

Give thanks for...

- God's goodness and faithfulness for the continued work of COOL
- The resilience of our children and young people through these ever changing times
- Our Christian young people and the witness for God in their lives
- The technology that has enabled us to continue to do the work that God has called us too
- The success of the online Holiday Bible Club and the amazing volunteers who made it possible
- All the financial support for COOL, even in these difficult times
- Safety and protection throughout these days

Please pray for...

- Guidance and a vision for the future work of COOL in these ever changing times
- Our college and university students who are facing isolation and negative attention
- Pupils who feel isolated and vulnerable due to the Coronavirus stipulations
- Our schools, headteachers and teachers as they navigate the remainder of this term
- Pupils who are struggling in their Christian faith
- A move of God's Holy Spirit to sweep through our schools and nation



Supporting COOL

COOL would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who give financially to our work, and especially now in these times where we know that people are finding it difficult financially. Remember there are two simple ways to support us without giving anything!



Many sellers partner with Easyfundraising so please check out the website to see if buying from your favourite shop can help support COOL.

If you are someone who uses Amazon a lot, it would be great if you could buy through AmazonSmile.co.uk and COOL could receive a percentage of the purchase price. Use the following link to register:



smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/SC031455

Contact

This newsletter is available on our website. If you would prefer to receive a copy by email instead of post, please contact: christine@coolscotland.org.uk

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We believe you have given COOL permission to send you a copy of this newsletter but you can withdraw your consent or update your details at any time by contacting Christine at the email address above.

COOL is an interdenominational Trust employing a youth and schools worker to share the Christian message and support young people. COOL is an SU Scotland Associate Trust, a Recognised Scottish Charity (No. SC031455) and Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation.



Give
THANKS
TO THE
LORD
FOR HE IS
Good
FOR HIS LOVE
ENDURES
forever



SEPT 2020



www.coolscotland.org.uk
COOL is a Recognised Scottish Charity (No. SC031455)
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God is so good!

There is a saying which I'm sure you are familiar with which goes like this. "God is good" and someone replies, "all the time" and then it is repeated back, "All the time" and the reply "God is good". It's easy to claim this when things are going 'good' in our eyes, but when our circumstances change and the challenges come that we don't see as good, then many people ask the question, where is God's goodness in this. **Time and time again, I hear the question, "why does a good God allow..." as an argument for disbelief in God.** These questions exist because we each have our own idea of what 'good' looks like. It is shaped by our views and beliefs and is often how we justify what we do. **But what is God's idea of good?** To believe that God is good all the time, we have to know what His good is, because it can't be what our idea of good is.

As we look through the bible, God's 'good' is creation, its delivering His people from slavery, its providing for His people again and again, and its giving His people victory in battle. **But its also, disciplining His people for their disobedience, allowing His people to go through difficult times, and allowing His own Son to die on the cross to save us from our sin.** We may see good in the here and now, but God sees the bigger picture and the ultimate good.



Romans 8:28 says, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." The following verses go on to show that this good is about becoming more like Jesus and in the end our glorification in Heaven. **We restrict the power of God at work in us if we limit His goodness to our perspective of good.** In my times spent in Africa, it was common to hear the people use the phrase at the beginning of this section, even though often, life was not very 'good' for them. **They used it as a reminder that no matter how bad their situation was, God was still working things out for His good, and one day they would see that, if they just kept looking to Him.**

Its so easy to spiral into only looking at our circumstances but lets lift our eyes to Him today and remind ourselves that even though we don't see 'good' just now, we can trust the one who defines good!

Online Holiday Bible Club

Some of our volunteers just love the Holiday Bible Clubs so much that they wouldn't let the lock-down put a stop to them this summer... so we moved it online! Using the SU Scotland material produced for Scotland's Biggest Holiday Club, we added our own twist with fabulous content from our very own leaders and produced an excellent online programme.



The theme this year was WonderZone, where we explored the universe, colour, creatures and much more, leading us to think about our great God, His power and love for us and ultimately whether we choose to put

our trust in Jesus. Even though it was online, there was still opportunity for the children to share what they were doing, like this great craft from Talitha. **A huge thank you to the team who faithfully used their time and talents to make this such a success.**



The material for the Online Holiday Club will remain live until after the October holidays so if you missed it over the summer, then you can use this opportunity to take part. **Contact Timmy for more information.**

A new addition!

We are very excited to share and introduce you to the latest member of the COOL team! **Josiah was born on Monday 17th August weighing in at a respectable 9lbs and is doing really well.**



Autumn Term

God has given us great opportunities through these uncertain and ever changing times and we will continue to adapt our work to serve our children and young people. **We are producing online assemblies, developing our online work and we are so glad to be able to meet with our young people at the moment and for as long as we can but we will support them in whatever way we can.**

Lock-down Challenges

We asked Hannah and Mia from S3 about their experience of lock-down and how their faith has been through it. This is their response...

Dear Timmy,

Lock-down was quite challenging in many ways, as I'm sure it was for you all too. We found that during lock-down, the online Timmy Time really helped us stay close with God and talk to other people through Google Meets. During Lock-down, we would always be looking forward to Fridays where we could listen to the bible talk and then catch up with people who we hadn't seen for months.

We found that being a Christian in lock-down was a bit easier than when you're in school constantly being surrounded by people who don't believe in God. We feel that people can definitely experience peer pressure in school while in lock-down, you were just with your families and so it was much easier for many people to stay close with God. During this whole pandemic I think many people around the world found it hard to trust God and remember that he is in control, having Timmys on a Friday definitely kept us reminded that God is in control during these hard times and that he is always there for us and he has a plan.

We are all back at school now and with all the new guidelines in place it is definitely a very different place. It is a shame that we haven't had any Timmy time in school yet but hopefully soon he will be able to come in, thank you Timmy for everything you've done for our youth- we really appreciate it and it really helped us throughout lock-down!

From Hannah and Mia :)

Other news

Our 'Prayer for Youth' meeting will take place on the **25th November at 7.30pm over Zoom and it would be lovely to have you join with us.** If you are not in the local area but would like to join, please contact Timmy for more information and joining instructions. Also, something exciting to look out for; our website is undergoing an upgrade and facelift and will enable us to have a greater online presence and connection.