

FINANCE

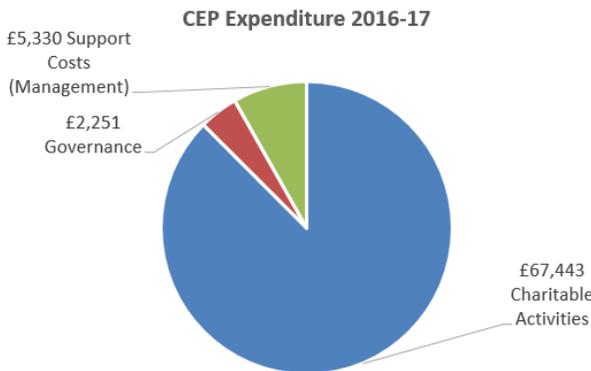
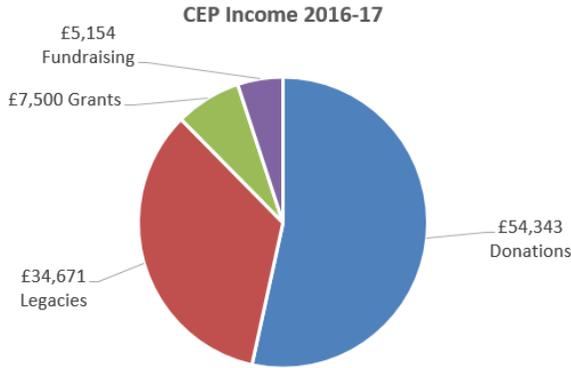
At our recent AGM, treasurer Martin Williamson presented figures for the last financial year.

The accompanying pie charts reflect the income and expenditure for the year 2016-17.

The Project has taken measures over the year to cut costs including a change in accountants and bringing the payroll *in house*.

Our income for the year was greatly boosted by a sizable legacy which the committee has ring-fenced for plans to employ a third worker. This will however need to be sustained by an increase in regular giving.

One way we are seeking to do this is through our 'Friends of CEP' scheme. If you would like more details on how you can support the Project financially please contact the office or check our website for details.



Year on year we have been encouraged by the generous response to our annual Gift Day. With this in mind we would like to publicise our Gift Day 2018 to be held on Sunday 24th June, and encourage you to promote this within your churches and networks.



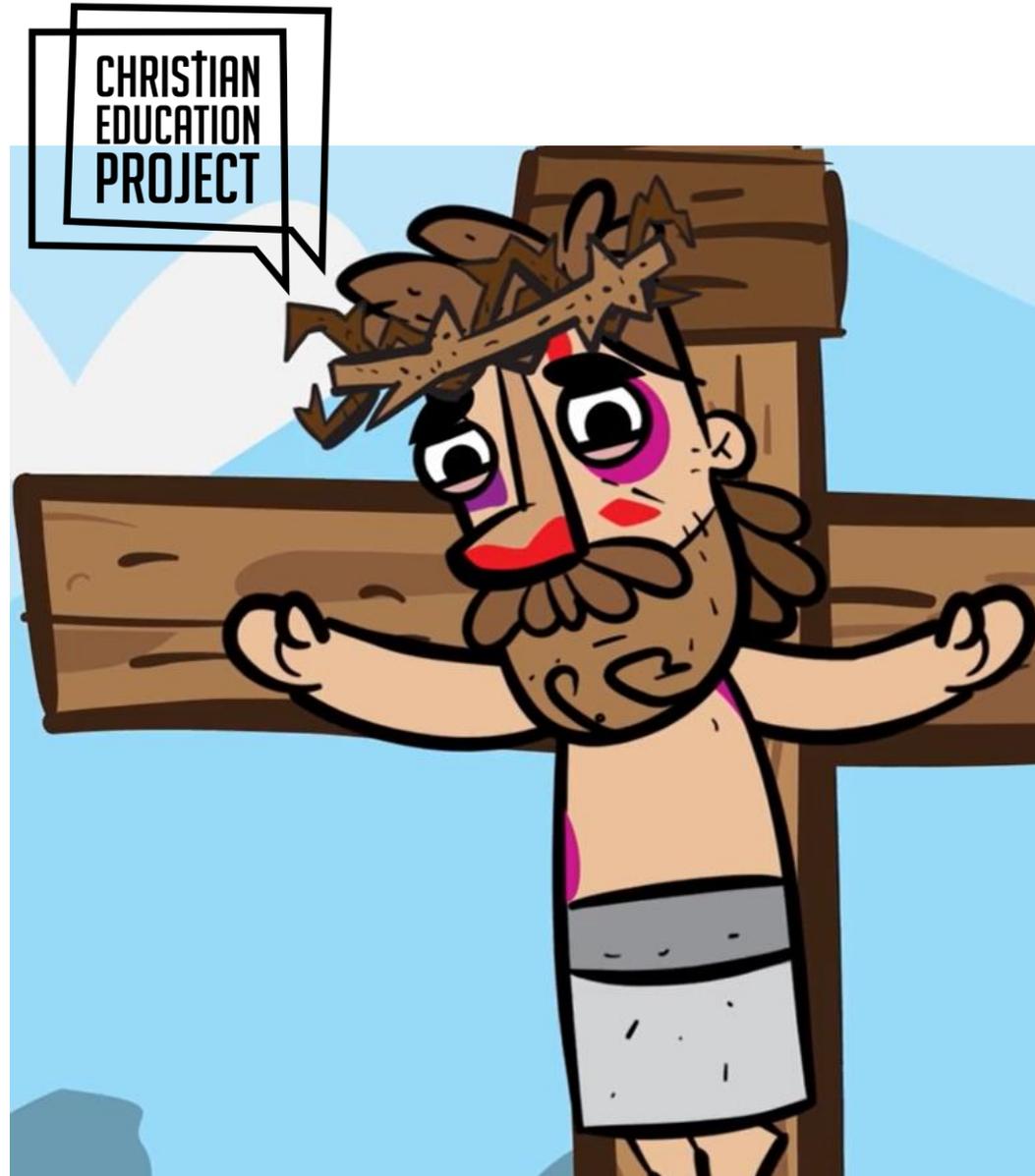
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Cover image from Saddleback Kids Easter videos as found on Youtube. Used during our recent assemblies.

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2018

It is always hard to distil a term's worth of work into a few short paragraphs. Even with a few days of snow disruption it is amazing to look back on all the opportunities we have had.

January began with assemblies at Avon House, Wells, Grove and Parkhill Juniors on the theme of Creation. The assembly involved volunteers competing to make animals out of play dough, judged by the rest of the children. The story was told using images from the Brick Testament (Lego) with the message that we are the pinnacle of God's creation, and the encouragement to look after each other and the world was drawn out.

'Creation' was also a theme of lessons we delivered with Yr3s at Aldersbrook Primary School. It is encouraging that we are beginning to build a good relationship with this school – we also took assemblies and lessons with them at Easter.

Other lessons have included, 'Belonging' at Cranbrook Primary, 'Noah's Ark' at Gilbert Colvin, 'Why is Jesus important?' and 'Prayer' at Parkhill Juniors. We have also had some secondary school visits at Isaac Newton Academy we were invited to take part in a morning of discussion lessons with Yr10s around questions of 'Evil & suffering' and 'Existence of God'. The team also conducted lessons in Chadwell Academy on 'Relationships, sex and marriage' with Yr9s and Matt has also spent some time in Woodbridge High School observing some RE lessons – the conversation about possibly taking some lessons there is ongoing!

Just before the half term break the team were in Manford Primary conducting a team building session with Yr6 and then just after the break, in Fairlop Primary facilitating a Prayer Space for the Yr5 students, which was really well received by both the staff and children.

Obviously the main focus of our work after the break was planning and delivering Easter themed lessons and assemblies in our borough's primary schools.

Over the three weeks before the end of term Rob and Matt visited 25 schools and delivered over 50 Easter themed presentations, reaching in excess of 15,000 children and young people. It has been great over this time to see Matt grow into his role – he is proving a real asset to the Project!

Some other highlights of the term have been:

- In January the team and management committee had an away day at Mulberry House to discuss vision and future plans. It was a great opportunity to reflect on where the Project has come from and discern where God is leading us...hopefully we will be able to share more exciting news on this soon!
- Also in January we had a trip to the Gurdwara on Ilford High Road, facilitated by the Sikh representative we met through lessons at West Hatch last term.
- In February we attended a Diocesan 'Being Good News In Schools' conference – it was a great opportunity to network and promote the work of CEP.
- We had an informal meeting with two other schools workers (Andy & Rosie) operating in Tower Hamlets. They are just starting out and were encouraged to learn about the Project and to hear our story of how we had got to where we are.
- Rob & Matt were also invited to give a presentation to the Deanery Synod in February about the ongoing work of the Project. The invitation came with reference to the LOB funding that CEP consistently receive. The team were well received and several exciting new connections were made.
- In March we held our AGM and Supporters' Supper – as always we were encouraged to share with our supporters more about the exciting things that are happening in our local schools.

Thank you as always for all your prayerful support!



L-R : Rob delivering a Noah's Ark session / 'welcome' at a recent primary prayer space / Lessons and assemblies on the Creation story / Rob & Matt telling the Easter story during a primary assembly