



CIS

Christian
Initiative
to Schools

Registered Charity No. 1104698

Prayer Pointers

September to October 2026

in partnership with



Scripture Union

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work... Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

1 Corinthians 12:4-6, 27



A new term. A new academic year.

For staff and pupils, returning after the summer break brings many new things to adjust to: new schools, new students, new classes, new teachers, new lessons, new timetables and new people to get to know. Some of these things will be looked forward to with excitement. Others, perhaps, not quite so much.

At times of transition and change, things can often seem scary. The uncertainty surrounding what is to come can grip us with fear. We find ourselves harking back to 'the good old days', to the way things were in the past. There is security in familiarity, in knowing how things work and doing things the way we have always done them.

Being presented with something new takes us out of our comfort zones. Questions begin to arise. Can I really do this? What will happen if things go wrong? Can I trust the people I have only just met? Will I find the support and security I need?

During the summer, Jane and I spent a holiday on Ynys Môn, the Isle of Anglesey. As keen wildlife watchers, we spent a great deal of our week engrossed in the wonderful wildlife of the island, watching Red Squirrels, Puffins, Ravens and Choughs.

At the northernmost point of the island, during the spring and summer months, there is a breeding colony of Sandwich Terns. We spent a beautiful sunny morning watching these graceful birds flying in from the sea with Sand Eels in their beaks to feed their young.

On two occasions, however, the whole colony suddenly took to the air. The sky filled with silver and white as the sunlight caught the gleam of their feathers in flight. It was a spectacular sight. But why had it happened?

Above the flock was a Peregrine Falcon, looking for an easy meal - perhaps a Sandwich Tern chick to carry back to feed its own young.

There is good reason why birds flock together when danger threatens. It makes it much more difficult for a predator to single out and attack one individual bird. There really is safety in numbers.

The same thing can be seen in the breathtaking sight of a Starling or Knot murmuration. Thousands of birds move together through the air, twisting and turning almost as one. It creates a spectacular display, but it also serves a purpose: together they are far less vulnerable to attack from a bird of prey.

Please turn over

The Apostle Paul uses a different image when he talks about followers of Jesus. He describes us as the Body of Christ. Each individual believer has a part to play, and each part is different. We have different gifts, different abilities and different opportunities. Yet none of us is called to serve God in isolation. We belong together.

As we use the gifts God has given us and work alongside one another, we can do far more together than any of us could ever do alone. Together we are able to encourage and support one another. Together we can face the challenges that come our way. And together we can take the Good News of Jesus to those we live with, work amongst and meet each day.

As this new term begins, my prayer is that the reality of who Jesus is and what He has done for us will be seen in the way we live. May we recognise that we need one another. May we encourage one another, pray for one another and use the gifts God has given us for His purposes. And, as the Body of Christ, may we work together to reach out to children, young people, staff and families who may never otherwise have the opportunity to discover for themselves the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Christopher Baker - Schools Worker

Here are some things to thank God for and to pray for.

Please thank God...

- ▶ for all those involved in educating the children and young people in the schools in Letchworth and District
- ▶ for the holiday clubs and camps that children and young people were able to access over the Summer, and for all that they would have learnt
- ▶ for all those involved in working with young people and children in our churches
- ▶ for the number of assemblies already booked for this term
- ▶ for the Trustees who oversee the work of CIS; Roger Aldridge, Penny Bainbridge, Lindsey

Bryant, Graham Clark, Ashley and Chris Croft, Martin Money and Christine Sherriff

Please pray...

- ▶ for forthcoming assemblies and other speaking engagements.

- ▶ Assemblies:-

St. Francis College Prep. Department 21st September and 9th October; **Grange Academy** 23rd September and 14th October; **Norton St. Nicholas** 28th September; **Etonbury Academy** 12th to 16th October

SPACE at Norton St. Nicholas 19th October

- ▶ Speaking Engagements:-

King's Community Church 13th September and 11th October; **New Life Church** 27th September

- ▶ for the CIS Concert on the 25th September at Central Methodist Church

- ▶ for the CIS Annual Celebration on the 13th October at Grange Baptist Church

- ▶ for the Trustees as they oversee the ministry of CIS and meet together on the 23rd September

- ▶ for continued good relationships between CIS and the schools we have involvement in

- ▶ for the Chaplaincy role that Christopher has with students and staff at Etonbury Academy

- ▶ for Christopher as he begins his final term with CIS

Thank you for your continued prayer and practical support

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