



NEWSLETTER

Christmas 2023



REINSPIRED

helping churches bring RE to life

Happy Christmas



"....If I were a wise man I would do my part...."

Dear friends,

It is advent already and the start of a new church year. Team leaders and volunteers are again busy delivering our Christmas themed sessions to help the children have a deeper understanding of what Christmas means for the followers of Jesus.

Rudolph, Santa or tinsel are not mentioned in the biblical story, but Gift Giving is - gifts from the Wise men and the Shepherds, with God giving the biggest Gift of all — a gift to the whole world, for all time, his Son Jesus. Little ones in Yr1 wonder together what gift would they have given Jesus had he been born in their hometown? I wonder if it's worth us grownups considering this question too? I wonder what you would say?

Perhaps you or someone you know may even wish to become a volunteer for REinspired for either our Primary or Secondary school sessions. Certainly, school interest is growing this academic year.

Alfred Sutton and Redlands, in Earley and East Reading area, are back up to speed with sessions throughout the year — would you consider bringing your skill-gift to us?

To find out more, [come and see a live session](#), and be inspired.

Locally we also have exciting opportunities with new teams going into Crazies Hill Primary (Wargrave), Robert Piggott Infant and Junior Schools, Southcote Primary, Katesgrove (Central Reading), Oxford Road Primary. It's been a wondrous time training and mentoring these delightfully enthusiastic volunteers.

Further new prospects include Saint Cecilia's Primary (Wokingham), East Bristol and hopefully Basingstoke in 2024. Things are certainly on the move. Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

Wishing you and those you love a peaceful Christmas and New Year.



Richard Bainbridge,
Chair of Trustees



Our new mats

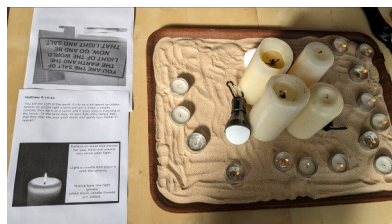
A **huge thank you** to everyone who donated towards our new mats.

They are wonderful — strong and easily manageable — we roll the mats when moving them to help them last longer.

And, I think you'll agree, it's easy for the group to focus, whatever is put onto the mat.



Diary



Date

Training day for volunteers:

Friday, 12th January 2024, 9.30am

St Nicolas Church, Earley

Prayer stations, workshops and more

Come and join us AND for lunch afterwards

your Team Leader know or email
julia.jones@reinspired.org.uk



Central Reading team - training for Christmas Yr1 session

Christmas/ Incarnation Yr1&2

For Aldryngton, Earley St Peters and Whiteknights, 290 Infant pupils have 'journeyed' around the story of Jesus' birth.

They looked at different 'wondering' questions within the schools varied RE curriculum:

'What can I learn from the Christmas story of Jesus' birth?' (Berkshire syllabus)

'Why does Christmas matter to Christians?' (Understanding Christianity)

'What gift would I have given Jesus if he was born in my town rather than Bethlehem?' (Discovery)

The pupils enjoyed 'journeying' through the birth of Jesus, the good news given to the shepherds and the visit from the Wise Men.

In each case they enjoyed seeing the knitted Nativity figures acting out the story and then making something to take home to help remember why we as Christians celebrate Christmas - the birth of our Saviour, the most precious gift of all from God.



Sue R

Giving thanks and praying for:

Giving thanks for:

- Very grateful for our Trustees, staff and teams of volunteers.
- Another exciting Quiz night (27th November) raising funds for REInspired
- Fulfilling training and school sessions at Crazies Hill Primary with a new Wargrave team and at Katesgrove Primary with the new Central Reading team
- Southcote team have re-engaged with their primary school—reimagining their sessions for a smaller team

Praying for:

- For more new volunteers in primary and secondary schools—hear what is involved from Ben: [YouTube video](#)
- Our volunteer training in January; new volunteers always welcome to come and see what we do
- For our Trustees in their support and growth of REInspired
- For new Trustees with a skill in trust-funding bids to join the team



**If you want to know more please get in touch with us: 0118 966 3929 office@reinspired.org.uk
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