



Christians and Sheffield Schools

connecting ● encouraging ● resourcing

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Ministry Partner of
Scripture
union

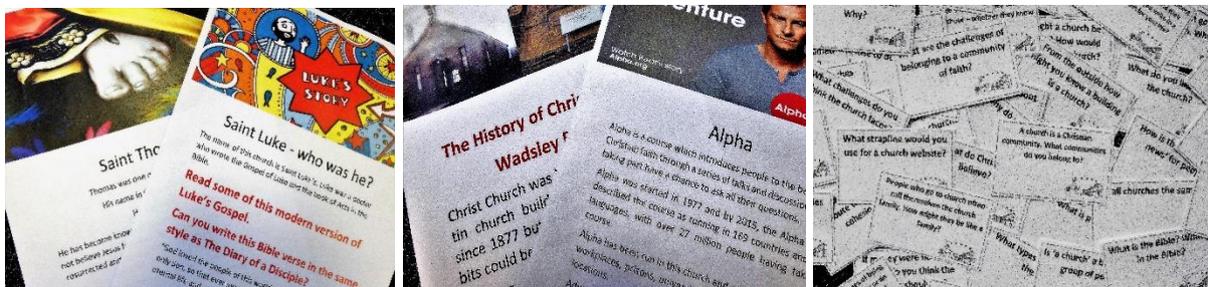
**“When you call on me, when you come and pray to me, I’ll listen.”
Jeremiah 29:12**

Happy New Year! I would like to take this opportunity, along with the CaSS trustees, to thank you for your prayers, financial support, and ongoing interest in the work of CaSS, as we continue to connect, encourage and resource Christians working in Sheffield schools, to see ‘The Word become flesh and move into our neighbourhoods.’

Here is a flavour of our work in the closing term of 2017...

We completed the 7 **school visit packs** for the churches who requested them. This was a big job! We are encouraged by initial responses:

- *“Thank you for the school visit pack which I found in the vestry...it's amazing! A lot of work has clearly gone into it.”*
- *“Thanks for the resource pack – it is great! So many creative ways of getting children and young people to engage with the life and beliefs of the Church. Can’t wait to use it! “*



Planning for The **Joined Up Conference 2018** has continued. The keynote speakers are Dr. Rebecca Nye and Scripture Union’s Matty Hawthorne. There will be 20 workshops on a wide range of subjects, including mental health, school chaplaincy, boys and church, pornography, online addiction, boys to men, children’s spirituality, identity matters, preparing young

people for university, schools ministry, adventurous discipleship and many more. To find out more about the speakers, the workshops, the programme for the day and how to book, go to www.joinedupconference.com. Tickets are £10 which includes lunch - a bargain! We received enthusiastic reviews last year:

- *"Impressively organised."*
- *"Incredible value for money."*
- *"Everyone so friendly – I talked to so many great people."*
- *"A lovely, 'spirit filled' Godly atmosphere and context for inspiration and encouragement. It felt 'Joined Up' on so many levels."*
- *"An excellent day and amazingly good value. Well done to all involved."*
- *"Thank you. My first conference, I feel 'woken up'!"*

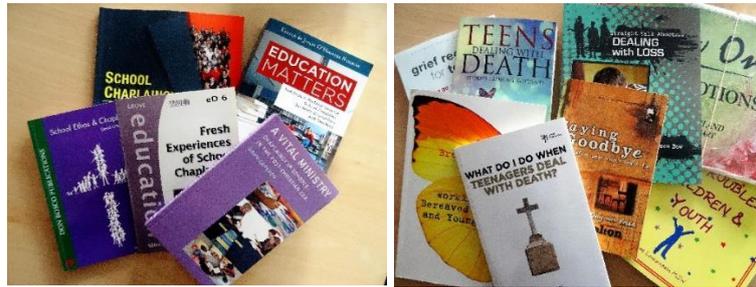
So don't miss the 2018 conference! It is a great opportunity to network, gather resources in the busy marketplace, or to be inspired. All are welcome – those working/volunteering with children, youth, schools or families, or those wishing to pray effectively for the next generation; parents, families, church leaders, teachers or grandparents. Whatever your relationship with the next generation, you will find something for you. Please help us by advertising the event.



We have continued to lend out our **Grief Boxes** and **Values Bags**, we have distributed 3,000+ **Christmas comics** to a wide variety of settings, displayed a CaSS Christmas tree at the **Millhouses Methodist Festival** and also helped out with school visits to the festival.

We have done a lot of reading about **school chaplaincy** and have talked to school chaplains, as the first stage of our school chaplaincy project. The monitoring group for the project have

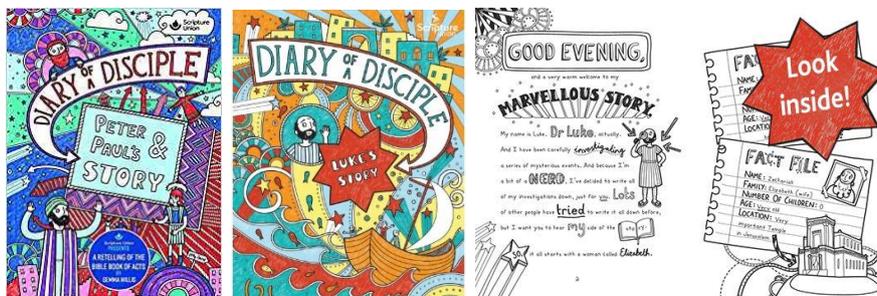
met with CaSS. The next stage will include writing a training course for those interested in exploring school chaplaincy.



We have continued to make new connections across the city and across denominations, have met to **pray** for Sheffield schools each month and we have held our **AGM**. Go to our website at www.cass-su.org.uk to find a copy of the annual reports.

Emily Clark, our administrator, left us in July to work at the University of Sheffield. We have now appointed a new administrator, Abby Murphy, who works in the CaSS office on a Wednesday. She has made a wonderful start!

Scripture Union, mission partner of CaSS, celebrated its 150th birthday this year and marked it with a service that The Queen attended. They launched their campaign to reach the 95% of young people who are not in church. We would like to recommend the following SU books this term: Based on Luke's Gospel, 'Diary of a Disciple' by Gemma Willis is written in the Tom Gates style that children love and is available at Sheffield's CLC bookshop.



We are grateful for your interest, support and prayers for the work of CaSS.
Thank you.

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