

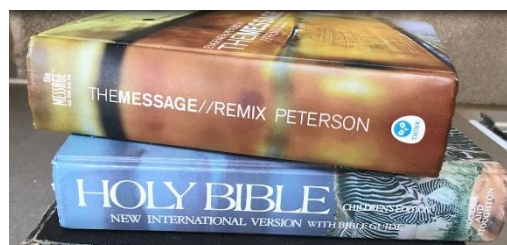


# Summer Newsletter 2021

## Welcome to our Summer Newsletter

If I asked you what your favourite Bible story was, you might think about it for a moment, but most of the people reading this would come up with an answer; maybe David and Goliath, Jonah and the whale or one of Jesus' parables. If I were to ask a class of Watford school children the same question, the only answer we might get would be about Nativity. That's because most children these days really don't know any Bible stories!

With that in mind, this term we have been busy preparing online lessons once again. In the first part of the term we created videos to go out to schools about The Lost Sheep and Psalm 23. We also prepared an engaging assembly about the Bible. The Bastable and Jordan families have been called upon to share their thespian talents in the making of our videos. The lesson explores the story from the Bible that Jesus told. The Parable of the Lost Sheep helps children to understand how it helps Christians to believe what God is like.



The Bible assembly is a summary about The Bible and what Christians believe about it. It is compared to an instruction book or manual. It contains some facts and figures and concludes with a quick quiz.

We also took advantage of the opportunity to do a Pentecost assembly online. In a video that was peppered with 'Don't try this at home' warnings we shared the story of Jesus' ascension to heaven and the coming of the Holy Spirit. You can watch our Pentecost video here..... but DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME!



We put our lessons and assemblies on our YouTube channel so you can now see what we're creating! Just search for Watford Schools Trust. If you subscribe to our channel, you'll be notified when we add something new.

You can watch one of our 33 video lessons and our new promotional video.

### **Looking towards the Autumn Term**

Planning for next year has been difficult. We still don't really know whether we'll be welcomed back in person to schools in September. So we have been trying to plan activities that can be done without us. As well as online (video) lessons and assemblies, we want to trial Prayer Space in a Bag. This would be a pilot project in a small number of schools where we provide a class with individual bags of Prayer Space activities for each child along with a box of class activities. The idea is that we would record a short introductory instruction video and an outline for staff to guide the children through the different activities. The items in the individual bags would be kept as a reminder for each child whereas the Prayer Space items in the class box would be returned to us.

### **To facilitate this we need your help!**

We're asking people to knit us some small stuffed red hearts. Can you help? We can supply the pattern and the wool, all you need is the needles, the time and the know-how. We will need hundreds of them so if you would like to help, please contact us so we can get the pattern and the wool to you giving you time to start knitting over the summer. Thank you!!



## It's Your Move for Year 6 children

The second part of the summer term is traditionally reserved for 'It's Your Move' the transition workshop that aims to help year 6 children prepare for their move to secondary school. The title 'It's Your Move' comes from the books with the same title published by Scripture Union



The books help children to consider the changes, challenges and choices they face in their move to secondary school. Thanks to many local churches who donated generously towards this annual project, we were able to give out It's Your Move books to over 2000 children in the Watford area.

We produced a video and worksheets to support teachers to run the workshop themselves in the classroom. It was a real challenge but also great fun to make this video. The video is full with information, quizzes, challenges and top tips and helps the children to explore the It's Your Move books. We interviewed local secondary school students who shared their experiences in their move to secondary school and asked family members and friends to contribute to the video in different ways to make it fun and informative at the same time.

This is from our section on choices - some choices can be very difficult to make. What would you do if you saw one of your friends being pushed around by some Y9 lads would you -





What if it was you being the one pushed around - what would you like your friends to do?  
Would you still pick the same answer?

We packed all the books into bags ready to be delivered to 52 different schools around the Watford area and included a little treat bag for the class teachers.



## Hanging Baskets

Many thanks to everyone who purchased a hanging basket from me this summer.  
This has raised £270 for Watford Schools Trust.



In the Autumn I will be selling baskets with pansies.  
So do let me know if you would like to pre order now!

## Prayers for Watford Schools Trust

- Please pray as we face uncertainty about being allowed into schools in the Autumn Term
- Pray for the Year 6 children as they leave primary school and face the challenges, changes and choices ahead of them
- Pray for the school staff. Give them the energy needed to for the last few weeks of term.

**I hope you have enjoyed reading our Summer newsletter.**

**We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support in prayer and other ways.**

Many thanks

Alison Harvey (Administrator)

Tricia Bastable and Johanna Jordan (Schools Workers)

Maureen Hider, Angela Steed, Joanna Woolcock,

Catherine Da Costa, Duncan Campbell ( Trustees )

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Watford Schools Trust is a Local Ministry Partner of Scripture Union



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