

give thanks for...

- Reaching the Peru fundraising target
- All the support COOL receives
- Our schools partnerships
- Great discussions
- The work of our village youth clubs

pray for...

- S4 - 6 exams
- Those who received S6 Bibles
- Christians teenagers moving away
- The 6 members of the Peru team, and Sarah
- All the summer activities

 SOME UPCOMING EVENTS (PROPOSED)

16, 17, 18, 26 May

Prayer for Youth Meetings

23 May P7 Induction week, Plockton High

1,2 Jun S4 Work Experience

18 Jun Peru Team final briefing

30 Jun Peru 2016

6 Aug Soul Survivor, Lendrick Muir

16 Aug Schools go back

MAY 2016

JUNE 2016

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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JULY 2016

AUGUST 2016

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in prayer before the Lord throughout the year. This enables us to be effective in reaching young people with the Gospel, pastoring our youth and discipling young Christians in our communities. You are a blessing and support to us and your prayers are the beating heart of all our work for the Lord. Thank you for your faithfulness and steadfast prayers. We warmly invite and encourage everyone to attend our upcoming Prayer for Youth meetings in our communities, where there will be an opportunity to catch up with the work of COOL, gather prayer points and take part in open prayer for our young people.

16 May Glenelg (Glenelg Village Hall)

17 May Lochcarron (Church of Scotland)

18 May Kyle (Church of Scotland)

26 May Kyleakin (Church of Scotland)

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COOL is an interdenominational Trust employing a youth and schools worker to share and support young people with the Christian message. COOL is a Scripture Union Scotland Associate Trust, is a Recognised Scottish Charity (No. SCO31455) and Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation.



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MAY

2016



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Like many of the young people, I don't look forward to the summer term. Of course for our teenagers it means exams. For me, it means saying goodbye to high school leavers most of whom I have known since P1. It has been a particularly significant year group for me, with an unusually large number of S6 students involved in the various clubs that I run, as well as a great group of Higher RMPS students for whom I have kept Wednesday afternoons clear. It has become a bit of routine over the last few months for me to keep the coffee going after Dave's Club and chat with the Higher group about their course, various essays and assignments, and of course the bigger questions of life which inevitably open up. Bible reading is a common feature of these chats and they have certainly kept me on my 'theological toes', often stumping me with challenging questions. However, when you spend time struggling over issues of life and faith with people, you come to realise that many of the difficult questions are not to catch you out or disprove your beliefs, but because individuals really want (and need) the answers only Jesus can provide. I am constantly reminded that He reveals His Truth and truths by the Holy Spirit, and does not need my intellect to convince people. What a relief, though sometimes a tear or a hug is His channel of peace.

As always in my work, these are the occasions which remain most meaningful in my work, but they are of course afforded through the routine rhythms of the annual programs.

I visited very few primary schools last term which freed up a lot of time to catch up on reading and various IT projects which needed completing. However it's been good to get back in to the schools this term, and all eleven primaries are booked for assemblies thinking about the past, present and future. P7 visits for distributing the 'It's Your Move' books are also booking

up, and I am hoping to have a work experience student from the High School with me for a number of those visits.

At the end of April, Roddie Rankin and myself were privileged to again lead the School Leavers' assembly for S5 and S6 students. Our theme was laying down any resentments and regrets of the past as they move into new adventures in life. Twenty-seven S6 gratefully received a Bible and I've had at least two complaints from S5 pupils (not Christians) because *they* didn't get a Bible: one more great reason to stay on for sixth form! I did discover that one of them didn't have any Bible in the house, so managed to find a copy for her to take, until she gets the official gift next year. It's also touching to have had a Bible refused by one of the boys, who then gave me a big hug after many years of discussing together.

 YOUTH GROUPS

Since January I've supported youth groups in Kyleakin, Glenelg and Lochcarron, including a day trip to Inverness with the Glenelg Youth



Group. We are now busy planning summer activities and the annual weekend away to Glenshee in September.

At least one holiday club is being planned in Inverinate and Glenelg. Although I am out of the area all summer, I am providing the usual resourcing of songs, teaching

Cut your COOL bookmark along the line

and IT support. After a family holiday at the end of July, I am taking a group of five teenagers to Soul Survivor at the SU Centre of Lendrick Muir near Kinross. I am delighted that former Plockton pupil and COOL sessional worker, Sarah Strang, is able to lead that group with me although she will appreciate your prayers, having only returned from six months in Peru a few days before it starts.

 PERU

Last term was quite busy with various fund raising events for this year's Peru project. Heather Strong and I are taking Maddy Butler, Ailsa James, Bethany Lane and Finlay MacDonald back to Huaycán and Agape with TearFund, flying on June 30th. We are very grateful to all those who have supported and funded this life changing experience for our young people. The final two events of a cooking demonstration by Lady Claire MacDonald MBE of Kinloch Lodge and a ceilidh by The Brogues of Glasgow enabled us to reach our target of over £7500. Sarah Strang will be translating for us, and is already busy in Peru helping to prepare our schedule, which will likely include house cleaning and kids' work, and possibly refurbishing a community centre building.



 PRAYER: 'A THANK YOU' FROM THE CHAIR

At this time of year we send out letters thanking all our generous supporters for their financial giving to the work of COOL over the year, without which we could not operate. We also feel that it is imperative to acknowledge and thank all of you who continue to faithfully lift up Dave and the work of COOL