



## Director's Jottings

**Dear friends and supporters. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support.**

Wow another busy term has whistled by, but looking back there is so much to be thankful for:

**INSPIRE Prayer Spaces** – *'I would like to become a Christian' – Yr 4 student*

**Cool Choices** – *'Both Yr 6 teachers have independently come to tell me how good it was this morning, and that they would definitely want it again if they were in Yr 6 next year! They are really hoping to use the session as a springboard for the rest of the year.'* – School RE co-ordinator

**Easter Assembly Presentation** – *'The image of that golden cross before the children is there forever' 'Your presentation as usual was brilliant, well thought out and delivered.'* - 2 visitors to our assemblies.

**INSPIRE Permanent** – *'THANK YOU so much for what you're doing to make a presence at the school. This is valuable work!'* – Head Teacher

**xcellr8 weekend** - *My daughter loved the xcellr8 weekend. It did her so much good to be around so many other kids with a Christian faith and she really grew spiritually. Thank you!* - Parent

I am struck once again that the work we do makes such a difference to the lives of the children and adults we encounter. *'I think you all do a really wonderful job.'* We pray this difference will have many eternal consequences!!

I did smile when I received an e-mail recently that simply said **'GenR8 - legends!!'** I'm not sure we have reached legendary status as yet and you have to be quite old to be counted as legends, then again...

**Please continue to pray for the impact of our work.**

It's all busy on the family front. Megan is still awaiting the offer of a permanent position with a London advertising agency but has work up until June which is helpful short term. Ellen seems to be jetting off to Europe on a fairly regular basis, the latest destination being Paris where she visited Disneyland. Last I knew she struggled with under 5 rides!?! Millie has a decision to make between two universities, one of which has given an unconditional offer, but the other is closer to home, cheaper and maybe more suitable course-content wise! Alfie has shot up recently; Rachel will soon be the shortest member of the family, which seemed incredible 'only yesterday'! Alfie's football season finished early with a mid-table position likely, he is now considering options for next season... waiting for the mega money offer! For those not into football I'm only joking! Rachel is settled in her Comberton and Cottenham libraries work and it helps to bring a good balance to the week

**Thank you for praying!**

### Feedback...Please

Debbie is in the process of reviewing what we communicate to GenR8 supporters. As a reader (I hope!) of this prayer and newsletter we would appreciate your thoughts as to what you like hearing about and whether there are any areas you would like to hear more of. If you do have any suggestions or thoughts please do get in touch. *Contact details at the end of the prayer letter.*



### Children's Worker and GenR8 Cool Choices Volunteer - Ben

"Working with Steve and his team has given me great tools and the experience to support me in my regular work. They have such a way with children and Jesus centred in love and caring whilst being practical to current issues children find themselves going through. "

**Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. – John 17:3 (NIV)**

## An Assemblies Volunteer View...

My name is Susan and I am a stay at home mum. I have been "on tour" with GenR8 four times now with two different teams and have really enjoyed the experience! It (just about) fits in with my other commitments and it feels like I am doing something fun, but also something that is really worthwhile. It amazes me that no matter who I work with there just seems to be an instant connection and within just a few minutes I feel totally at ease! I have found 'GenR8ters' to be a very friendly, caring and, to be quite honest, hugely inspiring bunch of people!

Of course the main reason for being on team is always going to be the children and it is so brilliant to see how many of them love the assemblies and look forward to our visits. This tour, one boy said he would have the song in his head all the rest of the day (and that can only be a good thing when you consider that the words were "how broad, how long, how high, how deep is the love of Christ"!)

Another stand out moment for me was a little girl who clapped her hand over her mouth, stifling a gasp when she heard the words of a poem ending in the news that Jesus is alive forever and always by our side. It made me wonder whether that was the first time she had really taken in what Christians are actually celebrating at Easter time.

I believe telling children about Jesus brings me right back to the very basics of my faith and that is a really good thing as I think I do have a tendency at times to get overwhelmed with life! Being on team always brings challenges and I have come to expect this as I don't think the enemy likes what GenR8 is doing one little bit! I always wonder if we will ever get the presentation together in time and whether it will be any good! Yet somehow, mysteriously, God seems to be able to use the little we bring and transform it into something altogether better than we expect.

**If you would like to find out more about volunteering for GenR8 do get in touch**

**Please pray** for the GenR8 team and in particular our ongoing and urgent need for a bookings co-ordinator.

## New Worker

After what feels like a long journey we will be advertising next term for a new post within GenR8. The role is to lead the development of GenR8's work in support of churches' ministry with primary schools and children through:

- Discipleship opportunities - Developing the scale and depth of existing GenR8 initiatives with children, including xcellr8 and GYL (*Growing Young Leaders*), and growing new initiatives.
- School and church partnerships - Leading and overseeing the work of INSPIRE Prayer Spaces.
- Training and facilitating – Supporting existing activities and developing new initiatives in support of those who work with children

**Please pray** for what is an important as well as exciting opportunity within the work of GenR8. Do pray for funding to go alongside this. Thank You

***'I just wanted to say a big thank you for the prayer spaces activity that you ran for the children today, the feedback from staff and children was extremely positive.'*** – Head Teacher (INSPIRE)

**BiTs & Pieces**



**Leaving** – Liz Currie will be stepping down from her role with INSPIRE Prayer Spaces at the end of July. We have so much to thank Liz for in establishing INSPIRE as a credible, highly effective initiative that enables school and church to work together. Amazing Liz, thank you.

Thankfully Liz loves GenR8 so much she plans to stick around and volunteer!

**Easter Assembly Tour** – seven teams, 160 schools, 40,000 children, 29 volunteers! And the message that Jesus gives us the opportunity of a new start!

**West Team**



## It's Your Move

We are beginning our search for young people in current Years 11 & 13 to join our It's Your Move teams in the week beginning 3<sup>rd</sup> July. Do you know anyone who might be interested?

## xcellr8 2017 – The Master Chef



## Further Prayer Points

- Give thanks that last term had such a positive impact.
- Pray for a very busy term coming up with lots of potential challenges and changes!
- Pray for planning for Bite-Size Train Up and a holiday club resourcing evening for the autumn term.

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