

Give thanks for...

- All that God provides for us and does for us, especially for giving us His Son and for loving us so much that He would die for us
- The way most of the S1's seem to have transitioned into High School so well
- The amazing summer we have had with Holiday Bible Clubs and the Youth Activity Week, being able to share the love of Jesus with so many
- Connections with new families throughout this challenging year
- The great number of young people that have been coming along to our events
- The joy of leading assemblies and particularly being able to see children in person
- God's goodness and hand upon the work of COOL and for all those that have made it possible throughout the years

Please pray for...

- All the children and young people who attended our summer programme and that they would remember all that they learned and ultimately choose Jesus to be their guide
- The young people who have been away with us to Alltnacriche that they would choose to accept God's friend request and follow Him
- The S1's who are still finding the move difficult especially after over a year of mixed learning
- The plans for our Big Celebration and that God would be glorified through it
- The Seasons for Growth programme and that many pupils would see how it would help them



Birthday Celebrations

It's time for a celebration... COOL is 20 years old this year. Can you believe it! We are hoping to host a Big Celebration on Friday 26th November in Dornie Hall, around the time that Dave started 20 years ago. **We will reflect on what God has done, giving thanks to Him, and remembered some of the highlights of the work of COOL from throughout the years.** We would love for you to join us so please put the date in your diaries and keep an eye on the website for updates and more information.

Many people have contributed to the success of the work over these 20 years, from volunteering time and services, to giving financially and investing in the work, and we just want to say a huge THANK YOU. Without you, what we do would not be possible.

Contact

Thank you for your interest in our work and for your invaluable support. We thank God for you.

Youth Worker: Timmy Currie

e: timmy@coolscotland.org.uk | t: 07731575331

Chairman: Colin MacDonald

e: chairman@coolscotland.org.uk

Treasurer: Robert McRae

e: treasurer@coolscotland.org.uk

We believe you have given COOL permission to send you this newsletter but you can withdraw your consent or update your details at any time by contacting us. If you would prefer to receive a copy by email instead of post, please sign up on the website at coolscotland.org.uk

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.



ALWAYS BE
Joyful
NEVER STOP
Praying
BE
Thankful
IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



September 2021

COOL
www.coolscotland.org.uk

God wants us to rejoice, pray, and give thanks

“Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

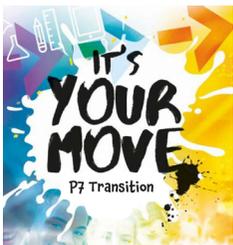
What a way to end his letter to the Thessalonians! Paul leaves a great reminder that in Christ we can always be joyful, we will always have a Father that hears us, and we can always be thankful. In our assemblies this month we have been thinking about Harvest and giving thanks to God for all that he provides and does for us. It makes us a more content, confident and positive as a person when we do, as that’s how God has made us.

There will be many situations that we face in life that will not be joyful, that we will not be thankful for, but in this verse, Paul says this is something that we must choose to do. Even when we don’t feel like it, we can choose to focus our eyes on the Lord’s goodness and grace. **It won’t just happen on its own; it is something God wants us to do, because He knows it helps us as a person and it helps us draw closer to Him. Do we choose to rejoice? Do we choose to speak to God first? Do we choose to be thankful?**

At COOL we have so much to be thankful for after the summer. Will you join with us in giving thanks to God.

Summer Term

The end was in sight, and following the year that we had, it couldn’t come quick enough for many of the children and young people. It was good to be able to support our schools and the young people in whatever way possible and great to be able to meet with some of the young people in the High School. **The assemblies continued online for the primary schools, and we hope these were a ray of sunshine for the children as we sung together and thought about how God always cares, always listens and will always have time for us.**



We had the joy of meeting with nearly all the P7 pupils in the 11 primary schools either online or in person to encourage them with their transition to High School and give them a helpful little book produced by SU called 'Its your move'.

It was extra special to be there for part of the transition days at the High School and be a familiar face for the children to see.

Holiday Programme

What a delight and blessing to be able to run the Holiday Bible Clubs this summer in person. They looked and felt very different being run in the outdoors setting but something that the children relished and enjoyed even more than being inside. We used the SU Scotland 'Jungle Adventure' material which was excellent and worked really well in our setting alongside Timmy’s background and training in outdoors activities.

Each group had their own base in the form of a large tent and they all came together under one big tent to enjoy songs, meet together under one big tent to enjoy songs, meet funny jungle characters, hear stories from the Bible and test their memories in the crazy quizzes! **The club took the children on a journey of discovery and**



adventure, helping them to see first hand the care, provision, and friendship of Jesus through the eyes of His disciples and encouraging them to follow the greatest guide ever. There were also trails through the woods and tall grass, bush crafts, games, and camp fires with bread making and of course marshmallows. It was so good!

We were blessed by the weather for both the Kyleakin and Inverinate clubs and saw dry spells over the Inverinate club when everywhere else seemed to be raining! A sure answer to prayer and we give God the Glory. All the clubs were full and it was great to make connections with some children that had never been to Holiday Bible Clubs before.



The youth activity week was a wonderful opportunity to share the Word of God with 30 plus young people most days, as well as having lots of fun activities!



Amidst all the fun of the famous river challenge, raft building, trip to Sandaig for team games and a swim, and the bridge jumping, BBQ and camp-fire at Arnisdale, **it was exciting to be able to speak to these young people about how God cares for them wholistically, body, soul and mind, and wants a relationship with them.**

Autumn Term

The autumn term is well under way now with assemblies, clubs and our youth weekend forming the staple of the work. **The youth weekend is usually in early spring but due to Covid we decided to move it forward this year and give the young people something to look forward to.** At the time of writing we are just about to head off to Alltnacriche so you can hear all about it in the next Newsletter. Assemblies are now a mix of online and in person depending on the school and its numbers, but it is certainly fantastic to be able to see some of the children face to face again.

It is also a privilege to be able to lead year groups assemblies in the High School and to be involved in leading a session on values for the S3 pupils as part of their Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI) where they learn what is important to them and to their communities. After the October holidays we are excited to be partnering with the High School to run a very successful programme called Seasons for Growth. This gives young people the chance to meet together with others in a similar situation and learn really helpful ways to cope with change and loss in their lives.