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Believing their worth

Summer Newsletter 2015

Welcome to our Summer Newsletter!

Thank-you for taking the time to read up on our latest news! We greatly value all of our supporters from individuals who pray for the work we do, to those who are able to support our work financially, to congregations who faithfully stand with us as we serve the young people of our community.

We hope you enjoy catching up on all that's going on in the various areas of our work. Below, we share some team news, update you on our schools work, tell you about our exciting upcoming event, discuss the stress this time of year can bring to many young people, update you on our Detached work, and share some snaps from the last term!

Would you prefer to receive our newsletter via email? If so, please contact james@sayt.org.uk and we will make the change ready for the next edition!

Schools Work!...

The SAYT team continue to have a consistent lunch time presence in Knole Academy and Trinity School once a week. For Knole Academy this consists of taking over a classroom and inviting students to pop by and see us, stay and spend their lunchtime with, playing various games and getting to know the students. In Trinity School, with the help of Josh Amott – Bessels Green Baptist Church Youth Worker – we spend the lunch time both in the playground with the young people, and hosting a quieter space for chat and games indoors, often with a short 'session' to provoke thought and discussion. Our time in schools is such a core part of what we do in coming alongside the students and getting to know them where they're at. We also continue to hold assemblies in Combe Bank School and Trinity School. If You would like us to hold assemblies in any other schools, please either get in contact with us or ask the school to contact us, we would love to have the opportunity to do more of this. **Please praise God that...** we continue to have these valuable opportunities to minister in schools **Please pray that...** we use our time there wisely and are sensitive to the Spirit's prompting.

Event info...

Under Pressure... I wonder if you remember what exam time was like? Maybe you have memories of sitting in your bedroom pouring over books with post-it notes and highlighters scattered everywhere, trying to get to grips with topics before the dates arrived? Or perhaps you found that to be too much, preferred to turn a blind-eye and pretend they weren't happening, whilst that ever increasing ball of panic welled up in your throat? We have all had a different experience of what it was like to take these once and for all exams that play a part in the direction of our occupation futures; so what can we do to help support those going through this right now?

Let us challenge and encourage all reading this newsletter...

... to pray for those taking exams right now, that they would be able to focus whilst revising and keep a clear head during the exams, that they would find time for rest and down-time and feel assured after the exams that they put in all they could; and most of all that they would receive God's peace and know that no matter what, their value is placed in the risen Christ and not in a mark or a grade.

...and to chat to those who are in your circles who are going through this stage right now, ask them how it's going, offer support and guidance and showing them you care about them, and remember what it was like for yourself.

Our young people are under so much pressure to achieve, let's lovingly support them in any way we can.

New Beginnings... This summer brings with it two changes at SAYT. After a year serving within the team, making an impact in the various areas of the work we do, connecting with young people on their level and being an Ambassador for Jesus and the hope that He brings wherever he goes, James is moving on ... to do all these things in another place where God has called him! Taking up the role of Associate Chaplain at Trinity School, although being sorely missed, James leaves the team with the assurance that he goes with SAYT's blessing and trust in the path God has laid out for him - and that we are grateful it included a year with us! The second change, is that another member of our team, Holly, will be taking the best part of a year off as her and her husband Mark extend their family by one! Due her baby in August, Holly will be off in July and although looking forward to this next adventure, will deeply miss the young people she has built relationships with, mentored and come alongside over the last two and a half years... a year away seems like a very long time!

Saying that... it naturally follows on that we are now recruiting! So watch this space for two brand-spanking members of our lovely youth-worker team arriving soon!

Greatness Park Detached! . . . We find ourselves in a time of evaluation of this area of our work. We continue to have a consistent presence in Greatness Park on Thursday evenings, particularly speaking to those young people who use the skate-park as a hang-out – however, as a team we feel that potentially a call for a change could be emerging. Maybe we could focus our detached work in another part of the Sevenoaks area? Maybe our work will become more about 'roaming' and less about sitting in the Youth Bus with the young people? There are many possibilities, one of which is of course to continue our steadfast work in the same way; however, we are prayerfully considering all these things. **Praise God for...** for the opportunities we have had and continue to have with the young people we do see in this area. **Please pray...** for guidance and clarity about the shape this area of our work takes going forward.



Out and About! ...

This is a very important part of the work that we do, spreading the hope Jesus brings, challenging congregations to reach out and genuinely connect with young people, updating our supporters about what is happening in our work and introducing ourselves to those who have not heard of us yet.

We would love to visit your church or group to do one or all of the above, so please get in contact with us to arrange a visit! Contact details are at the end of this Newsletter.

Want to know how to get involved?

There are many ways to get involved with serving the youth of your area.

- Are you able to make or donate biscuits, cakes or finger food for our Thursday evenings sessions? We would be happy to collect from you! We feel it's just another great way in which we can show the love of Christ to them.
- Do you feel that you might be able to be a trustee at SAYT? Our trustees support us as youth workers and input the direction of the work we do.
- Do you have a couple of hours free on Thursday evenings and feel that you could volunteer with us from 7-9 on the Greatness Recreation Ground? A few of our volunteers left us at the start of the summer as said above and we are keen to meet with people who feel they could give a couple of evenings a month and help support us in our work in that area.
- Most importantly of all, your prayers for our work and for the young people we work with are needed.

The support we receive in our work through your prayers are sincerely valued and appreciated, thank-you for your faithfulness. Please continue to pray for our work and for the Lords direction and covering in all that we do. If you would like to receive our monthly prayer points, please email info@sayt.org.uk.

If you would like us to come and give a talk at your church or group we'd be more than happy to. Why not pop in for a coffee and a chat to meet the team?

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