



INSPIRE

news & updates

WINTER 2024

Introduction

Welcome! In this issue you will find our finance update, which represents a wonderful testimony of God's provision as well as a call to action to reach as many children as possible. You can also read about Mike's passion and prayer for Christmas, and download our snowing Christmas e-card.

WE NEED YOU

Finance Update
April 2023 - March 2024

We had a bumper income last year in response to our appeal for financial support which gave us a real boost. Alongside this, we reduced our expenditure by reviewing staff hours and cutting costs while still working hard to keep up our level of input into schools. This makes our bottom line look very healthy, but this is difficult to maintain without regular financial support, which is why **WE NEED YOU**.

Our ultimate goal is to reach as many children as possible through our visits and resources.

Do you believe in Christmas?

I do: I believe in the message of Christmas: Peace to all, Joy throughout the land, and the Light shining in the darkness. Most children across the country in varying ways naturally believe in Christmas, it is a very special time of year. You'd have thought therefore that the good news of Jesus' birth would be an easy one to share. However I'm often reminded of the apathy reflected in the lyrics of George Michael's Christmas song*: 'I could believe in peace on earth, and I could watch TV all day'; a gentle and true challenge to us all to ACT at Christmas.

Bigger, brighter truth of God's heavenly kingdom.

Spinnaker's big focus is in helping children to move 'Beyond Belief'. To connect their already held values with the bigger, brighter truth of God's heavenly kingdom and spur them into action personally, spiritually and socially.



To continue building on this, it is essential to have a core base of regular financial support.

Therefore, please pray for us and for your local schools, as well as the children we speak to, but please also consider what you can give. There are lots of ideas about how to donate on our website, but we would particularly ask whether you could consider giving a monthly amount or increasing your existing standing order to help us manage our finances effectively and maximise what we can do in schools.

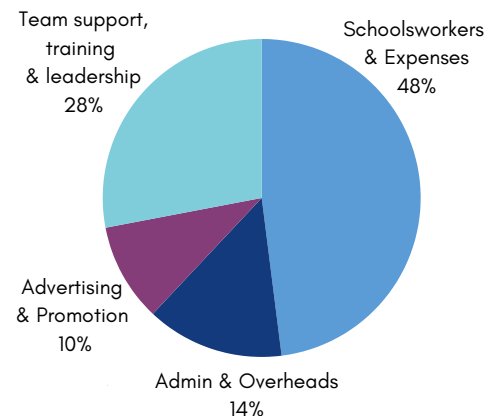
Our first prayer is that each child sees Christmas' true meaning and feels its joy. The second is that that joy takes root in their lives and manifests in life-changing ways for each and every child, and in each and every situation.



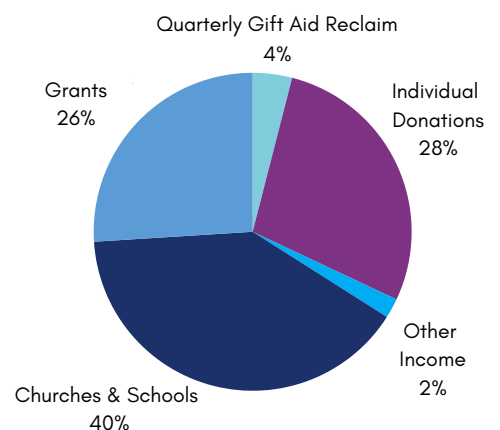
Our third prayer is one of gratitude - thank you to every single one of you praying, and giving, and encouraging Spinnaker in our mission to be 'The-Church-going-to-the-children'. This would not and cannot be possible without you: Great Joy to you all! Jesus has come!

**No, not 'Last Christmas' - It's from 'December Song.'*

Mike Harrowing, CEO



Total Expenditure £166,450



Total Income £192,000

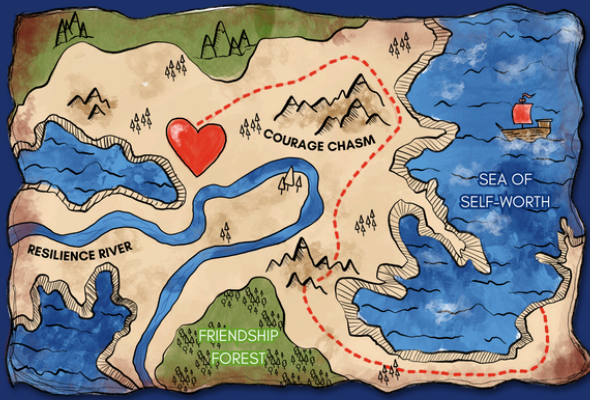
Ran **87** club sessions

Organised **14** RE days



Did **950** assemblies

Visited **79** schools



'Where your treasure
is, there your heart
will be also'
- Matt 6:21

Spinnaker Verse for the Term



Donate Here

Verse of the Term

The verse on our hearts for this term embodies up the whole ethos of our Beyond Belief Worship Series: that Jesus teaches us to keep our hearts focused on the things that really matter, on the Treasures in Heaven. We also love the Treasure Map - thanks to Stephen Garner!



In schools this Christmas

As you read this newsletter, the Spinnaker schools team will be delivering their exciting Christmas assemblies, lessons and other activities in schools. In Eastbourne there is an emphasis on enrichment days which will nourish children with God's word, as they consider the Christmas story and all the good Jesus brings. In Epsom there is a Star Wars based performance going from school to school, telling children about the importance of Christ's arrival in a way that is fun and accessible for all.

Meanwhile, other Spinnaker worship assemblies will be themed around the commonly held, and very Christmas-oriented values of Peace and Charity. Please pray for our wonderful teams in Bromley, Croydon, Eastbourne, Epsom, Orpington, Lambeth, Lewisham and Southwark, that they may carry and convey the **'exceeding great joy'** of Jesus this Christmas.

This term in schools,

we are delivering the 'Beyond Belief' worship series. It has been a hit with Heads, teachers, children and, in Eastbourne, with an Ofsted Inspector! Here is what one Deputy of a community school told us:

We love Spinnaker...

they are always creative, innovative and inclusive and the children have so much fun!! As a Community School we appreciate Spinnaker as their assembly themes follow our school values and ethos. Children are always engaged, focused and love taking part. I would highly recommend Spinnaker to other schools.

**OUT
NOW!**

Spinnaker Christmas eCard

Send a snowing, joy filled eCard this Christmas, and support Spinnaker by making a donation

<https://www.spinnaker.org.uk/christmas-ecard>

Download our "WHEN THEY SAW THE STAR" Christmas eCard and make a donation using the link above or scan the QR code above.

*'When they saw the star,
they rejoiced with exceeding great joy'*

-Matt 2:10

Illustration by Sarah Horne and edited for Christmas by Stephen Garner

