



**Christian
Initiative to
Schools**

in partnership with



Scripture Union

Registered charity no 1104698.

Prayer Pointers

January to February 2021



"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you."

Deuteronomy 31:6

I wonder how you are feeling about entering this New Year? Hopeful and positive or anxious and uncertain? In light of all that is happening we need to remind ourselves that God is with us. He knows and understands us, He knows how we're feeling, the cares and concerns we have. That He is the same yesterday, today and forever and He will be with us in all that is to come, having already gone before.

Here's the poem *The Gate of The Year* by Minnie Louise Haskins.

'God Knows'

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:

"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."

And he replied:

"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God.

That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."

So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night.

And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.

So heart be still:

*What need our little life
Our human life to know,
If God hath comprehension?
In all the dizzy strife
Of things both high and low,
God hideth His intention.*

God knows.

His will is best.

*The stretch of years
Which wind ahead, so dim
To our imperfect vision,
Are clear to God. Our fears
Are premature; In Him,
All time hath full provision.*

Then rest: until

*God moves to lift the veil
From our impatient eyes,
When, as the sweeter features
Of Life's stern face we hail,
Fair beyond all surmise
God's thought around His creatures
Our mind shall fill.*

Please turn over

Whatever is to come this year, as God's children we have confidence that He has promised that He will be with us in all situations. Let's trust Him with our lives and let Him lead us into all that is to come.

As we come to this new term here are some things to thank God for and to pray for.

Please thank God for...

- ▶ the new skills that Christopher has had to learn in order that assemblies continue to be delivered in our schools
- ▶ The continued positive response from schools to the filmed and edited assemblies
- ▶ that relationships with schools have been maintained despite Christopher not being able to be physically present

Please pray for...

- ▶ future assemblies

St. Francis College Prep. 11th

January and 8th February;

Grange Academy 20th January and 24th February;

Recorded assemblies will be shown at Etonbury Academy, Fearnhill, Norton St. Nicholas, Pix Brook Academy, Roecroft Lower School and St. Mary's C of E Academy Stotfold as well this term but dates have still to be confirmed.

- ▶ Christopher as he prepares the assemblies. Pray that recording/filming and editing would go well and that there are no technical issues/problems.
- ▶ the Trustees as they oversee the work of CIS; Chris Jenkins (Chair), Crista Haak, Carol Griffiths, Kevin How (Secretary), Roger Aldridge, Ashley and Chris Croft, Penny Bainbridge and Martin Money (Treasurer). Pray particularly for their meeting on 12th January
- ▶ the safety and good health of children, young people and staff within our schools.
- ▶ children and young people as they are not able to be in school at present and have to learn from home via online lesson materials.

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There is a group that meets to pray for the schools in the area on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 10:30am. If you would like to join with others to pray then please contact Penny Bainbridge on 07974944175 for more details.