

## General points

### Praise and thanks

- For the HOPE of the gospel that can shine out in these dark times.
- For four new members for the support group bringing a range of experience and expertise.
- For the technology that allows us to keep meeting and seeking God's vision for the way forward.
- For opportunities to love the schools being taken by our churches as they supply teachers with care packages.
- That **Lockdown doesn't equal locked out!** That there are lots of opportunities to be present in schools in all sorts of ways.

### Pleas please

- That we would always be ready to give a reason for the hope we have – and that our hope would be obvious enough to be 'question prompting' hope!
- For our support group as it adapts to a new chair and a new way of meeting, as it welcomes new members and looks to support our schools workers in very odd times.
- For our schools workers to place their identity in Jesus and not in how full their diaries are. And for them as they grapple with such new ways of working that are at times far away from what they feel are their strengths and are certainly way out of their comfort zone. May they deeply believe in God's power to multiply small offerings to feed many!
- For good communication with our supporters as we have to rethink some of our usual practices of getting news out to them. That our newsletter would get to everyone who is keen to hear from us.

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**FIND OUR RESOURCES FOR YOUR CHILDREN ON YouTube:** NISCU North Cumbria  
**AND ON Facebook** pages: NISCU North Cumbria • NISCU North Cumbria Puppet Team

# niscu

prayer pointers  
nov—dec 2020 coronavirus period  
Northern Inter Schools Christian Union | north cumbria

I am so encouraged and emboldened to remember that we are praying to our Lord who took five loaves and two fish and fed thousands with baskets left over.



With our schools workers feeling that what they can offer in this season is super limited by both the opportunities available and by their lack of experience in working in this very new way please can you join me in refreshing our commitment to cover them in prayer?

Jo

Johanna Boddam-Whetham, Support Group Chair



## PRAYER MEETING "IN YOUR HOME" Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November

We would love you to join our Zoom prayer meeting this coming Monday; lockdown needn't prevent you from coming!

**When** Monday 16th November, 7.30pm

**Place** Your own Zoom in your own home.

If you would like to join us please email Rachel Gleave and she will send you a link [rachel.gleave@niscu.org.uk](mailto:rachel.gleave@niscu.org.uk)

*You may be locked down but you aren't locked out: Join us in praying!*

### CARE AND ENCOURAGE

*An individual care package given by a Wigton church to encourage school staff. Maybe your church could do something similar for your local schools?*



To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be his holy people, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ – their Lord and ours:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus.

1 Corinthians 1:2—4 NIV



Schools worker Rachel

### *Praise and thanks*

- For the number of schools that we still have regular contact with (some in person and some virtually). So far this term I have visited 10 schools in some way (some real life, others virtually).
- Technology. I am not very technologically minded at all but it has been wonderful to be able to connect with schools via zoom/teams and even lead a harvest assembly from a distance.
- For the opportunities to encourage our schools (via emails) and be encouraged both by the excitement of pupils when they see me in school or emails from supporters.
- That God is the rock on which we stand! A firm foundation!

### *Pleas please*

- **Wisdom** on the best way to support schools in the lead up to Christmas, especially with so much uncertainty. Plans are in place already but this is usually a very busy season and things will have to be done very differently.
- **Health and safety** for our schools (and us) at this time. Over the ½ term we were hearing of many school bubbles bursting and many pupils and teachers needing to self-isolate.
- **Teachers** – this is an extremely challenging and stressful time for them, many are feeling under pressure with all the extra thinking and on a rollercoaster. Pray for God to help and strengthen them but also that we can help and support them in a meaningful way.
- For **Churches and church leaders** to feel equipped and able to offer support to schools in the lead up to Christmas, we may be very short of opportunities for Christmas services in churches which are often very busy so supporting the schools is a great way of them still hearing the Good News of Christmas.



Schools worker Hayley

### *Praise and thanks*

- **Thank God** there are still things we can do and ways we can share the gospel with schools and young people.
- **Thank God** for care packages to schools to show the staff just how loved and cared for they are.
- **Thank God** for people. People who pray, check in and ask 'how's it all going', and general support for each other.
- **Thank God** for an operation date for my husband Matt. It's been a hard road that is not over, but the timing of the operation can only have been brought about by God.

### *Pleas please*

- Pray that more churches will take up the care packages idea and more school staff can really feel like they are cared for in this time.
- Pray for more ways to be able to share the gospel. It's hard to know what to do and when to do it, so just guidance for that please.
- Pray for Matt's operation. It has been 12 months now we have lived with Matt's illness. Pray nothing stops the operation, pray for logistics, and most of all pray for a super-natural healing.



Puppet team

### *Praise and thanks*

- the puppeteers who have worked hard to produce some videos which can be used in primary schools as a classroom assembly.
- For being able to respond speedily to the request from James Rennie School to produce something for their Harvest.

### *Pleas please*

- Two assemblies being prepared on the theme "Jesus the light of the world". Most of the filming is complete for one on Bartimæus, but needs to be edited. Please pray for the ability to finish this well, which is more difficult in this time of extra lockdown.
- For the continued health of the puppeteers and their families, as some have health issues.