



LIVING VALUES GROWING FAITH

# SUPPORTING SCHOOLS SINCE 1993

TO DONATE TO CRiBS USE  
THE QR CODE OR VISIT  
[WWW.CRIBSONLINE.ORG/DONATE](http://WWW.CRIBSONLINE.ORG/DONATE)




## JOIN PRAYER PODS

Gather in small groups, in-person or online, to pray for schools and the work of CRiBS

For more info email [prayer@cribsonline.org](mailto:prayer@cribsonline.org)



## JOIN US IN PRAYER

We are aware, as a team, that many supporters faithfully support us in prayer, as well as financially. We realise that, whilst many of you pray individually, some pray in groups, and from this came the vision of 'Prayer Pods'. We would like to be able to link people to groups, or enable new groups to be formed.

It doesn't matter how few or many are in each 'Pod'. You may meet in-person, online, or even over the phone. We plan to send regular (weekly or fortnightly) emails with the latest prayer points for CRiBS. We hope you feel inspired to join us in this!

If you are part of an existing prayer group that supports CRiBS, or you would like to become part of a 'Prayer Pod', please contact us by emailing [prayer@cribsonline.org](mailto:prayer@cribsonline.org)

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

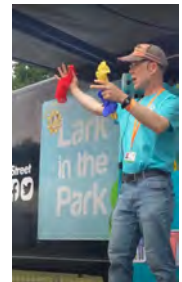
At 'Lark in The Park', at Sidcup Place, we held our 'Wonder Zone' which had a 'science' theme. With the help of the world famous 'Dr. Ditty' (a puppet) we thought about some of the wonderful things found in the natural world whilst having a key theme for each day.

This year's theme at 'Spark in the Park', held in Danson Park, was the Olympics - using Bible accounts that featured sports such as sailing, swimming, wrestling, archery and running (can you guess what Bible accounts might have related to these sports?)

At both events our storytellers dressed up as Bible characters and shared about their encounters with Jesus. We also led the children in a number of fun games and activities. Varying numbers of children attended, due to the usual unpredictable weather, but as always, it was an enormous privilege to support the work of both events as they reach out to the community with the Good News of Jesus.



*"In our Unlimited session at school today, one of the girls knew me already because she saw me at Spark."* Abigail



*"The past four years working for CRiBS have been an incredible journey, serving young people, schools, and parents in our community. Beginning in January 2020, I faced the challenge of adapting to a new environment and work style. Just three months later, the world was plunged into the COVID-19 pandemic, an unexpected adventure that I was not ready for, but I embraced it with my whole being and with both hands. Throughout this time, I've had the immense privilege of working alongside an exceptional team of dedicated, hard-working, and professional colleagues who became friends. With the backing of supportive trustees and amazing supporters, we've made a significant impact.*

*Leading the secondary work, particularly the mentoring program, has been especially rewarding. We've seen positive changes not only in the students we've worked with but also in the whole school communities we've been fortunate to engage with.*



*CRiBS has been an outstanding workplace, filled with remarkable individuals who have often pushed me beyond my comfort zone - for which I'm grateful. The mutual support, office camaraderie, and shared laughter have made this experience truly special. My prayer is that, in this new transition, God will lead and direct the ship in this new dispensation which CRiBS has embarked upon."*  
Joel



Includes a performance of this year's Christmas play



### JOIN US AT OUR CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Monday 16th December 2024

Doors open at 7.00pm for 7.30pm start

St John's, Danson Lane, Welling, DA16 2BQ

[info@cribsonline.org](mailto:info@cribsonline.org)

CRiBS is a UK Registered Charity No. 1122295  
A company limited by guarantee No. 05947379

[WWW.CRIBSONLINE.ORG](http://WWW.CRIBSONLINE.ORG) \* [INFO@CRIBSONLINE.CO.UK](mailto:INFO@CRIBSONLINE.CO.UK)

CRiBS Office, c/o St Columba's Boys' School, Halcot Avenue, Bexleyheath, Kent, DA6 7QB

CRiBS Charitable Trust Company Limited by Guarantee Charity Number 1122295 Company Number 05947379



CRiBS1 criustr CRiBS1

## NEW STARTS

As we begin another school year, as usual it's a time of new starts and change – children moving into new classes, many into new schools. As Mark mentioned in our previous Newsletter, there are also a few changes within CRiBS!

I'm starting a new role as Director of CRiBS. Having worked in CRiBS for more than 10 years I hope that I'll be a familiar face to many of you and that my knowledge and experience of the work will put me in good stead for the role.

When I was first informed of the appointment, two Bible accounts came to my mind – firstly, that of Elisha taking on the mantle of Elijah (2 Kings 2). While not comparing myself directly to the person of Elisha, I feel the responsibility of taking on the leadership of CRiBS but trust that as I walk in God's calling for me, and in His will, I can do this! Mark has ably led the team for the last 7 years, through some very challenging times, and took on the mantle from Gordon Raggett, CRiBS founder. The other Bible account was that of Moses who held up his hands as God's people fought in a battle against the enemy but when he tired and his arms dropped so the enemy gained ground (Exodus 17). However, he had Aaron and Hur with him, one either side, to hold up his hands and so the battle was won.

I'm so grateful to have Adam and Dan alongside me, as Operations Managers, to support me, as well as the strengths that we have across the CRiBS team; working together to ensure the continued work and success of taking the Gospel message into the 'spiritual' battlefield. Your role as a supporter, or interested party just reading this Newsletter, is also such an important part of all that we do as a team. We are grateful for your prayers, financial support, and words of encouragement. One supporter shared with me her idea of 'prayer pods' around the Borough (and beyond) and you can read more on this separately in this Newsletter.

Mark has now left us, and Joel has also moved on to a new role as a pastoral year group leader in a secondary school. Our prayers are with both of them as they move on to their own new adventures – you can read their farewell messages in this Newsletter. Whatever happens in our lives we can all have a confidence in the fact that Christ is our Firm Foundation, who never changes! He promises never to leave us nor forsake us – that doesn't mean that we won't face challenges along the way but it does mean that we can trust in His promises, that we will prevail in His will and in His strength. We pray for this for ourselves, as a team, and for you as you support us.

**Paul Davis (CRiBS Director)**



Dan, Paul and Adam

## NEW TEAM

Isaac has joined the Unlimited team, going into secondary schools. He will be working with both CRiBS and Trinity Baptist, who have recruited him as their Youth Pastor.



We also welcome two new Koru Gap Year students to our team, Emely and Smilla. As well as joining the CRiBS team in the delivery of projects in schools, they will be serving with the churches that are hosting them.

**Do you know a young person who would like to have a Gap Year with CRiBS?** Applications for 2025/2026 are already open. Contact us for more information.

*"In the beginning, God....! It's how the Bible starts, how everything starts in fact. As I say goodbye to my role in CRiBS and prepare for a new beginning (even one where the details are still a bit hazy), and as CRiBS prepares for a new beginning – the start of a new school year, new leadership, new opportunities – it is good to be reminded that God is the God of beginnings, that He goes ahead of us.*



*The last seven years have been a real privilege for me. CRiBS has a fantastically talented team of staff and volunteers, committed Trustees and dedicated supporters. But above all we have an amazing, creative God who is always on the move. Thank you for your support for me in my role in CRiBS, and please join me in praying for the team in the coming days of new beginnings." Mark*