



NORTH LANCS





"Do you not know that
IN A RACE ALL THE
RUNNERS RUN, BUT ONLY
ONE RECEIVES THE PRIZE?
SO RUN THAT YOU MAY
OBTAIN IT."

1 Corinthians 9:24



Carrying the flame

Looking back on this academic year, it has been another amazing time of growing and persevering, and seeing God move in so many ways. This term we had our annual Week of Vision and Prayer, during which we travelled across our area visiting schools and churches, and carried a flame with



us, reminding us that God's Spirit is with us wherever we go! We passed by 40 schools and prayed with over 1000 students and staff. We were also joined with loads of wonderful niscu supporters along the way, another reminder that we don't do this work alone but in partnership. You, too, carry God's Spirit and by reading this newsletter, praying, giving or whatever else you do, are helping this amazing work to continue! Thank you!

Jonny









Everything we do begins in prayer - here are some ways you can support us in it!

Monthly Prayer Meetings:

Garstang, Forton and South Lancaster, contact us for dates & venues. Or talk to us about starting one where you live!

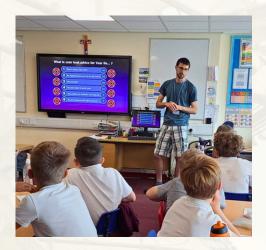
For more prayer points sign up for our Miracle Monday email! Or invite a niscu worker to visit your church or prayer meeting! We would love to come and share!



Playing by the rules

A new lesson for me this term has been one called Rules for Living. In it, children consider which world they would prefer to live in – one where everyone keeps the Ten Commandments, or one where they don't. They all agree that God's rules show a much better way of living.

In a race or contest, of course, everyone has to play by the rules or they're disqualified and don't win the prize. The same applies to living God's way, but as Christians we are so grateful that Jesus made a way for us to claim his victory even though we fail ourselves! **Sarah**



This year we will visit 36
Year 6 classes (meeting more than 600 students)
to encourage them with practical and spiritual wisdom ahead of their move to High School!

Passing the Baton

The Summer Term is filled with lots of Y6 'Moving Up' lessons where we play games and have discussions about High School, as well as hear the Bible story of Joseph and think about how events in his rollercoaster life shaped his future.

I have taught many of these children since they were in Reception classes and have seen how they have grown in their faith journeys. I encourage them that as they leave Primary School and move up to High School they should not leave their faith behind but find like minded people when they get there, and continue 'running the race'. I signpost them to Jonny who will take the baton and be available in High schools to support those children who want to connect by inviting them to Drop In clubs and Christian Unions.



Please pray that these young people will keep learning about our wonderful God and that we will be able to support them right through their time in school!

Diana

Persevering

Perseverance is important – it means that we keep going, even when we don't want to. We may be tired, or have lost interest – but when we persevere in something we have committed to, then wonderful fruit is won: whether that be something material we can physically hold, a sense of accomplishment and fulfilment, or for niscu, seeing lives transformed.

Perseverance is a character trait that is built through practice, and setbacks. When we overcome the challenging times by persevering through, we grow our character. Dancing is a wonderful place I myself and many others have learnt perseverance and grown our character. Getting to share God's good news and encourage children to persevere is wonderfully rewarding!

Holly

"I HAVE FOUGHT THE GOOD FIGHT, I HAVE FINISHED THE RACE, I HAVE KEPT THE FAITH."

2 TIMOTHY 4:7





SCOREBOARD



- 2023-2024 -

Visits/sessions - 552 (Increase of 62 from 2022-23) Schools - 57 (out of 75)

Assemblies - 75 (in 40 schools)
Clubs - 229 (in 12 schools)
Lessons - 241 (in 50 schools)
Other - 7

Students who have been in at least 1 niscu session - 6000+

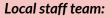
Support from the sidelines

We're so grateful for all the support and encouraging comments we get that help us to keep going. Comments like these:

"This Annual Celebration was the best one ever!" "Thank you for coming into school this afternoon and talking to the children. You have such a lovely manner with the children. They really enjoyed your session."

"Thank you for all you do at Jam Club. My son loves it and he talks a lot about what he has learned."

"Thank you for our assembly today. We really appreciate your visits to school and you certainly gave the children something to think about."



Jonny Bayes jonny.bayes@niscu.org.uk

Diana Stopczynski diana.stop@niscu.org.uk

Sarah Dodd sarahjdodd@talktalk.net Holly Wood holly.wood@niscu.org.uk

Abi Andrews abi.andrews@niscu.org.uk

Support Group:
Alex Fearnhead (chair)
alex.fearnhead@btinternet.com

Steve Elliott, Lisa Huddlestone, Jacob Lees, Helen Simmons



How to contact us:

Central Office:

Amanda Conner admin@niscu.org.uk NISCU 57 Lancaster Rd, Carnforth, LA5 9LE (address for giving).

Any cheques sent for North Lancs need to say "NISCU" on the front and "North Lancs" on the **back**. Thank you very much.