

NEWSLETTER

SAVE THE DATE

Monday 20th June 2022 at Vazon Elim Church at 7.00pm

PACE’s AGM will be taking place in June and we would really encourage you to come along. We will be discussing the future of PACE’s work and what the team will look like come September 2022. We hope that you will stand with us in prayer as we seek God’s vision for the future of this amazing work.

EASTER IN A BOX

After the success of Christmas in a Box, we took on the new project of Easter in a Box: The Movie. Very similar to Christmas in a Box, this lesson uses 6 boxes to go through the Easter story. The twist to this is it’s in the style of a movie! Each box is a scene and introduces the characters as the cast, the props to set the scene and a clapperboard to start and end the scene. Box 1 introduces the Movie with a trailer, drawing the audience into the upcoming drama, sadness and excitement before we start on the first scene in Box 2 - Palm Sunday. We set the scene with the props and involve the children in acting out what happens, repeating phrases, moving props and of course using the clapperboard, the best bit! Scene 2 is the Last Supper, Scene 3 follows in the Garden of Gethsemane, Scene 4, Trial and Crucifixion and finally the Resurrection in Scene 5.

After each “scene” plays out the children respond in small groups and write questions or advice for the characters. They also then get to make a small craft, decorating a keyring, some mini bunting or making a pattern in a scratch card to put into their own mini “Easter in a Box” to take home!

We decided to launch this in three schools this year and see how they run before launching it to other schools in 2023. We have now taught this two hour lesson to Year 3 children at Blanchelande, St Mary and St Michaels and Notre Dame. We’re very pleased to say that they all loved it and we have received great feedback from the teachers and the children too. Quotes included “This is the best lesson ever!”, “Are you coming back tomorrow?” and “I’m so excited to take this home!”

Thank you to Bristol Schools Connection for this amazing resource and making it available for all to use!



CREATIVITY

With some new Covid waves preventing us from going into schools at the start of the term, we had the idea to create a virtual assembly to use in the future if we cannot get into the schools in person. We began filming each part before half term, experimenting with using a blue screen to allow us to add in custom backgrounds to the video behind the puppets. The assembly is currently in the editing stages and will be a useful asset for the PACE team to have as a backup. We hope in the future to make more resources like this to give us material for situations like the pandemic.

With the help of the puppets, Phil tells Oscar about the story of Esther and how she was brave in standing up for her people. We hope that this will encourage the children to stand up for what is right and help them to not feel alone when they struggle with life's dilemmas.



OT MINI

Given the remarkable way that demand has grown each year for these 5-week Bible courses, it is no surprise that much of our time this term has involved teaching these exciting, interactive lessons. We have taught six Old Testament Mini (OTM) courses to Year 5 groups at Castel, Forest, La Houquette and Beechwood. It is also exciting to report that Hautes Capelles used the online video-based course to teach the same lessons. Phil also taught the New Testament Mini (NTM) course to Year 6 pupils at Beechwood.

If we include the Hautes Capelles pupils, then 278 children have taken part this term; 428 so far this year. With more OTM courses planned for Amherst and Blanchelande after Easter, this promises to be a very exciting year!

As we mentioned in our last newsletter, this year we are losing 5 of our team of presenters. We had planned an OTM training course to recruit and train new presenters in late March, but a Covid outbreak has meant postponement until after Easter.

We have 4 people signed up – but always space for more. Please get in touch if you are interested!

PRAYER POINTS

- For guidance in the next phase of the work.
- For the development of lessons, we are thankful for the successful launch of Easter in a Box this Easter and pray for more opportunities like this.
- For the development and training of new volunteers and that more will join our team.
- Thankful to God for all the opportunities we have had to share in School despite Covid-19 restrictions.

ASDAN

This term we have been at Le Murier school working with Year 9 on one of their modules for their ASDAN qualification. The students worked really hard to put together an assembly on Jonah, which included acting out the story and then sharing how we all make mistakes sometimes, but we can all have a second chance. One student who uses a speech tablet called Phil over before the performance of the assembly began to share a message with him that read “I am so excited!” It was really great to see the students engage so well with the story and give an amazing presentation to the other students.



SECONDARY LESSONS

Having had really encouraging meetings with the Head of Theology at Blanchelande College and then the newly appointed Head of R.E. at La Mare High School, this has been a very exciting term of teaching a growing number of topics across an increasingly diverse age-range. At Blanchelande we have taught all students in Years 7, 9 and 11 - covering Evil & Suffering, Creation & Science and Christian attitudes to War, a subject we also explored with three Year 9 classes at Ladies College – all very topical and with a renewed sense of urgency given the ongoing events in Ukraine. We also taught Creation & Science to a Year 10 GCSE group at La Mare High School.

Next term, we are excitedly looking forward to teaching at Elizabeth College for the first time!