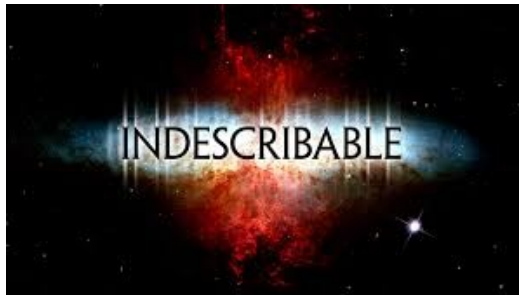


# PRAYER LETTER

April - May 2017

**Welcome** to the NISCU schoolworkers' prayer letter. Come and hear news from the teams and find out how you can be involved and support your local schoolwork. We hope that you enjoy the read.



"In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express".

*Romans 8:26*

**West Cumbria Chairman**

Simon Astill

Tel: 016973 20090 or [simona@sdeng.co.uk](mailto:simona@sdeng.co.uk)

**West Cumbria Secretary**

**SITUATION VACANT**

**West Cumbria Treasurer**

Paul Cooper, 5 Beech Grove,

Whitehaven CA28 6LG Tel:01946 67697

**Northern Inter Schools Christian Union**

NISCU West Cumbria is part of the Northern Inter-Schools

Christian Union. Charity No. 1135880. Company No. 7203313

## **News from the NISCU West Cumbria Team**

Hola Hola gente de West Cumbria!! This is Itzel Herrera. If you haven't heard about me, I'm the Mexican girl who's doing a gap year with King's Church, Cockermouth, and as part of it I'm working with NISCU twice a week.

Before coming to the UK I didn't have any idea that I would be working with schools, doing clubs, and assemblies! It has been a good experience so far, working with people so enthusiastic like Lynn and Alice in clubs, and people like Danette, Sudharshan and Andy during assemblies. I have been able to put into practice some of the things I like doing, like playing the violin and singing during the Christmas and now the Easter assemblies.

As you can imagine every school is completely different. I only help with two schools, Cockermouth and Beacon Hill in Aspatria. In the school club in Cockermouth (QM club) I can see lots of potential in the students there, most of them are Christians, and I'll say that those students are, and are going to be good leaders. I know that some of them are spending time together on a different day of the week, and they are learning more about the Bible by themselves. That shows amazing leadership and interest in God's ways!!! You can help us so much by your prayers so that we can teach students what they really need to learn, in a safe environment, that they can develop their skills and gifts God has given to them and that one day they are going to be very good leaders, walking in godly ways. Also please pray that God will bring non-Christian students to the club and for us as a team as we share what the Bible has to say.

The Thursday Club at Beacon Hill School is more challenging and very different. Most of the kids there are non-Christians, and have a very small knowledge of the Bible, but I know that some of them are joining church activities for teens, which is amazing!! Because there are mainly non-Christians in the club it makes it challenging and that gives us a huge opportunity to share the good news with the students there. Something that I pray is, that one day these students are going to understand God's grace and plans for them, that they are going to be so in love with God, that they are going to share everything with their families, and their situations are going to change, that they are going to keep going to church, and the links between church and the students are going to become stronger and stronger.

We visit Mayfield School in Whitehaven which is a special educational needs school. Last term when we visited the school it was to take part in the first session (creation). At the end we showed a video of the song 'Indescribable', and when I was watching the video, and at the same time the children's reactions, God reminded me of the bible verse from Romans 8:26 which says: " In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans". At that moment I wasn't very sure if they had got the idea of the session, but God told me, even when you find it quite difficult to know if they understood, even when it is difficult for some of them to communicate, I want you to know that I can talk to them directly, and their spirit can communicate with me without any problem. That helps me to remember that God is the same God for everyone!!

I know God is going to continue teaching lots of things during the rest of my time here. Just to let you know that you are a blessing when you pray for NISCU, and that I love your landscapes!

***Dios les bendiga (God bless you)!! Itzel Herrera***

## **News from Lynn**

Please pray for Itzel as she takes on more in the schools' work through this year that she has given over to God for opportunities here in the UK. We are truly blessed to have her with us and she is a valued member of the team, and especially at the moment whilst we are in full flow with the Easter Roadshow. It is an 'Adventure' to complete a mission which involves explorers searching for what happened after Jesus died and finding that he was not dead but alive. We have an awesome band of children with drums and percussion led by Andy with Dannete and Sudharshan on guitars and children who join us in the adventure and dance with us too.

A Special moment of the great celebration of Easter. Jesus is alive!

***Thank God for this significant time in our schools.***

***Lynn***

## **Contact the Team**

NISCU Office: Christ Church Rooms, South Street,  
Cockermouth. CA13 9RU [www.niscu.co.uk](http://www.niscu.co.uk)

Lynn: [lynn.graham@niscu.org.uk](mailto:lynn.graham@niscu.org.uk) 07568567539

# Prayer Diary

## April

Sat 1: Derwent Network Youth Church 24 Hour Justice Event

Mon 3: Easter Roadshow St Herbert's School, Keswick 10am

Tue 4: Copeland PPT at Seaton Juniors

Wed 5: Easter Roadshow Flimby School 10.15am

Wed 5: Allerdale PPT at St Patrick's Catholic Primary  
School, Maryport and Maryport Junior School

Thu 6: Workington PPT at Ashfield Juniors

Fri 7: Easter Roadshow Dean School 9.30am

Tue 25: QM Club at lunchtime in Cockermouth School

Tue 25: Copeland PPT practice

Wed 26: Secondary Team Planning 10-12noon

Wed 26: Allerdale PPT practice

Thu 27: Prayer Breakfast, Christ Church 8am (note new day)

Thu 27: Workington PPT practice

## May

Tue 2: QM Club at lunchtime in Cockermouth School

Tue 2: Copeland PPT practice

Wed 3: QM Clubs at lunchtime in Whitehaven Academy  
& Keswick School

Wed 3: Allerdale PPT practice

Thu 4: Thursday Club at lunchtime in Beacon Hill School

Thu 4: Workington PPT at Lamplugh School

Tue 9: QM Club at lunchtime in Cockermouth School

Tue 9: Copeland PPT final practice

Wed 10: QM Clubs at lunchtime in Whitehaven Academy  
& Keswick School

Wed 10: Allerdale PPT final practice

### **QM (Question Mark) Club:**

"What is life about? Who am I? QM is a club for life's big questions and a place to have fun, with games, video clips and space to think.

## **May** (cont)

Thu 11: Thursday Club at lunchtime in Beacon Hill School

Thu 11: Workington PPT at Lorton School [afternoon]

Mon 15-Wed 17: NISCU staff retreat

Tue 16: Copeland PPT at venue TBC

Wed 17: Allerdale PPT at Paddle School

Thu 18: Workington PPT venue TBC

Tue 23: QM Club at lunchtime in Cockermouth School

Tue 23: Copeland PPT at St Mary's Kells School

Wed 24: QM Clubs at lunchtime in Whitehaven Academy

& Keswick School

Wed 24: Allerdale PPT at Fairfield School x 2 assemblies

KS1 and KS2

Thu 25: Thursday Club at lunchtime in Beacon Hill School

Thu 25: Workington PPT at Victoria Infants School

Mon 29 – Fri 2 June: Half Term

**Please pray for all our church partners in the weekly and  
monthly secondary clubs**

Mim Rainford, Rachel Philips, Alan Rainford, Itzel Herrera,  
Ian Harvie, Alison Riley, Adrian Thompson, Jenny Sloan,  
Fergus Pearson, Michael Sloan, Sudharshan Sarvananthan,  
and Darryl Boustead

## Hello from Primary Puppets

This school year seems to be flying by! Where does the time go? Our Easter assemblies are about to come to an end. It's been a busy term for the three teams with 26 schools visited! We've headed far and wide in our West Cumbrian patch, from the coast to the fells, from large schools to tiny rural schools. Primary schools, Infant schools, Junior schools, Faith schools to Community schools. The variety is amazing.

The children and staff [including teachers, teaching assistants, office staff, cleaners, kitchen staff, caretaker, parents and many others] are just some of the people we meet each week as we travel around the different schools. What a privilege it is to be able to visit these many and varied schools. Some of these schools we are able to build up even closer links, making our visits to them even more special.

So, after the Easter break, Allerdale team will be moving on to the 'Forgiveness' assembly for the Summer term as they have a few schools remaining who haven't seen this assembly yet. Copeland and Workington teams will return to our Assembly entitled 'We need each other'. We use a game where the children are encouraged to work together. This is followed by a non-verbal puppet play with the puppet called Sam and 3 tools! After a few questions about the play, we then move on to a Drama about 3 workers who are each special and different. Although they are good at different things they each work hard at what they are good at, and together, they make a huge difference. In the summing up we explain how we need each other to get things done, and how God makes each of us special and different, even if we don't actually feel special. We end with a puppet song. Interestingly, each team is using a different song for this! So together we can make a difference and be a beacon of light to all those we meet on our weekly visits into the schools of West Cumbria.

**Angela**

## Prayer Points

- Please pray for Allerdale team taking the 'Forgiveness' assembly into the remaining schools this term.
- Please also pray for Copeland and Workington teams as they take 'We need each other' back into schools for the term.
- We continue to ask God's guidance for the future of the puppet teams and the need to find new volunteers.
- Please keep praying for God's protection on the health of the team members and their families, and for safe travel on our roads.

### Primary Team Leaders

#### Allerdale Team

Maggie Cowles, 12 Harrot Hill, Cockermouth CA13 0BL

Tel: 01900 824466

#### Copeland Team

Angela Scotchbrook, 39 Carlton Drive, Whitehaven CA28 6XB

Tel: 01946 67298

#### Workington Team

Julie Bater, The Old Vicarage, Park End Road, Workington. CA14 4DG

Tel: 01900 68056



## ***West Cumbria – Schools Worker Vacancy***

The post is for at least 20 hours per week (and possibly slightly more) to be based in Workington and Whitehaven in both primary and secondary schools. You will have the joy of working in schools and alongside churches to share your faith and knowledge of God as well as encouraging those who choose to express their faith in God.

The post starts in September with potential opportunity to work in the previous term. If you think this might be for you, or for someone you know then further information can be found on the NISCU website at:-

<https://niscu.org.uk/vacancies/> or you can speak to any of the support group members or contact Lynn.



*Prayer*

*Breakfast*

*You are invited to come and pray  
for local children, young people,  
leaders and schools*

**8 - 9am**

On Thursday 27th April 2017 at

**Christ Church Rooms South Street  
Cockermouth CA13 9RU**

Please RSVP to [lynn.graham@niscu.org.uk](mailto:lynn.graham@niscu.org.uk)  
to book your breaky.

Hosted by NISCU West Cumbria



The NISCU West Cumbria schoolswork team would like to invite you to receive a brief weekly email for prayer and updates on the work as it happens. We are calling them "Butterfly emails" and we would love you to be a part of it.

Just click the link <http://eepurl.com/bw1smz> and follow the easy sign-up instructions.

Many thanks to you all for your valued prayers and partnership in God's wonderful work in our area from Lynn, the Primary Puppet Teams and NISCU West Cumbria Support Group.