVE Trust at local churches. If you would like Rachael to come to report on BRAVE's work at your Church, then please get in touch with me, pastor@roystonevangelicalchurch.com.

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

Jonathan

Jonathan Scott
Chair of the Trustee

School Worker Update



RACHAEL writes.....

Over the past term I have continued to go into Edwinstree to run the Collective Worship club every Monday lunchtime. Throughout the academic year, four year 8 boys have attended consistently – the same boys I have had since the beginning of Year 7!

In May, I had a Teams Call with Wendy Mallett from Freman College in Buntingford. There was more discussion about working at Freman College with Year 9 students' next term and excitedly, good news just before publishing this newsletter, I have been given permission to go into Freman once a week from September to continue the mentoring of year 9 boys I have been working with at Edwinstree. This is a real answer to prayer.

I continue to work in Great Hormead First School every Tuesday, delivering RE lessons, Collective worship sessions and setting up a different Prayer Space in the outdoor shed each week. I also led a Prayer Spaces session for Year 4 children when we considered how God is with us always, throughout every situation in life, even when things change.

In May, Jonathan and I visited the Anglican churches Deanery Synod meeting and were able to give a presentation about the BRAVE trust. This was positively received and the work of the trust was prayed for.

In June, I contacted eight different first schools in the Royston area to suggest coming in and talking about the work of the BRAVE trust. So far, I have heard back from three schools. Only one school has expressed an interest in the work of BRAVE and I should be meeting with the RE lead at Therfield First School to discuss how I can contribute to assemblies and RE lessons there in the future.

Also in June, I managed to meet up with Kirsty Wainwright, the Vicar of the Anglican United Benefice of Aspenden, Buntingford and Westmill. Kirsty has just celebrated her first year in post. It was good to be able to share about the work of BRAVE and to discuss possible ways in which we might collaborate in the future.

Late June, the BRAVE Trust held an Open evening, at Royston Evangelical church. This was another positive event and some good questions and ideas were raised about expanding the work of the trust. Simon was also able to read out an encouraging impact statement about our work, from Jo Gant, the Head of Edwinstree School, which you can read later.

Prayer Requests



THANKS:

Thanks for CoWo group at Edwinstree and the opportunity to deliver fortnightly Collective worship Sessions, as well as the continuation of the Christian Mentoring Programme with students in Years 6 to 8. For the opportunity to work in Freman College, the first Upper School the BRAVE Trust has had the opportunity to work in.

Thanks for the support of the BRAVE trust by the Head and Deputy head teachers at Edwinstree

Thanks for continuing to work, every week, in Hormead C of E First School.

PRAY:

For opportunities in the lower schools in Royston and Therfield.

That I will trust in God's Sovereignty, regardless of what is happening.

Rachael

BRAVE Trust Schools Worker

Jo Gant, Head of Edwinstree Middle School, was unable to go to the Open Evening at the end of June, but she kindly prepared an impact statement of Rachael's work in Edwinstree, which we are able to share below, with Jo's permission:

"Your work is compassionate and loving and forms part of our mental health support programme at Edwinstree. Your spiritual mentoring of the year 8 boys over the last three years has been supportive in helping those unique individuals to share their thoughts, feelings and their beliefs and values based around the teaching of the bible. The commitment to mentor them as they transition to Freman is exciting and a potential new avenue for us and the boys are appreciative of this opportunity.

Your contribution to collective worship has meant that we have strong biblical story roots to our learning and the values that we promote within the school. Supporting your collective worship group to read and act out the stories brings them to life and puts them in a modern-day context. Your gentle but deep-seated commitment to God and his teachings has meant that students listen respectfully and reflectively to your Collective worship.”

Our Financial Position

While the BRAVE Trust still has reasonably strong reserves in the bank, we are continuing to run at a monthly deficit. By the end of this year, we expect to have spent several thousand pounds more than we will have received, unless things change for the better. So we continue to look for extra regular or one-off income. This could come in the form of grants or of donations from individuals or churches.

We are really grateful to those who already support us financially. But please do consider the following:

- Review the amount you regularly give
- Could you set up a new regular donation? Bank details are below; ask us if you need a Standing Order form; you can also give via Stewardship or CAF.
- Ask your church to make a donation to the BRAVE Trust.
- Use the Amazon loyalty Smile or EasyFundraising.org to help bolster our funds
- Invite Rachael to come and visit your church or group.

Donations can be made direct to

Co-op Bank

Account: BRAVE Trust

Sort code: 08-92-99

Number: 6521 3719

Thank you once again to all our supporters.



Paul Brown,

Treasurer,

treasurer@thebravetrust.org