

NEWSLETTER

TEAM NEWS

This summer we see both Phil and Victoria leave the work of PACE, and at our recent AGM we had the opportunity to say a big, and at times tearful, thank you and farewell.

After 5 years Phil, who has had a key involvement in the re-positioning of the work over that time, is leaving Guernsey as he and Sarah move back to the UK. Those 5 years have seen significant growth of the OT/NT Mini programme, further expansion of our voluntary support base, expansion of our curriculum input, and strengthening of our relationships with both churches and schools.

Victoria, who has worked for PACE for the last 3 years has blessed us with her creativity and artistic skills, and it is no surprise to us that she senses the need to focus her time more extensively in this direction.

Both go with our love and deep appreciation for all that they have brought to PACE. I suspect there will still be occasions in future when we will call on them.

Thanks also to those who joined us on 5th July at Delancey Elim for our AGM. To have the continuing interest of Christians from such a widespread range of churches is such an amazing encouragement to us. If you could not be with us, you will see some prayer requests detailed later by Lisa in this newsletter.

A final thanks goes to our treasurer Dan Miller who supervises our finances so effectively. With Covid and the cost of living rise, we are inevitably seeing our finances under some strain, and have launched an initiative called ‘Twelve Baskets’ with the aim to secure a further 50 supporters providing an average of £25 per month. If you want to see more details on this initiative, please visit our website at paceguernsey.com/staging/donate.



Mark Le Tissier
Chairman

FUTURE

With the changes that are going to be made to the team at the end of this term, we have spent time prayerfully considering as a team what the future of PACE looks like and making difficult, but we hope good, decisions on what we will start, stop, continue and change in the new academic year.

We would really value your prayers and support as we navigate this new season and what the work will look like. We want to be able to say YES to schools but we need to be sensible in what we prioritise and can offer with a smaller team. Ultimately we want to **continue to positively impact children and young people through a real experience of the Christian faith**. We are excited about all that God has in store for us in the future and give thanks for all that he has done this year!

A MESSAGE FROM PHIL...

As we reach the end of another wonderful year, we again give thanks to God for continuing to bless us with so many opportunities to share in the life of our local schools. As always, one of the highlights for me is seeing how the Old Testament Mini and New Testament Mini Bible courses continue to amaze and excite the Year 5s in schools across the island. Having mentioned previously that we are losing 5 of our presenters this year (now 6, including me!) it was exciting to train 3 more OTM presenters in April – with Lisa, Bryan Pill and Tom Saddington joining the team and jumping straight into the work as we taught together at Blanchelande.

Those two courses, together with two more courses at Amherst (Phil and Frances) meant that in this school year we have taught 17 courses of 89 lessons to 450 children. For those who like numbers, that means since August 2008, when the first ever course was taught in Vale Primary school, we have now taught in 16 schools, 208 courses of 1042 lessons to 6992 children! Nearly 7000 children! A quite remarkable achievement!

After half term, our focus has been exclusively on the Year 6 Leaver's Lessons, to prepare the primary school leavers for their journey to secondary schools in the autumn. In the last four weeks of term, we have given out 704 copies of the 'It's Your Move' booklets as a gift from the local churches to every 11 year old in Guernsey, and have taught 18 Leaver's Lessons in all 15 primary schools on the island. The feedback has been excellent.

These lessons have had even more poignancy for me this year as I am in the midst of leaving PACE to head back to the UK after 14 wonderful years in Guernsey. Almost 9 years of church leadership followed by these last 5 years with PACE means that the parting is not easy, having come to know and love this place as our family home and so many of you as very special friends. Thank you for your support and encouragement over the years, not just for me personally, but for this remarkable work which PACE has been able to bring to all our local schools. I will miss the work, and the people – team, volunteers, supporters, teachers and support staff and children, of course – hugely, but I look forward to hearing how God will continue to lead and guide in the years ahead! Please do continue to pray for this amazing work as the next chapter unfolds. A la perchoine!



PRAYER POINTS

- Thanks to God for Phil and Victoria and all that they have brought to the team over the years
- Pray for wisdom for the team as they plan for the future
- Pray that the right worker is found to join the team
- Thanks to God for all the opportunities we have had to share with children this year

NEW WEBSITE!

We have been working very hard to put together our new website and we would love for you to check it out! There are still some things to be tweaked as we did it all in-house but we are very pleased with the fresh new look and we hope you like it too!

If you would like to receive regular updates on our work, we post a new blog every other week. You are able to subscribe to this on our website.

www.paceguernsey.com

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