JULY 2024

LIGHTHOUSE TRUST (NORTHAMPTON)

Newsletter 2024



DIRECTOR WRITES - A YEAR OF CELEBRATION

New Trustees

This year, as a trust, we have had so much to celebrate! Not only that we have been welcomed in to love and serve our County's schools for 25 years running, but we have welcomed on board five new, highly qualified trustees. Between us we have a Canon, two social workers, an experienced teacher, an assistant headteacher, a finance assistant for ECM and the lead recruiter for Mercy Ships UK !

Their individual backgrouds and experience in their various fields of influence and work, are bringing a wealth of knowledge and support for the trust, and I am so very thankful for each one of them, for their love and commitment to the trust, and more personally, to me.

Charity of the Year

We were also voted to be the 'Charity of the Year' for PDET (Peterborough Diocese Education Trust) schools in our county! All over the Diocese, schools have been raising money for Lighthouse Trust (Northampton). From cake sales, to Light Paintings, the children have gone 'all-out' and I am so proud of them and want to thank the schools and the children for their love for me and for putting so much hard work in to raise money for us. Thank you!

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WINTER 2024

Through the Wardrobe door



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ASLAN IS ON THE MOVE!

Back in October, Lighthouse partnered with Peterborough Diocese to create a Prayer Space that could be loaned out to churches to use in their local schools. The idea behind creating this space, with everything needed to run a fantastic Prayer Space, was to encourage local churches to be able to intoduce creative spaces within their local schools, where children and young people can have the chance to reflect on themselves, others, the world and God. This space was first set up in Peterbourough Cathedral, and 30 young people and clergy went though it's wardrobe doors.



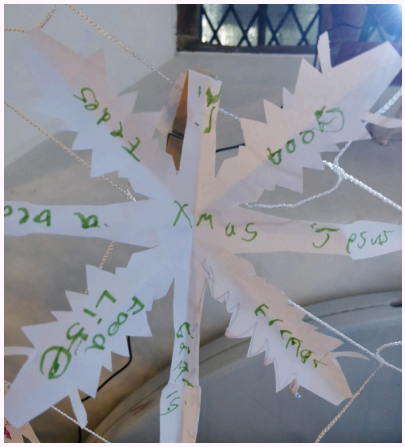
Prayer Spaces in schools created a documentry of this space which explains each station and the purpose behind the activities. You can watch this by clicking this link: Narnia Prayer Space at Peterborough Cathedral

ACTIVITIES THAT ENCOURAGE DEEPER THINKING

The children started in the professor's office where an explaination was given about what the space is for and how they can best use their time.
They then went through the wardrobe door and into 'Narnia'. There are six activities, all designed around places or themes in the story.
At the lampost, they thought about the light from the lampost bringing hope, and made snowflakes where they then could write down places in their own lives where there is light shining. Good things!
The Witch's sleigh was on the theme of forgiveness. The children could take a sugar cube (symbolising the turkish delight!), place it in the pool and either ask God to forgive them or choose to forgive someone they know. This was powerful to see the children engaging in prayer in this tangible way.
The Beaver's houe was a place to celebrate hospilatlity. They could make a salt-dough bread role and thank God for someone in their life who welcomes them and keeps them safe.



The Lampost



Praise Snowflakes

"I pray because I can't help myself. I pray because I'm helpless. I pray because the need flows out of me all the time, waking and sleeping. It doesn't change God. It changes me." C.S. Lewis



The Stone Table - Prayers for a broken world

'Father Christmas' was looking at gifts God has given each one of us. They looked in a mirrored river and asked themselves deep questions. The stone table (left), was a large roll of wallpaper, rolled over the church's alter. The children were encouraged to write thoughts or prayers about concerns they have about the world around them.



Where Old and New Collide

Scaling the ancient ruins of Waverley Abbey early this May, I was reminded of the scripture from Deuteronomy 7:9 (On the right)

The words "Know therefore," rung in my ears. Sometimes we need these words, don't we? What did I need to know? ... "that the Lord your God is God: He is the faithful God." The rest of the verse speaks of a promise to keep his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments! What a promise! What faithful love...

Sitting within the walls that had witnessed heartfelt prayer for our nation, from generations past, I started thinking and praying about this current generation and what the Lord has planned for them.

From this, birthed a desire to bring a small selection of children from Northamptonshire, to the Abbey to spend time together, planning an outdoor Prayer Space to bring back to the County's schools.

Waverley Abbey has a beautiful outdoor space that the children can access for inspiartion, and this would be the plan for the morning session. After planning a space to bring home, these three pioneering schools will help lead and train other children on how to create a similar space in their school.

To top all this...

DEUTETONOMY 7:9

"Know therefore that the Lord your God is God;
He is the faithful God,
Keeping His covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments."



Kings Park Conference Centre have offered the children space in their new Spinney area to recreate their Outdoor Prayer Space plan! This is hugely exciting, as thousands of families and folk from all over the globe use the Conference Centre every year.

When do we go? 27th September 2024

Which Schools? Brixworth CE, St Andrews CEVA and Weston Favell CE Primary schools.
(Updates will follow visit)



NEWS AND EVENTS

Academic year 2024-2025

Upcoming events

School Trip to
Waverley Abbey

FRI 27th SEPT

Fundraiser -
Christmas Quiz Night

FRI 6TH DECEMBER
7:30PM - 9:00PM

AGM

NOV 2024
(Date and venue to follow)

Special Thanks

A massive thanks to Nat White and the Mid-Life Crisis band who rocked the night away back in May and helped raise £1, 650

The Christmas Quiz was so successful there has been a request to make it an every-year event!
Huge thank you to Richard Vass for writting and comaparing the quiz!
We raised a super £

The Swish event was a hit too, so much so that we are putting on a winter shop early in the new year..
We will keep you posted.