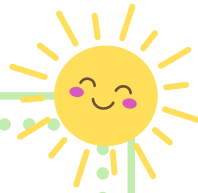


Impact

SUMMER 2026 Newsletter



Thoughts from Jane Spencer, Chair of Impact

'Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say 'Rejoice!'
Philippians Ch 4 V 4

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

As we end the academic year and begin to enjoy the summer holidays, IMPACT can rejoice and give thanks for a remarkable year.

Join with us in giving thanks for:

- Becky and Trish, thanking God for restored health for Trish, and for the strength Becky was given to manage IMPACT commitments whilst Trish was on medical leave. Please pray for good rest and health for them both over the summer.
- New churches and schools that have come on board, or re-opened their doors to IMPACT this year. May the children and staff in those schools and churches be blessed. We give thanks for our Church Champions (including a brand new one this month!), who ensure IMPACT's work is supported by prayer, volunteers and fundraising efforts.
- New, and our ever faithful, volunteers who have been involved in the live events, RE workshops in schools, lunch clubs, prayer events, assemblies and our new John Bunyan workshops (recently trialled in preparation for the celebrations in 2028 of the 400th anniversary of John Bunyan's birth).
- The generosity of those who give their time and energy freely, or give financially to IMPACT's work. From individual and church gifts, coffee mornings, donating personal expense claims, contributing to IYM (It's Your Move) booklets or climbing Snowdon (!), the charity has benefitted greatly enabling our work to continue.

It's been quite a year! It started with concerns and has ended with celebration.

We give glory to God for his goodness!

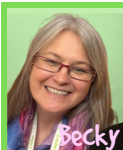


I have personally experienced health challenges this year but through it all I have been deeply grateful for God's goodness and faithfulness. The summer term has been a particularly productive one. I've had the privilege of leading school assemblies, piloting a new John Bunyan RE workshop with Becky, and delivering It's Your Move sessions with Year 6 pupils as they prepare for the transition to secondary school. My assemblies this term have explored the themes of *What is Valuable?* and *Courage Through Change*, encouraging children to reflect on

what truly matters and how they can face life's changes with confidence and hope.

For our It's Your Move sessions, we ran some prayer spaces but also wanted to try something a little different this year. We developed a new resource featuring interactive stations based around the themes of Changes, Choices, Challenges and Your Memories. These creative stations gave Year 6 pupils the opportunity to reflect on their primary school journey, think about the transition ahead and explore their thoughts and feelings through prayer in an engaging and meaningful way. It has been a joy to see how thoughtfully the children responded to these activities.





As has already been said by Jane and Trish, this year was as busy as ever with some really exciting new activities taking place as well as the old favourites, such as Live Nativity and Easter Experience. Looking at our statistics for this year, it has been amazing to see that across the year we have worked with nearly 6900 children (and that doesn't include those we worked with at Lifepath John Newton). What an absolute honour and privilege!

Prayer Points



Please pray for:

- the children and staff in schools to have fun and stay safe this summer
- for healing for vicars and minsters who are unwell
- provision of another Trustee to share governance of the charity
- a Bedford church who can offer ground floor space where our workers can work together and store resources
- our grant applications to be successful this Autumn

And for next year

- We will be taking on the responsibility for running Lifepath John Bunyan in Elstow next year - a joy, but lots to pray for, plan and prepare!



Put these on your calendar now!



Our next Church Champions meeting will be on **Wednesday 9th September, 12pm - 1pm at Priory Methodist Church.**

If you are not already a Church Champion but are interested to find out more please do join us at that meeting.

To mark *National Day of Prayer for Schools* Priory Methodist Church are kindly allowing us to use their church to run a special Prayer Space that we will be inviting you to drop into throughout **Wednesday 9th September 2026.**

More details will be sent out later in the summer but for now please put the date in your diary.



We will be holding a thank you lunch for all our amazing volunteers and Church Champions on **Tuesday 23rd February 2027.**

Invites with more information will be sent out next academic year but please save the date as we would love you to be able to celebrate with us.



A message from Jackie Vickers, Impact Treasurer.

Colossians 3:17 says

"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

We have much to be thankful for:

- Your generosity sponsoring John's hike up Snowdon/ Yr Wyddfa to celebrate his 80th birthday
- Continued support from a number of churches and individuals regularly giving to the work of Impact through standing orders
- Occasional giving from other churches and individuals
- More gift aid being reclaimed this year than previously which is down to your generosity

We are half way through our financial year and I can share that we are in a very positive situation so thank you!

www.impactbedford.org.uk

Bedford Area Schools Christian Support Trust
(Registered charity number 1010412)

Impact