

PACE NEWS

July/August 2026



Partnering with Churches, Serving the Schools

Do not worry... pray

Hello!

At a recent Trustees' meeting, Phil opened with a thought from Matthew 6. This passage about not worrying about material provision will be familiar to many of us, I'm sure, and serves as a reminder that God will meet not just our own personal needs, but also those of **PACE** as we seek to serve him across BCP:

"Your heavenly Father already knows all of [PACE's] needs. But seek the Kingdom of God above all else and he will give you everything you need"

Matthew 6:32-33

The end of August marks the end of my first year with **PACE** – it has flown! And as I reflect on the past year, I can testify to God's provision. Our needs have been met, but often not until the very last minute – as Phil says, He provides just enough at just the right time to keep us on our knees.

This is a timely reminder: currently **PACE** has just enough funds to see us into the start of the new academic year. Continuing in Matthew, Jesus reminds us about the importance of prayer:

"Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for"

Matthew 7:7

So that is what we would love you to join us in doing:

- Pray that the funds come in to enable **PACE** to continue sharing Jesus with students and teachers across BCP in the coming year;
- Share the work of **PACE** with others who may want to support it;
- Consider increasing any regular support or making a one-off donation;
- Join us on our Sponsored prayer walk (see page 3) or sponsor the team.

Information about donating can be found at the end of **PACE News**.





Saturday 12 September
10am - 3pm
Sandbanks to Hengistbury Head

Sponsored Prayer Walk

This September we are once again holding our Sponsored Prayer Walk. As well as being our biggest fundraising event of the year, it's a great opportunity to meet and enjoy fellowship with PACE staff, trustees and other supporters as we walk along the prom, stopping to pray for the schools, staff and students in each of the three towns as they begin their new academic years.

PACE Sponsored Walk

Saturday 12 September June 10am-3pm

Sandbanks (beach hut no:16, Shore Road) to Hengistbury Head

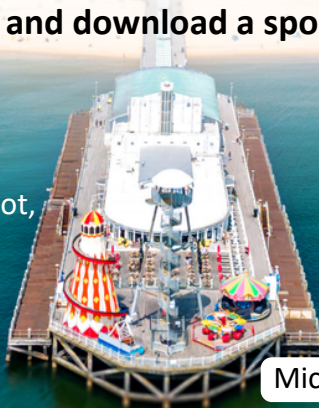
We'll be gathering at beach hut no:16 in Shore Road to pray before setting off at 10am, with a stop near Bournemouth Pier to pray and eat lunch, before continuing to Hengistbury Head and our final prayer stop. The 8.5 mile walk along the prom is level, so suitable for families, buggies and wheelchairs.

We would love as many people as possible to join us this year, so do think about coming along. We'd also love to beat last year's record-breaking funds raised, so if you're not able to come please do consider sponsoring the team.



**Scan or click the QR code to sign up
and download a sponsorship form.**

And finally ... whether you're coming or not,
please do pray for dry but not too hot
weather for the walkers!



Michelle Mitchell | Director of PACE



Cream Tea

Back in June around sixty people gathered at St Paul's Church, Throop for our annual Cream Tea. It seems hard to recall that at the time we were praying for fine weather – there has been so much sun since – but the sun did indeed shine and the temperature was very pleasant!

As well as consuming a delicious afternoon tea (thank you to the bakers who provided mountains of scones and cakes) we were both informed and entertained by the **PACE** team, who creatively shared about the work they do in schools.

This was no afternoon of sitting back and listening – everyone was encouraged to get involved in activities, which began with a table challenge of passing a person through a sheet of A4 paper. Keith tapped into World Cup fever with a topical Primary School assembly about the lost world cup trophy, the Secondary Schools team got us all thinking about a Big Question with a marriage quiz and the Pastoral team had us discussing tricky pastoral situations encountered in schools with the aid of balloons, flags and dancing!

Everyone seemed to leave full of scones, cake and a better understanding of just what goes on when the **PACE** teams set foot in the schools across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole and hopefully able to pray more specifically for the work that takes place.



Michelle Mitchell | Director of **PACE**

A Story To Tell

THE STORY OF MARY JONES AND HER BIBLE



‘What did you learn from our assembly today on the story of Mary Jones and her Bible?’ said the Head Teacher.

Various answers came back: ‘It’s important to help your parents,’ ‘Mary was very kind,’ ‘Mary Jones lives where my Uncle lives! And now I want to go to the museum near Bala and see her bible,’ ‘Keep believing and anything is possible,’ ‘It is good to save money,’ ‘I’m surprised there are still so many people who don’t have the Bible in their language.’ And then there was one question. ‘Why did Mary want to help those Chinese people she didn’t even know?’

And we had a similar response from a young person in a recent secondary lesson on Church and Community. After being shown a BBC news clip on Street Pastors, she said; ‘Why do they want to help clean up sick off people they don’t even know?’

What would your answers have been? Here at **PACE**, we rely heavily on God’s wisdom when responding to these genuine queries in schools. Would you have referred to Matthew 22:34-40 where God’s command is to love God and our neighbour as ourselves? Or maybe the book of James comes to mind where he advises us not to merely listen to the word but to do what it says. Those who claim to have faith but have no deeds have a dead faith. Wise Christians show faith and actions working together and aim to be considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit.



Over 300 lessons!

As another school year comes to an end, it's a good opportunity to pause and thank God for his faithfulness. Looking back over the past year, we're reminded that the many lessons, conversations and lunchtime clubs have been opportunities to share hope with students and encourage them as they explore life's big questions.

It's been another busy year. Together we've visited schools across Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, led weekly Big Questions clubs, spoken in assemblies, built relationships in school canteens and delivered over **300** lessons exploring life, faith and purpose. Behind every lesson and every conversation is a young person with their own questions, experiences and story. It's a privilege to spend time with them and help them explore the Christian faith.

We're especially thankful for the thousands of students we've had the privilege of meeting this year and for the trust schools continue to place in us as we explore the Christian faith together.

None of this would be possible without the partnership of so many people. We're grateful for the schools who continue to welcome us, the volunteers who faithfully give their time and energy, and everyone who supports **PACE** through prayer and giving. Your partnership enables us to be present where young people are every day and to help them explore what it means to have a relationship with God through Jesus.

As we look ahead to the next academic year, please pray that the seeds planted this year will continue to grow. Pray for students who are searching for hope and purpose, for open doors into new schools, and for wisdom and creativity as we prepare new lessons and activities. Above all, we thank God for his ongoing faithfulness and for the privilege of sharing his love with the next generation.



The End Of An Era



I wanted to use this edition of **PACE News** to tell you about an extraordinary woman: Pauline Horder. Pauline is retiring from **PACE** in July after a second career spanning over twenty years. Pauline retired from her first career working for the Youth Service in Oxfordshire and moved with her husband Keith to Swanage to enjoy their retirement together, but God had other ideas.

Pauline connected with a **PACE** event, being introduced to Danny Brown, the founder of **PACE**. With Danny, Pauline developed a service which offered supervision to Pastoral Support Workers in schools who worked with children and families. Over the years the service grew as did the number of schools requesting supervision for their staff.

Pauline's heart has always been for children and young people throughout her whole working life, but also in her free time – being a trustee with Keith of Hants and Dorset Youth Camps. She is a qualified Youth Worker, counsellor, supervisor and Play Therapist. Pauline also had a private practice where she worked primarily with adult clients who had Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID). So, in all the years of working with children, young people and vulnerable adults Pauline has accrued a wealth of knowledge and expertise in a great many areas but holds it all with great humility.

I first met Pauline when I was a children's and young people's counsellor with The Listening Ear (TLE). Pauline was on the TLE Committee and she eventually became my supervisor for my young people's work. I have learned a huge amount from Pauline as have all the people whose paths she's crossed. Pauline is humble, knowledgeable, empathic, strong, assertive, a free spirit, down to earth, uncomplicated and a beautiful soul sharing God's love and compassion to all she meets. Thank you Pauline for who you are and what you've done, touching the lives of a great many people.





There are many ways that you can support PACE:

- **Pray** for our work - Join us at the next **PACE** prayer meeting (see details above); Use Pray for **PACE** to pray daily for the team as they go into schools.
- **Give** to our ministry - Set up a regular standing order or one off payment to **PACE**;
Account No: 43329178 Sort Code: 20-11-43
Name of Account: Programme for Applied Christian Education
Reference: Your name

Send a cheque made out to **PACE** to the address below;
Gift Aid your donation by contacting the office (details below).

- **Share** with your church/network - Invite others to sign up to our mailing list or attend an event; Become a Church Champion to promote the work of **PACE**; Invite one of the **PACE** team to speak at a church service or group.
- **Volunteer** with us - Ask us about the different opportunities available in schools or at events.



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