

Impact

Autumn term 2025 Newsletter



“The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few. Pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest” (Matthew 9:37-38).

A message from the Chair of Trustees, Jane Spencer.

We were all deeply saddened to hear of the death of Jo Ann Gaunt just before the end of the summer term. It was a great privilege to have known Jo Ann and worked with her. I know I speak for many who had enjoyed volunteering or working with Jo at Impact, and we continue to thank God for her life and pray for her husband Steve and family.

Jo Ann's Thanksgiving service was packed, with so many people who loved her attending. Many spoke of how she had encouraged, taught and cared for them. It was a moving and inspiring service in which her life, lived to the full for the Lord, was celebrated.

Becky and Trish continue with many of the ideas that Jo worked on, and they have also championed new approaches, developing what Impact does to support our schools. We give thanks to God for the work that Becky and Trish do. Their energy and excitement about the way young children, and staff, respond to live events and sessions in schools is infectious! We are also blessed to have so many volunteers and supporters who offer their time to support Impact's work. We now have 100 volunteers on our 'books, have 25 churches who have volunteers working with us, and have gained 14 church champions in just a year! With over 44 schools engaging with us, over 5000 children and staff heard about Christianity in one academic year! The workers are doing a great job and are busy people!

However, the words of Jesus in Matthew 9:37-38 remind us all to pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers to do his work. These words are especially poignant for Impact in the term ahead. Trish will be taking some medical leave from September 23rd and we will be praying earnestly for her treatment and healing. We will also be praying earnestly for Becky, and for all the volunteers who are lined up to support her, as she continues Impact's work while Trish is on leave. We trust that God will continue to bless Impact's work, but we do ask you to pray this term for our workers in particular. Please also give praise to God and give thanks to Him for the generosity of volunteers and supporters who will help the work continue and the term ahead to be one of harvest.

To encourage you as you pray I am delighted to tell you that It's Your Move assemblies and Lifepath at Elstow went very well, and we already have three new schools engaging with Impact and two new volunteers since term started two weeks ago!

A message from Trish Becky and I had a great time sharing the 'It's Your move' assemblies with so many children who were moving schools just before the summer. It has been a joy to be asked to meet with some of these young people who are now in Year 7. Transition is a big step for the children we meet; please hold them in your prayers as they get used to their new schools and classes.



I have been busy setting up things for the term ahead so that 'my' schools will have support from Impact while I am on medical leave. With so many great volunteers who have offered to help already please pray we can keep as many events as possible for the children this term. Thanks.

A message from Becky Despite Trish and I needing to think hard about how we might manage time for schools this term, and with thoughts for Trish being at the forefront of my prayers, it has been a positive start to the year.



Our Creation workshops are getting booked up. Many of those who volunteered last year have offered to help with these workshops again, which is great!

We have a slightly revised plan for the workshops, based on what we learnt last year and we think this will make them even better for the children! We are looking forward to more amazing questions from the children about creation.

Looking ahead...

Here are some of the things the workers have planned for the next few months.

Please remember to keep them in your prayers as they plan and prepare for these events and activities.

Live Nativity:
1st-5th
of December

Creation RE
workshops:
September & October

Church Champions: next
get together - October 7th
Invitation coming soon!

Christmas activity
sessions: 8th-18th
December



Christian lunch clubs:
Ongoing through the term
ahead.



You tube link and Facebook!

Want to be encouraged! Just out - the new video, summarising the work that took place during the 2024-25 school year. You can view it [here](#).

Remember you can also be an Impact friend on Facebook! 'Impact Bedford' has it's own Facebook group, where we regularly post photos, videos, updates, events and hear good news from us. The workers are always encouraged by comments or 'likes' people give, so do feel free to add your comments and 'likes' for them!



Points for Prayer

As mentioned above Trish will be taking some medical leave this term. Please pray for her treatment to go smoothly and to plan, and that her healing and recovery thereafter will be full and complete. Please thank God for the skills of those treating her. May she and her family know the comfort of the Holy Spirit during this time.

Please pray for Becky to be able to balance her time wisely and to be well supported by the trustees, volunteers, her church and family. May she also know the comfort of the Holy Spirit during this time.

Impact

A message from Jackie Vickers, Impact Treasurer.



We have been greatly blessed to receive a legacy left to us by a volunteer. The Trustees are very grateful for this generosity towards Impact.

Should you wish to consider this yourself and wish to know more about leaving a legacy for Impact, it is much easier than you might imagine! You just mention our legal name, Bedford Area Schools Christian Support Trust, and our Charity Commission number (1010412) in your will, and those managing your will, will do the rest! A legacy really helps protect the ongoing work of the charity to keep reaching those 5000 young people mentioned above.

We pray that, of the 25 churches who support us so well with volunteers or hosting our events, more will consider donating regularly to Impact. Ten of our supporting churches currently do this, which is great!. Please contact me if you wish to know more about how your church could consider regular giving.

We continue to give thanks for all of our supporters who give financially themselves, and we couldn't do what we do without you!



We would love to see our Church Champions again to encourage them and thank them for all they are doing to support Impact. We are aiming to provide the booklets for the children at the Live Nativity again this term by holding small fundraising events in our churches. If you don't have a Church Champion at your church yet, don't panic- all is not lost! You are very welcome to come and hear more when we meet for a catch up and cuppa on October 7th. (Details of time and location will be emailed out next week). Please email chair@impactbedford.org.uk if you would like to know more.

Live Nativity: If you haven't already volunteered to help with this event, Trish will be delighted to hear from you soon (before late September please if possible).

If you are able to help with stewarding or refreshments even better! Thanks.



www.impactbedford.org.uk

Bedford Area Schools Christian Support Trust

(Registered charity number 1010412) in association with Scripture Union).

Impact