



Welcome to winter NISCU South Lakes newsletter. Our theme is 'gathering' and we open with a message from **Katy**:

This is the time of year we can share with children and young people in our schools what Christmas means to us as Christians. As John reveals - He is the word, light of the world, born among us, living and breathing in our neighbourhood, God's rescue plan, the ultimate breakthrough. I have been filled with joy by the opportunity to connect and 'gather' in different ways with children, young people, staff and local church face to face and online in the work recently. I hope you are filled with God's joy as you intentionally connect and 'gather in' to read this newsletter, watch the AGM clip, and pray into what God is doing in our midst right now.

***Life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. We write this to make our joy complete. 1 John 1: 1 - 4***

### Gathering all the Schools Workers' News together. . .

- Diana continued to send out the North Lancs dis-assemblies to all our Primary schools in South Lakes, which are gratefully received and enjoyed by many! One school recently emailed saying "We love the dis-assemblies"
- Diana led face to face lessons at Crosthwaite CE and St Thomas' CE on Justice; St Mark's CE school: Y2 Stories Jesus Told, Y4 Forgiveness, Y1 Stories about Jesus and Y6 Justice; Sedbergh CE Y6 Women in the bible lesson, and collective worship at Staveley CE 'God's love never changes'.
- Bee and Katy visited QES CU to reconnect with and support the sixth form students who have been leading for the last year.
- Diana prepared and sent out 35 Christmas Packs to our Primary schools, including a knitted camel for the early years. One school recently contacted us to thank us for all the resources sent over the last year - including the knitted donkey from the Easter packs - explaining that he lives on their reflection table.
- Katy led collective worship on the theme of 'Compassion' via Zoom for Staveley CE (as they were unable to invite visitors in that week) and face to face at St Oswald's.
- Diana and Katy visited Old Hutton CE to lead workshops as part of their whole school day themed on 'Courage'.
- The team have contributed to recording the Five Advent film clips which schools have received and will be able to share with their children leading up to Christmas.



**Bee says:** "I was humbled and inspired at the way Lydia and her fellow sixth formers led the CU at QES. It was lovely to see so many familiar faces, and new ones too. What an amazing group of students meeting together to learn more about Jesus."



**Diana says:** "I really enjoyed being back in schools last half term. I spent one day at St Mark's teaching various lessons which included a new lesson on justice and God's justice to year 6. I also visited another 2 schools with the Justice lesson and it was really surprising when I gave the children details from some past criminal cases how different the responses were. They had to put the cases in order of the most unjust to the most just. This led to some very interesting conversations and the children from all 3 schools had very different ideas." **Katy adds** "One of parents spoke to me at the school gate, sharing how animated her son was after the Justice lesson. She explained that it is really unusual for him to talk about school and they even prayed as a family about some of the issues he raised."

### Gathering resources for Christmas...

We are sending out the three online Christmas Camel lessons expertly put together by Debbie Green with some helpers! Christopher Camel's Christmas for EYFS; Bee and Christopher's Quick Lesson for Y2 and 3; and Christmas Camel confusion for Y4,5 and 6, which means those schools we are unable to visit this year to teach lessons will still have resources they can use with their children. You can see the resources following this link:

<https://niscu.org.uk/christmas-resources-2021/>



### What can Supporters do?

Now that you have read about the work, here are some ideas about what you can do to support NISCU South Lakes...



### Gather with us in prayer:

- That many children will know real joy as they engage with the Advent films, Camel Christmas lessons, dis-assemblies and puppets online, that they will come to know more of who Jesus really is this Christmas.
- Bless our young people in our Secondary schools, and pray that Christian staff and students will be guided in their daily walk being salt and light to their peers and colleagues.
- That staff teams in our schools will receive God's blessings of strength, compassion, peace, rest, and time to be still.
- For wisdom, clarity, protection and continuing of God's provision for all of us working at NISCU.
- God's grace will flow through our churches, supporters and the work of NISCU blessing into the lives of children and young people in South Lakes.

Don't forget that you can sign up to receive the regular Miracle Monday emails so that you will know what is happening week by week and can support the work in prayer. There are also regular Zoom prayer meetings that you can join in with. Please contact Katy if you'd like to know more.

### Support Group:

Alison Hughes (Chair), Pete Barfoot, Chris Norris, Mike Hattersley, Rachael Sutherland (Secretary) [rachaelsutherland@icloud.com](mailto:rachaelsutherland@icloud.com)



Find out more:

**Gather in and watch the South Lakes Annual Celebration** held on the 15th November. Watch it on the YouTube link (or contact us if you can't find it!) <https://youtu.be/sqKqJZTnxrg>

**Fundraise as you shop online:**

If you make purchases on Amazon, please use [smile.amazon](https://smile.amazon.com) and choose to support NISCU. Amazon donates 0.5% to us at no extra cost to you!

**Join the Support Group:**

We would love to welcome new members to our South Lakes Support Group. We meet regularly to pray for the work and support the schools workers. If you would like to find out more about what is involved, please contact Alison Hughes [avh.dev@gmail.com](mailto:avh.dev@gmail.com)

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