



Simon Ellingham
DIRECTOR'S WORD

Well, we've certainly started with a bang! I wrote last month about how busy last year had been, and whether we were going to be just as active. It's a delight to tell you that there's been no let-up, no slowing down, and certainly plenty of evidence that the Lord of Hosts is in the room!

Primary activity has launched, with workshops in numerous classrooms, and we've been mainly delivering Year 3 Bible Explorers to several schools. All the children appear to be really engaged and we're getting very positive feedback from the teachers.

Our assemblies team seem to never know when to stop! Our SSW prayer Whatsapp group buzzes virtually every day with requests to pray for the day's gatherings, often with more than one a day.

And the Secondary work has started off at the same pace as last year. I delivered our annual GSUS visit to Sutton Grammar, engaging with the boys on the topics of fear, rejection and forgiveness, seen from a Christian perspective. I am a regular visitor to Cheam High and once again, for the ninth year in a row, I have presented my Knife Crime and County Lines lessons to Year 8. All the teachers who sit in for these tell me how impactful they are, and how much value they bring to the school. One teacher told me this week how her own son, who was in the lesson last year, used exactly the advice I had given him to protect himself whilst out, and she was incredibly grateful. In all of my sessions, I talk about my faith, and how reading God's Word guides and protects me, and I have once more been able to offer New Testaments to anyone who thinks they would read it. Last year I gave out around 160 to pupils in year 8; so far over 200 have gone! That's more than 200 pupils that weren't reading His word before...

And not just pupils; 2 teachers have taken a copy for themselves, with one of them saying they'll give it to their son to read as well. I'm now using the fact all of these people have one in their pocket to stimulate them into finding out how to read it, and have started inviting them to the lunchtime CU to discover just how to do that. I'm known as the 'Bible Guy', and several pupils have approached me whilst walking through the school asking if I have a NT they could have, and quite a few have asked for 2 to give away to someone else.

Our CUs have a varied picture; Cheam High, Overton Grange, Sutton Grammar and Greenshaw are all up and running with keen and enthusiastic attendees. However Carshalton Girls have asked us to suspend the group there while they look at getting one started that is run by the students, and not an outside agency, and Carshalton Boys are taking their time in making arrangements for theirs to get going. I still remain hopefully positive about starting a new one at Oaks Park, especially as I'm going in next week to start the Knife Crime and County Lines series, and I am trying to engage Glenthorne still!

I have spoken at C3 United Life and Wallington Baptist on Sundays already, and next month I am visiting Sutton Christian Centre and Horizon Church to spread the good news about what God is doing in our schools.

Our Giving of the 5000 campaign is very slowly gathering pace, and we remain hopeful that God will continue to provide financially for our organisation, as it is such a vital part of the Christian witness in Sutton.

If I could ask you to pray for just one thing, it would be that our finances improve dramatically. I would love to offer a role for a full-time Secondary worker to take over from me, but we simply do not have the funds. Please pray, and consider how you could be a part of that yourself!

Thank you!

Simon Ellingham
Director



Click on the picture to get a list of events for the month.



PRIMARY SCHOOLS & ASSEMBLY Prayer Requests:

THANK YOU GOD:

- for a great start to the new school year!
- for Easter Experience 2027 bookings and nearly full cast!
- for the 6 Y3 Bible Explorers workshops & 1 Y1 Creation Treasure Hunter Workshop delivered in September.
- for an amazing volunteer team.

PLEASE PRAY :

- for **strength and endurance.**
- that pupils and teachers would be open to hear and receive from God.
- for positive ongoing relationships.
- for **Sutton High Prep and Malmesbury Primary first visit.**
- for the 7 more Y3 Bible Explorers workshops & 2 Creation Treasure Hunters workshop we have coming up in October.
- for the a Y6 Ask a Christian workshop in Green Lane Primary.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers!

Abby & Maisie

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PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Oaks Park workshops – more New Testaments to give out, and a CU to start as a result
- Staff at Carshalton Girls to engage with us in exploring a new look CU run by students, and to book lessons in
- Staff at Carshalton Boys to engage with us to re-start the CU
- Nonsuch Girls to respond to my emails re bookings!
- Science and Faith lesson at Sutton Grammar on 7th October to have real impact
- All New Testaments taken so far to be opened, read and understood!

Bless you all as you pray for us, and may you also know His presence.

Simon

SUTTON SCHOOLSWORK'S GIVING OF THE 5000



Can you give just **£1 a month** to support SSW?
Can you increase your monthly giving to SSW by **£1**?



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