

## **SUMMER 2025**

# NEWSLETTER

# ACROSS ALL GENERATIONS

As I shared at our Easter Celebration, one of the lines that stood out for me in the Easter Play was "We don't have to travel across history to find God – He comes looking for us in the Person of Jesus – His love and forgiveness goes **across all generations** ..."

This is relevant to us in a number of ways. The fact that CRiBS has been in schools for over 30 years means that children, and potentially over the next few years grandchildren, of those impacted by CRiBS in their younger years are now also experiencing CRiBS in schools! **The message hasn't changed** as we still seek to share the **Good News** of the light, love and life of Jesus with children and young people through all the different activities that we undertake with schools.

One of our ambassadors has shared her testimony with us of the impact of CRiBS when she was at school and it's wonderful that she is now actively representing and advocating the work of CRiBS. My own children have been able to see CRiBS in their primary schools and my son, who is now working and married, and has just become a father, is now a supporter of CRiBS.

Can I, therefore, **encourage you** in two ways... if you have children or grandchildren, maybe you could invite them to become CRiBS supporters, particularly if they have experienced CRiBS in their school life? If not family, then maybe you have friends who you can invite to become CRiBS supporters?

As we develop **generations of supporters** so we can help to ensure the continued ministry of CRiBS to this and future **generations of children** in our schools...

Thank you for your continued support, and as the Elevation Worship song "The Blessing" says – 'May His favour be upon you, and a thousand generations, and your family and your children, and their children' Amen

Paul (CRiBS Director)

### **PRAYER POINTS**

- For God to impact the staff, children and young people in schools in Bexley Borough and beyond
- For school bookings for academic year 2025/2026
- For more volunteer mentors to join the secondary school Unlimited Team
- For churches and individuals' support of CRiBS



## SEEING CHANGE

"Heartsense has taught me to stop and do the heartsense exercise and not to shout at people and let it out at them"



### UNLIMITED

"CRiBS works with some of our hardest to reach and [most] vulnerable students. Their calm and friendly approach and consistent support has helped students overcome a number of anxieties and improved their school attendance

The fact that CRiBS is not time-limited means we can support students for longer than many other services and this has proved to be very beneficial for the students whose problems are going to be ongoing. Every student who has been supported by CRiBS has shown increased confidence and started to talk a bit more about their feelings.

CRiBS now feels like an essential and important part of our pastoral support team and we value the service very much."

**Local secondary school Deputy Safeguarding Lead** 

#### **RE LESSONS**



Carole teaching the Creation story

In recent lessons with Year 4, children were asking great questions, such as "Why did Jesus die?", "How did Jesus come back to life?", "When was the Bible written?" and the questions keep coming...

Amusingly, when a Reception class was asked "What did God do on the 7th day of creation?" one reply was "He went to a ballet class…" Teaching Christianity in schools, sharing Bible truths with children, from the ages of 2 - 11 years, is a privilege that we don't take lightly! Topics are taught over a number of weeks, allowing us to really unpack each subject.

Our time in school is also a good opportunity to connect with staff and, on occasions, be able to pray with them. In many schools we really feel part of their community.

"The children adored the CRiBS team and enjoyed the learning. I feel their knowledge of Christianity has developed greatly." Year 3 Teacher

INSPIRED \* CREATIVE \* RELEVANT

CRIBS IS A REGISTERED CHARITY REGISTERED IN THE UK 1122295



#### SUPPORTING SCHOOLS SINCE

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to donate to cribs use the qr code or visit www.cribsonline.org/donate







#### THANK YOU!

The day of the London Landmarks Half Marathon was glorious! The sun shone, supporters were out in their thousands, as were 15,000 runners! Thank you to Paul, Christian, Andrew and Katie for taking part to raise monies for CRiBS. It's not too late to support the team's efforts. Scan the QR code to donate, or make a bank transfer ref: LLHM25. Interested in running the LLHM 2026? Get in touch.

Thank you to all who attended our Easter Celebration. It was great to have so many of our supporters join us as we shared about our work, and performed the Easter play. We were honoured by the attendance of the chaplain for the Mayor of Bexley Borough, Paul Weston, who was joined by his wife Paula (see right). It was also an opportunity to thank the hosts of this year's CRiBS Koru Gap Year students. Our Koru students have been a blessing to CRiBS, their host churches and families. Emely has returned home and Smilla is with us for one more month.



At the Easter Celebration

Do you know a young person who would like to consider having a Koru Gap Year with CRiBS? More information can be found via the QR code on the advert (see bottom right).



#### EASTER PLAY

Thank you for your prayers for the Easter play tour. Between the two teams we travelled over 300 miles, visiting 37 schools, performing 44 times, all in 8 days! As always, we are so thankful for the opportunity we have to share the Good News message of Easter to over 12,500 pupils and staff, in schools of Bexley Borough and beyond!

We thank God for the impact that CRiBS lessons, wellbeing sessions, and productions have on children. Comments from adults who recall CRiBS in their schools, when they were younger, remind us of the long-lasting impact!



Thank you to St Peter's,

a lovely day to be outside!

Hextable for supporting CRiBS

at their recent plant sale! What

Easter Play tour: 37 schools, 44 performances, 8 days, 2 teams, performed to over 12,500 pupils and staff

"Thank you for bringing the Easter story alive for us. It was very special and is one of the things the children mention when asked about their school memories when they prepare to leave Year 6."

RE Coordinator



#### **YES PLEASE:**

- Gold or Silver Jewellery
- Watches
- Stamps
- Costume Jewellery
- Bank notes & coins
   First Pay Covers
- First Day Covers
- Mobile phones
- CamerasVideo cameras
- Sat Navs
- Electronic gaming devices
- iPods/MP3 players
- iPods/MP3 players Tablet Computers

#### No thank you:

- Toners
- Laptops
- Home phonesFax machines
- Pux muchineDVD players
- Printers
- Modems or routers
- Kitchen appliances
- Porcelain or glass items
- Personal Grooming (straighteners, razors, hairdryers etc)

A big thank you to all those who've already donated unwanted items to us for recycling.

# CRIBS GAP YEAR PROGRAMME Join a thriving christian schools work charity for a year out to remember. Be challenged, grow spiritually and learn new skills as you serve children and young people in South-East London and Kent. Accommodation provided with a host church family. Full training given. Find out more - scan the QR code below.







#### WWW.CRIBSONLINE.ORG \* INFO@CRIBSONLINE.ORG