

Director's Annual Report 2023-24

I've found it really hard to write this report, my last before retiring in March 2025, so many thoughts crowding my mind, where to start? What to say?

I turn to Jesus. He quiets the confusion and sets a path for me to follow - everything we have done over the past year has already been reported through the half-termly Prayerletter, Helens Termly Updates, quarterly reports to Trustees and through our Website and Facebook pages because quite simply we can't stop shouting out about what our wonderful God has done through the ministry of BSYW in our local schools.

So, I'm not going to mention the hundreds of children we've seen this year and all the seeds of God's love sown in little hearts and minds, or the fist pumps or wide smiles when they see us in school (or out!) or the child who can't wait to tell us their news, "I have a Bible", "I go to church", "I believe there's a God" or the conversations we have with those who say "I don't believe in God".

Or the relationship we have with school staff who appreciate all we do. Those who respond to our invite to book as soon as they receive it, the encouragement and support we get from those who believe, and the look on the faces of non-believers who really don't want to listen but then every now and then we might say something and you see a slight realisation of 'I didn't know that'.

I'm not even going to mention the joy we all have from taking the children on a Christmas Journey or the overwhelming emotions we felt during and after Step into Easter.

But what I am going to mention, is YOU!

THANK YOU...BSYW Team, Trustees, BSYW Ambassadors, Prayer Warriors, Financial Supporters, those who Encourage us, our friends from Scripture Union and of course our Families.

There's an African Proverb that says "It takes a village to raise a child". It gives the idea that it takes a community of people working together to provide a safe and healthy environment for a child to grow up in.

Our mission is not to raise a single child but to raise many thousands of children in the knowledge of a Creator God who loves them.

In Psalm 133 King David says -

1. "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity, it is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard, running down on Aarons beard, down on the collar of his robe.
3. For there the Lord bestows blessing, even life for evermore"

Our Mission is to tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord.

We all come together to share the love of Jesus with local children.

We come from different backgrounds, churches, denominations but we come together in unity, from experience I've seen that when churches come together in any form the focus can be more on their differences, but each member of the BSYW Team are handpicked by God and are united in Jesus and to sharing His love.

In the psalm David compares the peaceful union of Gods people with a Holy, Sacred moment when Aaron and his sons were anointed as priests (Leviticus 8)

Spurgeon says – “What a sacred thing must brotherly love be when it can be likened to an oil which must never be poured on any man but on the Lords High Priest alone”

BSYW is upheld, underpinned, overseen by God Himself, we are united in Him and therefore we are a Holy people, blessed and anointed by Him to tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord.