



In association with
Scripture
union

Christians and Sheffield Schools
connecting ● encouraging ● resourcing

Summer Term 2013

“My purpose is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Jesus” Colossians 2:2

This Bible verse fits well with the CaSS purpose of **connecting**, **encouraging** and **resourcing** schools, and all those who work and study in them, with the ‘mystery of God, namely, Jesus’.

I recently received an email from a parent who runs a school prayer group. She felt after praying for me, and therefore CaSS, that I was like an ‘armour bearer’. Intrigued I did some research - ‘In the Bible armour-bearers were aides chosen by kings and high-ranking military commanders. As their name indicates, they did bear armour, but they were usually much more - roughly equivalent to modern-day adjutants or aides-de-camp. They needed to be brave and loyal’. I imagine armour bearers communicated encouragement, and of course they vitally resourced those that they served.

Please pray for CaSS and our armour bearing role to Christians working in the schools of our city. Pray for us as we communicate encouragement and bear useful and necessary resources to those in battle. Pray for us that we might be brave and loyal to those we serve.

This mailing includes a CaSS prayer diary for the Summer Term. CaSS loves to receive school related prayer requests to include in the diary – please send yours! Praying for work in schools across the city is part of our providing protecting armour.

During this last short term I have been busy planning for the first CaSS conference. I hope this will be a time of connecting or networking, as well as an opportunity to encourage each other. CaSS particularly hopes the conference will be a time of resourcing for all those who work in,

visit or have a concern for schools. We feel the conference is part of CaSS' armour bearing role to those working in Sheffield Schools.

The conference will be on Saturday 8th June at The Wilson Carlile Centre (Church Army), Cavendish Street, Sheffield from 10am – 3pm. The cost is £20 (needed to cover our costs) and will include lunch, two free coffees and a choice of 3 workshops!

The keynote speaker is the inspirational Bible story teller, Bob Hartman (author of many books including Bible Baddies and the Lion Storyteller Bible, President of Open the Book) There will be a wide range of workshops with a 'How to do in schools' flavour with, for example Prayer Spaces in Schools, Open the Book (with Julie Jefferies the national trainer) Godly Play (with Kathryn Lord) Huw Thomas (Diocesan Director of Education) Pray for Schools, Bob Hartman, Scripture Union etc.

There will also be a marketplace where you can purchase resources and a number of stalls, providing a chance for delegates to find out about and talk to various organisations who work in schools. Each delegate will be given a free pack of useful information and helpful contacts.

CaSS has two volunteer Events Management students from Hallam University who will give me some assistance with planning the conference until June.

Please consider coming on the conference and spreading the word about it in your churches or schools. I have enclosed a poster/flier with this mailing. I am of course very happy to supply you with more copies.

CaSS' work of meeting and encouraging people across the city has continued. For example, I enjoyed meeting Huw Thomas (Diocesan director of Education) one very snowy day and telling him about the work of CaSS. He was very supportive. Hearing about Methodist Nick Waterfield's work in schools in Parson's Cross was another highlight – we hope to encourage prayer links between those concerned for Chaucer School and Tapton School to mirror the links occurring as Tapton Head David Bowes and other staff have input in both schools.

CaSS has joined facebook – do like us, friend us and write on our wall!

Fiona Walton, CaSS Office, 291 Abbeydale Road, Sheffield, S7 1FJ

CaSS is the work of the Sheffield Schools Christian Worker Trust

E-mail: fiona.walton@cass-su.org.uk ● Tel: 0114 249 5343 ● Mob: 0781 285 5332 ● Web: www.cass-su.org.uk

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