

## Prayer Items

Thank God for Kevin How and his involvement with CIS over the years. Pray for Kevin and Tricia as they move to Ledbury.

Pray for all children and young people who will have moved up a year, started new schools or moved on to College/University. Pray for teachers who have started in new schools as well.

## **Diary Dates**

**Tuesday 11th October, 7:30pm** - CIS Annual Celebration, Grange Baptist Church.

**Friday 25th November, 7pm** - CIS Quiz, The Icknield Centre  
*(The home of LGCC)*

## **Assemblies**

**Etonbury Academy** 10th-14th October, 12th-16th December

**Norton St. Nicholas** 11th October, 14th November, 21st December

**Grange Academy** 19th October, 23rd November, 14th December

**St. Francis College Prep.** 17th October, 14th November, 12th December

## **Other Activities**

**Speaking at St. Thomas Church Wilbury** 20th November

**Christmas Journey at St. Paul's** 5th-9th December

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# CIS Newsletter



Christian  
Initiative to  
Schools



Autumn  
2022

in partnership with



Scripture Union

Registered charity no 1104698.

## **Christopher at St. Francis College**

The news of the death of Queen Elizabeth II has dominated the news headlines over recent weeks. We've watched the Royal Family in their grief as they've mourned with the eyes of the world firmly upon them. In Westminster Abbey and St. George's Chapel, during not just a State Funeral but also a family one, we looked on as members of the Queen's family shed tears of sorrow at her passing. And we too have mourned the loss as a nation.

In the tributes that those who knew and met the Queen have shared there are two things that have stood out. Her service in fulfilling promises made at her Coronation, and her firm, solid and strong Christian faith.

In his sermon at Westminster Abbey The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby said this,

*The pattern for many leaders is to be exalted in life and forgotten after death. The pattern for all who serve God – famous or obscure, respected or ignored – is that death is the door to glory... Her service to so many people in this nation, the Commonwealth and the world, had its foundation in her following Christ – God himself – who said that he “came not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.”*

The Queen was faithful in serving Jesus all her life. In all that we do within the schools that we go into, the children and young people we meet, may the same be true of us. May we too serve Jesus and be faithful only to Him in all that we say and do.

**Christopher Baker - Schools Worker**



*After many years of involvement with CIS Kevin How is stepping down as a Trustee as he and his wife Tricia will be moving away from the area. Here Kevin shares some thoughts from his involvement with CIS.*

I've been asked to write this as Tricia and I prepare to move away from this area after over 40 years, to Ledbury to be nearer family and especially grandchildren!

It has been my privilege to be a part of CIS since it's inception in 2006 with the initial vision coming from my good friend Pauline Wade – being part of the initial steering team and then having various roles as trustee, chair, secretary but always operating as line manager to our schools worker.

We have had three such schools workers – Alex Drew, Jenny Kimble and latterly Christopher Baker – who next year will be off on his second Sabbatical – so will have faithfully served for 14 years and counting! Oh and I mustn't forget Zanel our intern who in her gap year worked closely with Alex and was a real asset to the team.

All of the above have been very different in terms of their personalities, attributes and experience, but all have had a deep burden to see children blessed and nurtured with clear opportunities given to them to respond to Jesus.

So 'Why schools ministry?' It's all about wanting to inspire, encourage and equip all children and young

people everywhere to discover the difference Jesus can make to the challenges and adventures of life. It is about connecting with our schools and making a real difference – something which has developed further in recent years with Christopher's chaplaincy work.

I'm sure that we all appreciate the challenges that teachers face with the lockdowns, remote learning and their mental health as well as their pupils with the attendant pressures of academic attainment targets.

At CIS we have seen many lives changed and school communities impacted by Christopher and the witness of faithful Christians sharing the Good News of Jesus with their local schools and it is such a privilege to be allowed into our local schools to bring the Good News of Jesus - something which we don't take for granted!

Clearly there are some important guidelines which need to be adhered to regarding what can be said about God, belief and faith – and sadly an evangelistic altar call would not be appropriate in schools work, but rather it is about giving pupils the opportunity to learn about and explore the God of the Bible and the Christian faith.

One fundraising highlight for me has always been the annual quiz which is always a lot of fun – even when we had to do this on-line in 2020! We are always seeking new financial supporters so if you have a friend or contact that might be interested please pass our details onto them!

I'm stepping down from CIS this month, however I will continue to maintain a close interest in this work and how things progress in the 2020s.

Every blessing in Jesus, Kevin