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THANK YOU!

Please either hand to a CYO representative at your church or post to the following address:

CYO Treasurer, Peacehaven, 62 Acorn Avenue, Braintree, Essex, CM7 2LR



As their third decade begins, CYO have not only consolidated their role in Braintree and Halstead schools but the team are in greater demand than ever before and taking on increasingly diverse challenges.

Having started out by leading assemblies and offering R.E. lessons in 1998, CYO have added to their programme Lunch Clubs, Mentoring, Anam Cara, A-Cross the World, transition work with year six children and a range of themed R.E. Projects.



For sixteen of CYO's first twenty years I was able to sit and enjoy Sheena and Olive's assemblies, frequently giggling helplessly with the children, or stand back and observe my class immerse themselves into The Great Banquet or A- Cross the World activities. However, since the spring of 2015 I have had the privilege of joining Sheena's A-Cross the World team and somehow (she's very persuasive!) becoming a Trustee.

The CYO trustees have regenerated during the past three years, as long serving and loyal members of the CYO family have passed on the baton to the current board. Those of us who are newer to the role are very grateful to our predecessors who supported CYO through most of its twenty years. We are a group who hail from a range of churches in Halstead and Braintree and take our responsibility of 'managing' CYO's work very seriously as part of our Christian stewardship. For me, the highlight of 'trusteeship' has been the privilege of going into school to observe at first hand the amazing work of the team. It is my aim this year to make sure I have visited each team member.

We pray you are enjoying the 'new look' newsletter and commend it to you as part of your daily prayer routine. Each member of the team value your prayers as they go into schools each week, never totally sure of what awaits. Please pray for the pupils and students receiving the message of Jesus, especially as they share what they have been learning with their families. Special prayers are requested for Matt, Olive and Sally as they undertake their incredibly valuable mentoring role and for Nikki's Anam Cara Junior programme. Finally, please pray for the future of CYO and for wisdom and creativity to ensure its work not only continues but thrives.

*Cathy Mann
Trustee*

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CYO is a registered charity, No.1073418

Harvest 2018

in our Primary Schools

Sheena: Nikki, you remember the story of the feeding of the 5,000 and how there were all those people and the disciples had no idea how they were going to feed them all?

Nikki: Yes, I know that story.



Sheena: Well, I felt a bit like that when we arrived for one of our Harvest lessons and discovered that we were going to have all 90 of the year 1 children together in 1 classroom! Not the hall as planned, no, all squashed into 1 classroom. Ninety 5 year old children!

Nikki: But Jesus did a miracle in that story Sheena and fed all those thousands of people with just a few bits of bread and fish. I think He did another miracle for us, those children were amazing! They sat so still, joined in everything and had some really thoughtful answers.

Sheena: You're right, it really did feel like a miracle. I especially liked the bit when you asked the little girl if she ate lots of Pitta bread when she was on holiday in Greece...

Nikki: Yes, she did make me laugh as I was expecting her to say that she had eaten lots of pitta bread but instead said no, but I did eat lots of bacon!!

Sheena: There have also been some interesting and amusing comments in these Harvest lessons about some of the things we have been discussing as to whether they are things we WANT or things we NEED. It seems that the children in general seem to agree with you though Nikki, it really isn't acceptable for me to pray 'Give me today my daily Mars Bar' instead of bread. Shame really.



Nikki: What I've really enjoyed about these lessons is the role play (strange for me to say I enjoy role play as I normally shy away from it) but having children help me role play The Good Neighbour was great fun and letting them encourage me to keep waking Sheena up (my good neighbour) until she gave us some bread. I must admit I found it hard to take Sheena seriously as she was dressed in a dressing gown and a wonderful colourful knitted bed hat!!



Sheena: Hey, it's a wonderful hat and keeps my head very warm at night! I know Jesus really told that story to teach us about prayer and to encourage us to keep on praying but I am sure He likes the way we use it to get children to think about whether we are willing to help others at any time, even when it perhaps isn't very convenient for us. I mean, I do need my sleep Nikki!

Nikki: Me too!

Sheena: For me, one of the most encouraging things is that the children associate me with telling Bible stories and that they are excited about hearing them. What a privilege and honour it is, to go into a classroom and see lots of eager faces and be asked "are you going to tell us another Bible story?"



BY THE TIME YOU ARE READING THIS NEWSLETTER, 21 CLASSES WILL HAVE RECEIVED OUR HARVEST LESSON. GIVE THANKS. WE WILL BE PREPARING TO MARK THE 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF WWI IN NOVEMBER WITH A LESSON ON PEACE AND THEN OF COURSE WE WILL BE COMMUNICATING THE REAL MESSAGE OF CHRISTMAS THROUGHOUT THE REST OF THE TERM.

The Summer term shot past as usual due to us being so busy in the Secondary Schools...

Our assemblies addressed the topic of Freedom, showing how a life devoid of rules would not be as liberating as it would first appear. We had some great feedback from staff, and how they were able to refer to it in subsequent lessons. From September we looked at the issue of Perspective. Using the story of Mary washing Jesus' feet with expensive perfume, where the disciples saw a completely different perspective until Jesus put them right, we challenged the students to consider other people's points of views in any given situation; it's a healthy thing to entertain the possibility we might be wrong, and a certain encouragement to do our homework and establish both parties might be right! At the time of writing, we're only one week in to presenting the assembly but it seems to be hitting the spot!

Sally & Matt presented a couple of RE Lessons to GCSE students at Hedingham School in July. Following the typical interview structure as before, they spent each hour answering questions and sharing their faith on a range of topics. Who would have thought an hour's lesson could cover anything from Creation to Euthanasia and Divorce to Spiritual Experiences...?

Notley High's lunch club continued to be well attended to the end of July, despite the attraction of super weather outside. So far this year, we have seen a lot of Year 7 students join the club so we're looking forward to building friendships and seeing them become firm 'regulars'! Ramsey also has experienced a good attendance and we enjoyed launching a new lunch club at Alec Hunter in September; Helped by Sheena & Nikki, the club has been aimed largely at Year 7 students and we've seen a small number attend each week. Games and chats are the main content, so we'll look forward to seeing how things progress over the coming months. Please pray that all of these clubs continue to be effective opportunities for young people to share, to learn and to belong.

We keep being asked to increase our Mentoring hours in all the schools we work in, which brings a mixture of emotions; it's so encouraging to know we're providing an effective resource to schools, but always a worry that so many young people are battling with a range of issues. Please do pray for all the young people we see, and that they will be able to win their battle with whatever they're facing (home life, exam stresses, behaviour, health...).

Matt will have been on a school trip to Belgium with Ramsey by the time this goes to print, visiting WWI battlefields. Please pray that it will have been a life-changing experience for those who attend.

As ever, we're so grateful to all of you for your support over the year. We're excited at what's in store over the coming months, including Anam Cara and GSUS Live (yes, it's coming back!!). So, please do continue to pray for us and all of the young people we see over a term, and we shall look forward to updating you in a few weeks' time!

And finally, we had a super Away Day as a team to kickstart the new school year. After a short service at Clare Priory, we enjoyed time together in the Clare Castle Country Park before savouring the delights of the local converted station cafe. It was great to share thoughts on the coming year and pray together - a very valuable time together...can't wait for 2019's!

Matt, Sally & Olive

How Can You Support Us?

PRAY

This is the most powerful form of support we receive - and anyone can do it! ...just get in touch to join the mailing list.

SIGN UP

Please contact us using the form at cyoweb.org.uk to receive our regular newsletter, emails and other nice bits of communication.

VOLUNTEER

Our work is constantly expanding, so we're always keen to see if others can get on board and join us in the schools. Find out more if you feel this is something you may be able to help with.

FUND

We've loved working in all the schools this term...but it's always nice to know if we can afford to go in again next term. **PLEASE** join our team of regular supporters - as little as you can spare will make a huge difference for us. You can find our giving form on the back page.

Contact us for more info

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Telephone: 07467 149591
E-mail: matt@cyoweb.org.uk

PRAYER
IS PUTTING ONESELF IN THE
HANDS
OF
GOD

Mother Teresa

We would **LOVE** to add to our team of trustees with a fresh face!

If you can manage three meetings a year (one a term) and be an active part of CYO's life behind-the-scenes, we would love to hear from you

Please email us at info@cyoweb.org.uk for more information

Diary Dates

October to December 2018

The work we do is a privilege, a blessing and great fun. We tend to book a lot of schools work after our newsletters go to print.

Therefore, please pray for all the extra work too.... THANK YOU!

Monday	<i>Mentoring</i>	<i>Lunch Club</i>
	Alec Hunter Hedingham Notley High	Alec Hunter

Tuesday	<i>Mentoring</i>	<i>Lunch Club</i>
	Ramsey Tabor Honywood	Ramsey Beckers Green

Wednesday	<i>Mentoring</i>	<i>Lunch Club</i>
	Ramsey Alec Hunter Tabor	Rayne John Bunyan

Friday	<i>Mentoring</i>	<i>Lunch Club</i>
	Notley High	Notley High

October	29th - Assembly - St Andrew's Great Yeldham
	30th - Assembly - St Andrew's Bulmer
	31st - Remembrance Dove making - St Margaret's Toppesfield

November	1st - Ramsey trip to Ypres	Team Meeting	20th - Assembly - Hedingham Assembly - White Notley	27th - Assembly - Notley High Assembly - Alec Hunter
	2nd - Ramsey trip to Ypres	14th - Assembly - St Michael's Assembly - Holy Trinity Halstead	Assembly - Cressing Assembly - St Giles Great Maplestead	Assembly - John Ray Junior Assembly - St Andrew's Bulmer
	6th - Assembly - Lyons Hall Assembly - Devere Castle Hedingham	Assembly - Gosfield Primary Assembly - Richard de Clare Halstead	21st - Assembly - Hedingham Assembly - White Court	28th - Assembly - Notley High Assembly - Alec Hunter
	7th - Assembly - John Ray Infants Remembrance activity day - St Andrew's Great Yeldham	15th - Assembly - Lyons Hall Assembly - St Andrew's Halstead	Assembly - St Margaret's Toppesfield	Assembly - Gt Bradford Junior Assembly - Rayne
	13th - Assembly - Gt Bradfords Infants Assembly - St Peter's Sible Hedingham	19th - Assembly - Bocking Assembly - St Andrew's Great Yeldham	22nd - Assembly - Hedingham	29th - Assembly - Notley High Assembly - Alec Hunter
			23rd - Assembly - Hedingham	30th - Assembly - Notley High Assembly - Alec Hunter
			26th - Assembly - Notley High Assembly - Alec Hunter Assembly - Stisted	

December	3rd - Assembly - John Bunyan x2	6th - Braintree Ministers' Prayer Breakfast Assembly - Ramsey	17th - Assembly - St Andrew's Bulmer
	4th - Assembly - Ramsey Assembly - Shalford Assembly - St Peter's Sible Hedingham Assembly Devere Castle Hedingham	10th - Assembly - St Andrew's Great Yeldham	18th - Assembly - St Giles Great Maplestead
	5th - Assembly - Ramsey Assembly - Beckers Green Assembly - Richard de Clare	11th - Team Meeting	
		12th - Assembly - Holy Trinity Halstead Assembly - Gosfield	
		13th - Assembly - St Andrew's Halstead	