



A strange year... full of many blessings



Message from the trustees

The trustees would like send our sincere festive greetings to you all, our very special followers. We have been so blessed to have your faithful support throughout what has been a very challenging year for everyone.

No one has escaped the difficulties that COVID 19 has handed us but here at ICE it has also brought us blessings we could not have anticipated.

Having said "farewell" to Ed in February we were delighted that Doug stepped into his shoes inheriting what has been a very different job as Secondary Lead Worker; Karen has increased her role and become integral to the

smooth running of the team (and kept the trustees on the ball!). Our wonderful Primary duo , Anne-Marie and Sally have excelled in keeping connected with their schools by using their creative and technological skills and Harry has helped them all by bringing in his considerable IT and production skills. To the team.

We are so grateful to all of them for their positivity and enthusiasm during these dark days of 2020, and how they continued to bring the hope of Jesus to the young people of our city.

Please keep them in your prayers as we move into a New Year.

God Bless you all

Sue and the Trustees

Dates for your diary

ICE AGM- **Wednesday
10th February 2021
7:15pm** on Zoom.

Meeting ID: 837 6268
0312. Passcode: 969302.

Statistics

3,973

views on our YouTube
channel

99

videos on our YouTube
channel



Primary Schools Team Update

In September, Anne-Marie and I rejoiced at the opportunity to work together in person again. To be back in the office was refreshing, and reminded us how much we appreciate the team that God has given us. We felt encouraged and spurred on, which was great because it was now time to begin problem solving the challenges the next term had in store. Though schools had begun to open again, life was not back to normal. We knew that it would be unsafe for us to work in person, travelling between schools as we had done before. So we needed to come up with a solution... Enter the ICE Menu!

We decided to create a weekly 'menu' of resources that teachers could pick

and choose from every week. We know that different children find different ways of learning helpful so we wanted to reflect that in our work. In each menu, teachers can find an assembly video, downloadable worksheet and song recommendation to share with their class. Then, there are optional extras too! We began creating an 'ICE Variety Show' to lighten spirits during a hard year - a series of silly games to remind us that God created laughter and fun. ICE Craft videos to speak to those children who like to get creative with their hands.

Although we have missed working with pupils and teachers in person, this term has been a creative and enjoyable one.

Learning new skills has been restorative and has given us both tools to help us share God's love with young people. We've had the chance to appreciate teamwork, as before our diaries were so full we wouldn't get to work together as much. We've had time to reflect on God's word together more and seek Him for guidance for the future of ICE. I don't know what 2021 will bring, but I'm looking forward to drawing all these new lessons into our work when we can return to schools. Though the circumstances have been hard, they have been transformative and a chance to refresh our ministry. So, I'm getting excited for the future and to see everything that God has in store for us!

Secondary Schools Team Update

“ On the 12th March I was sitting in St Peter's school Christian Union, preparing for a mission event we were going to run in the week before the Easter holidays. When one of the children asked, "What are we going to do if the school closes?" I laughed. The idea that the school could close was preposterous to me. Then, as those days in that fateful week rolled in, I was sitting in the Christian Union again, this time talking through what was about to happen.

Like lots of people, I thought this was going to be over by September and that we would be able to return to our ministry as

normal. This has not been the case and through a tough learning experience most of our ministry is now online. Yet, God's goodness has shone through even in this pandemic. Pre-lockdown, we worked in two secondary schools, yet now we are working in four. Our videos have allowed us to have a far greater reach than ever before. We have been able to work with Cranbrook school for the first time, providing them with Thought for the Week videos and assemblies. These videos reach more than 600 young people every week, challenging them to consider the big questions of life.

"Your videos continue to go down so well. Thank you so much!!" - Sarah, Head of values - Cranbrook school

A video assembly we did in October went out to three secondary schools, meaning it was seen by more than 1,000 pupils. We are hoping to double this number for our Christmas assemblies. We are also developing ways we can make our videos more engaging like our 'dairy-milk-do-you-remember challenge' and 'Countdown to Christmas Competition'.

Furthermore, we are doing in-person assemblies where schools have allowed. It has been wonderful to have



some interaction with young people again and bring the good news of Jesus to them face to face. We have sadly been unable to re launch any of our lunch clubs in school, but we are looking to trial a covid-secure lunch club in one of our secondary schools in the new year.

Exeter College Christian Union

The Christian Union at Exeter College is back up and running again too, meeting both in person in a covid-secure space and over Zoom when necessary. The students and their leaders are doing amazing work on how to evangelise

and serve their fellow students in these strange times.

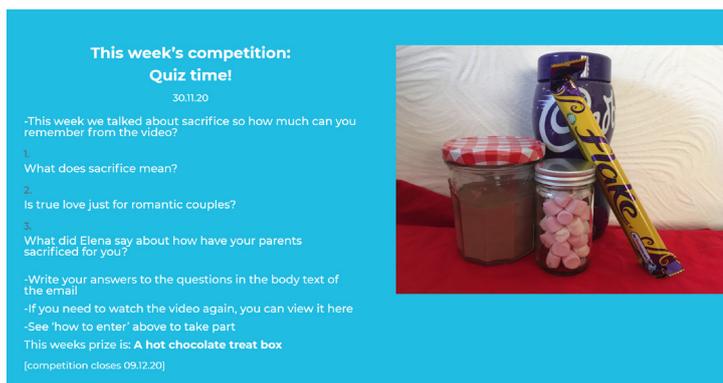
TLG Mentoring

In November last year, ICE teamed up with Transforming Lives for Good (TLG), a national church based mentoring charity working with vulnerable children all over the UK. We organise mentors from local churches to spend one hour a week with a child who is struggling at home or at school. These mentors act as a friend and guide, building their mentees self-confidence and equipping them with the tools they

need to succeed in life.

Although lockdown put a pause on this project, as of November this year our first mentoring session took place in West Exe. Three other mentors are also hoping to start before Christmas, both there and in St James, with a further six mentors starting in the new year.

If you are interested in mentoring or partnering with us in our secondary school ministry in some way, I would love to chat with you. You can email me at doug.owen@icetrust.co.uk



Secondary School Competition Time



Judging the salt dough for the Primary Variety Show

Message from Karen Silcox Charity administrator

I hope this newsletter finds you well. In this newsletter Sally, Ann-Marie and Doug will share with you the successes of this term. Even though we have had to work very differently, we have still been able to support schools across the city. Personally, I have taken on a slightly different role within ICE. I am now

the Charity Administrator. This role takes my existing finance position and adds day to day support of our staff team.

So this term I have upgraded our broadband connection, reviewed our safeguarding documents and processes, ordered new lanyards for the PAIS interns and supported the trustees with creating a Covid safe working environment.

We have also completed a new supporter video. This is a 2 minute video highlighting the work of ICE.

We long for more churches to hear about our work and we hope to use this video to bring awareness of our work to more and more people.

Details of how you can help with this will come in the New Year.



Learn more about all our Projects at:
www.icetrust.co.uk

How can I support ICE?

There are many ways to get involved with the work of ICE. Please have a look at the boxes below, mark any that are of interest to you, fill in your details and return the card to the team. We'll be in touch soon.

Practical

Working in Schools

- I would like to volunteer with the Primary team.
- I would like to volunteer with the secondary team.

Supporting in Church

- I would like to become a Church Representative, and tell others about ICE.

Spiritual

Praying for ICE

I would like to pray for ICE. Please send me:

- ICE Prayer email
- ICE Newsletter
- Information about the monthly prayer meeting.

Financial

Making a Gift

- I would like to make a one-off gift to ICE.
- I would like to make a regular gift to ICE.
- I would like to know more about ways in which I can support ICE financially.

My Address:

Phone: **Email:**

Please send to: Exeter ICE Trust | Riverside Centre, 13-14 Okehampton St, Exeter. EX4 1DU
01392 411116 | office@icetrust.co.uk | Reg charity: 1071619 | Reg. Company No: 03597082