

Littlehampton Churches Together

WEEKLY PRAISE AND PRAYER

Week beginning 17.05.20

PRAISE

- for supportive, caring and dedicated teachers, support staff and cleaners.
 - for caring and loving families who provide a warm and nurturing home for our children
 - for overwhelmingly supportive families who are really thoughtful of our school staff.
- for the children who are in schools and who are behaving well and making the teachers' lives uncomplicated!!

- Some of our families are saying this has made them think about the way they live and they have really enjoyed spending time and focusing on their children more and will change the way they live moving forward
- In our school community our families and staff have remained well
- A hugely support staff team who continue to work together
- Support from the diocese and local authority
- A sense of God's presence at the moment! I have a very real sense that God has provided for us and blessed us as we headed towards 'lockdown' in all sorts of little ways and continues to do so. We managed to get some tricky issues finished and resolved just in time!
- The amazing weather we have had this spring!

- Parents have been grateful, supportive and understanding. They are coping really well in such difficult circumstances.
- My teachers are being fantastic and definitely need thanks from me and from the whole community. I think the families of teachers have had a lot to put up with as well.
- Teachers have been working really hard setting work for their children and answering emails for parents.

- So good to catch up with the Year 11 students and pass on their hoodies and year books. It was a big deal for them and they got up early and put on some make up for our 5 minute chat on the doors. We have not seen them for nearly 2 months! People are making the most of these snatched moments of 'hello' and 'thank you.'
- We also had kids put together some brilliant art work of thanks to Morrisons and the Foodbank. The power of a thank you is not lost on these young people. Who can we thank today?

- We had an email this week from someone not currently part of a church, *'I've been watching your online services and I wanted to let you know that when we can meet again, I'll be joining your church.'* Praise God that we're all connecting with new people in new ways!
- A number of people have now recovered from the virus and know other people who have
- Increasing collaboration with the Churches Together Practical Support and local councils

'Good evening Paul I was just wondering if there was any book or anything you could suggest for me to read as since all this that's been going on i have been following u and yr church on line and really has helped me alot and if u would have us id love to start joining u on sundays how do i go about watching yr service on line'

For the number of people who are watching the videoed services and commenting on them.

- For wisdom in making decisions that protect the health and well-being of the school community - both children and staff
- For resilience to continue and meet the challenges that will crop up!
- For protection for our vulnerable families and those who have become vulnerable during this crisis for one reason or another
- For continued hope in a vaccine and protection for people
- That this might be the start of a revival and for people to seek the Lord!



PRAY

From Turning Tides which is not a church but a partner with the churches

- We pray that more opportunities for clients will become available, along with the strength and courage to settle into independent living
- We pray for everyone who is tackling things outside their comfort zone or dealing with awkward situations

There are a lot of bored young people out there. We pray that they, like us, will be stirred to make the most of this time.

- For those children who do not have a warm and nurturing family
- For those families who are struggling with mental health issues
- For those families who need the structure and routine of school life but are staying home to keep safe
- For all the parents of our children who are front line workers

Pray for Headteachers, that they will have hope and confidence to make the right decisions at this time for their communities.

- Pray for all school staff who are supporting the NHS by caring for their children
- Pray for all the elderly in our community and across the world

- We've made being available a priority and have done a lot of phoning of vulnerable families.
- Planning for additional children in school after half term has proved extremely taxing, but I think we have something that will work, assuming that my wonderful staff continue to give every ounce of their effort and no-one falls ill.

- For those who are worried, concerned or uncertain about returning to work or school - we pray for peace and guidance, and for the Holy Spirit to bring comfort and clarity.
- For the challenges that school-workers and home-educators face across our congregations
- That we will keep connected to the considerable number of people who do not have access to Facebook or YouTube.
- For those who are in danger of increasing isolation, within church communities and perhaps especially around us with no-one being aware.

- We pray for all those who are going back to work, that care will be taken to prioritise their safety, and for our nation to exercise common sense following the easing of restrictions.
- We pray for God's care for those in our local community who are having to endure lockdown with an abusive partner or parent.
- We continue to pray for good contact with all church attendees, especially those living alone and in isolation.

- for those who need hospital appointments for ongoing conditions.
- for those in Care and Nursing homes and those looking after them.
- for those working at Ford. Praise God there is no virus there. Pray for the men who could have been released but have not been.
- for the Pre-school leaders who are very nervous about the possibility of starting again on 1st June and the challenges faced keeping little ones and staff safe.