

Dear BSC Friends

We hope that you're well and enjoying the summer with the increased freedoms that we now have! At the end of this challenging academic year, we want to say a huge 'thank you' to you for your support for BSC. We also give thanks to God for all that He has been doing in and through us this year. When the pandemic struck and schools closed, we couldn't imagine what the BSC year would look like but were reassured by a prayerful word shared with us: "Don't worry, God will have things for you to do!" And He did! Here are a few highlights. We have so much to give thanks for. God has guided, inspired, encouraged and provided for us in wonderful ways. Please use this update to join us in giving thanks to our incredible God, and to ask for His continued leading next year. Thank you for being part of the BSC journey - we couldn't do it without your support!

With love and thanks
Jane, Liz and the BSC Trustees

New Resources



It was amazing to have the time to develop two new resources from scratch. We had felt for some time that we wanted to provide Christmas and Easter resources that would be easy for churches with smaller congregations and less resources to offer to their local primary schools. It was time for something simple, fun and fresh! Our 'Christmas in a Box' and 'Easter in a Box' resources met this need and met the necessary Covid-safe standards of last year.

For each resource, we put 8 boxes together and gave them to some of our friends in less resourced churches. We hosted 4 online training sessions for each resource – around 200 people from all over the UK attended – and then waited to see what would happen!

'Christmas in a Box' was presented in at least 17 schools - 14 of which are in the Bristol region - in total reaching over 1,000 children. 'Easter in a Box – The Movie' was presented in at least 22 schools, 11 of which are in the Bristol area. It was trialled as far away as Northumberland and Guernsey! We received some great feedback:

Teacher: *It fits in perfectly with [our] curriculum...we would love for this to become a regular fixture.*

Church Volunteer: *It's been a beautiful resource to prepare and gift to the schools. The thinking behind the characters and boxes as well as the response opportunities for children have been very special.*

Pupil: *I've learnt something! It's real, Jesus is real! He's really real!*

We also received lots of helpful ideas on how to tweak the resources for the relaunch next academic year. We are currently creating an area on our website where these resources can be viewed and downloaded free of charge. We are so thankful that, during this difficult year for churches and schools, many hundreds of children experienced this new resource.

Please pray for the re-launch of these resources in the next academic year.

We are grateful for the churches and individuals who gave to support CIAB and EIAB this academic year. As in 2020, we are hoping to be able to provide 6-8 'Christmas in a Box' kits for less resourced churches, as well as refreshing the boxes we gave away last year. Each box costs around £300 to produce. **If you or your church would like to sponsor a box, or part of a box, we'd love to hear from you!**

BSC Supporter Events



We really enjoyed hosting two Zoom prayer sessions with our supporters and friends. Thank you to those who attended. It's such a joy to share and pray with you! We will run more of these 30-minute sessions in the next academic year.

Save the Date



We are planning to host a cream team event for our supporters in Bristol on the afternoon of **Sunday 26th September**. This will be a chance to catch up, share vision, hear stories, and pray together. Please put the date in your diary – we would LOVE you to be there!



Re-imagining Church

As things have begun to open up over the last few months, we've enjoyed re-connecting with some of our BSC friends in churches across the city and connecting with new friends. We're excited to restart or begin new conversations about how churches can connect with their local schools and community. We have sensed a call to inspire churches to re-imagine what church looks like in this new season, and to see connecting with schools as a key part of what church is. **Please pray that BSC will continue to play a role in stirring the church to re-imagine itself.**

TLG Early Intervention Programme

We have continued to network with organisations across the Bristol region and beyond which chime in with the vision of BSC. We've been working with a small group of leaders to promote the TLG Early Intervention programme. This programme enables volunteers from a church to offer one-to-one mentoring for children in their local school who are struggling – academically, emotionally or in other ways. This mentoring makes a huge difference in the lives of these children. **Please pray that more churches will run TLG Early Intervention in their local schools across Bristol.**