



# Special Edition

## Education for all

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We are devoting a whole edition this summer to issues relating to education both in our town and further afield. The following information is from the Global Campaign for Education.

“Human Rights Day on 10th December marks the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948. Education has been enshrined in this declaration, and reiterated in numerous declarations by heads of state.

Yet, fifty-eight years later 80 million children – the majority of them girls – are being denied the right to go to school. Over 800 million adults - most of them women – have been denied the right to learn to read and write. Nearly one-sixth of humanity lacks the basic skills they need to work their way out of poverty and realise a host of other crucial rights.

**Education Empowers:**  
A single year of schooling increases a woman's wages by 10-20%.

**Education Saves Lives:**  
Seven million cases of HIV/AIDS could be prevented in the next decade if every child received an education.

**Education Builds the Future:**  
A child born to a literate mother is 50% more likely to survive pass the age of 5 years.

However, country studies show that the cost of primary school may be more than 30% of the annual family budget and five times more than budgeted by the government. Leading to situations where children are forced to work in order to pay their school fees.

It need not be this way. The world has the capital and resources to ensure that everyone has the access to free, quality education.

For years civil society and education campaigners have been demanding that Education for All become a reality.

In 2007 the Global Campaign for Education is continuing to respond to this situation. More than 6 million campaigners in over 120 countries will 'JOIN UP!' and create the world's longest ever people and paper chain, asking for 'Education Rights now!' As part of this campaign, evidence on the violations of education rights will be delivered to world leaders. Campaigners will ask why after so many promises and commitments by world leaders, 80 million children and 800 million adults are still being denied their right to education. “

*“If all the world's children join together they can be more powerful than any government”.*

Nelson Mandela

For more information contact [www.campaignforeducation.org](http://www.campaignforeducation.org)

‘Peter replied, “ Repent and be baptised, every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off - for all whom our Lord God will call.”

Acts 2: 38-39

## Through the gateway - Love in Action

It's early morning and all around the sounds of the tropical rainforest can be heard, then there comes a new sound; it's the sound of children laughing, talking, singing, as they make their way to school. It's a happy sound because the children are glad of the opportunity to go to school, they really want to learn. Some are carrying small buckets with their lunch, uniform (if they have one) is a simple cotton dress or shirt and shorts, many do not have shoes but they are happy because they have opportunity, opportunity to learn. Something that many of their parents missed out on, because here in the forest there was no school!

The teachers, who have to live on site because the nearest town is 25 miles away along an awful road, are happy because they have found a job in a country where unemployment is very high, and here their wages are paid on time. Those who work for government schools often have to wait months for their wages. But here at least there are also teaching materials, and the children have exercise books and pencils to write with.

Welcome to Christ's Embassy Primary School, Kasaka, Uganda!

Running a school in Uganda is not an easy task, but it is rewarding. The children appreciate the chance to learn, many children here live with extended families because their parents died. Schools like this one collect 'school dependents' children who live at the school, because they do not have anyone to care for them. At this school currently

there are about 10 school dependents.

This is a primary school, but some of the children are 16 – 18 because lack of school fees means they were late starting or they had to miss a year or more. Education is not free, but this school is affordable because of support from abroad.

This school is run by Love in Action, it's a partnership between sponsors and children and teachers working together to provide education. This school has some good buildings - but many do not, many children are taught in buildings that are falling down, or under trees, or in wooden 'sheds'. This school has good toilets - many do not.

Please pray for the children of Uganda, pray for the 25% of the population who are under 18, pray for the orphans, the teachers, the matrons, caretakers and other support staff.

Pray for the children who will be sitting for exams in October & November, children who have been told that they must study, study, study! Who are often taught that the best way to study is to wake at 3am to read, who attend school from 6.30am or earlier till 7pm at night – or later!

Pray for the sponsors who give generously to help children here.

Thank you.

Alan Went

For more information about Love in Action and how you can help

please visit our website

[www.loveuganda.com](http://www.loveuganda.com)

Email [action@loveuganda.com](mailto:action@loveuganda.com)

Telephone Susann Maharajh on 01206 508948

*How can there be too many children? That is like saying there are too many flowers.*

*Mother Teresa*

There is no **Smile Mega Kids Club** in September

### **To contact Teresa Lasky**

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**To contribute to next month's prayer guide** contact Marie Morris at:

*info@colchesterprayernet.co.uk*

*The contributors' views are their own, and do not necessarily express those of the editors.*

### **Cre8**

An opportunity for children to develop their creative gifts in a Christian context

For 8 - 15 year olds

**Saturday 6th October**

**9.45 am - 5.15 pm**

Workshops including dance and drama

**Booking ahead essential**

Contact:

Richard Hubbard 564216

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## CYO

We believe that every young person is created in the image of God, precious and special, and deserves to be able to live life to the full, body, mind and spirit.

Our work with schools, churches and local communities aims to help young people make the most of life and provides opportunities for them to explore the Christian faith for themselves.

If there's one thing that's come through clearly from our work in schools recently, it's that most young people are spiritually aware and many are interested in the way that a relationship with God works out in real life.

Schools work has always been at the heart of CYO's ministry to young people and this new school year we'll be trying some new ways of engaging young people in a spiritual journey towards Christ. As well as lessons and assemblies, we'll be doing some things we've never done before, prompted, we believe, by God's leading and by some outrageous opportunities. This is truly a walk of faith - we're not absolutely sure where these things will lead.

No Pressure is a twelve week course for 13 - 16 year olds that Tom is preparing which looks at the various pressures young people face in life, such as alcohol abuse, sex and relationships and self image. Rather than just focussing on the facts and figures it will enable young people to explore the spiritual roots of our needs and desires, the way these things go wrong, and how our faith helps us when under pressure. The course will be very par-

ticipative and will include visiting guests who will tell their story as part of the discussion.

The Student Spirituality survey will this year run in five schools, building on the pilot we ran last year. This will lead into other creative opportunities to get young people thinking about spirituality later in the year.

Amy is putting together a proposal for a school lunchtime art group that will get students using their creative abilities as a way of thinking about God and their world. For many young people, conversation about spiritual things flows more easily when they're doing something else and this would give them a place where they could engage artistically with a biblical theme or world issue.

Later in the year Tom is planning to do a film project with small groups of students based on themes from the Easter story. Among young people there is much superficial knowledge, but minimal understanding about the events of Easter so this is a way of getting students to think more deeply about what happened, how it affected the people involved and what is the true meaning of Easter.

We've had some very warm reactions from two schools about the possibility of running a prayer room in school for a week in a 24-7 style. Nothing definite has been agreed yet, so please pray that we will be guided clearly on this.

In amongst these very new things we continue to take bookings for lessons and assemblies, opportunities to share elements of the

gospel and to sow a few seeds. We may also be involved in some part time student mentoring in one school. After half term GSUS Live, the mobile RE classroom, returns to visit The Gilberd, Sir Charles Lucas, Philip Morant and Stanway Schools.

In remembering the work of CYO please also remember the work of the teaching staff in our schools, that they would know God's equipping, wisdom and grace.

For more information about CYO please contact

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**01206 863835**

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CYO Celebration  
 Sunday 28th October  
 Details to follow

We take time at the beginning of this school year to pray for all the schools within Colchester Borough.

We pray for those under 'special measures' following recent OFSTED reports, and for those threatened with closure. We pray for new initiatives such as school federations— working partnerships between secondary schools and for the continued success of so many schools in our Borough, we thank God.

## Colchester Institute

"Well it's been an interesting year! From just 2 of us starting out in September 06 we ended up with a group of 10 in the CU - a real answer to prayer! The group was dynamic and it was really exciting... until after Christmas when the students started not attending so regularly. By May we decided to stop meeting all together as at best there were only 2 of us again. By this point I was starting to wonder what the point of all my

efforts was but God is encouraging me to keep persevering with the CU. The good news for September 07 is that there are 5 returning students who are keen to continue with the CU so I pray that we will be able to build from a stronger foundation.

In addition to the CU meetings we have also been meeting regu-

larly to pray in the refectory and even organised a prayer walk, neither of which had ever been done in my time at Colchester Institute. These times have been very encouraging and one message that came through was about wells needing to be unblocked. Since then excavation work on site has uncovered (and unblocked) a roman well! I'm sure there is huge significance in this for the coming year!

Thank you for all your prayers throughout the last academic year - I'm sure they are the reason why I am still persevering and why all these prayer opportunities have opened up. Please could you continue to pray for the CU in the coming year:

1. Please pray for the returning students that they will continue to support and contribute to the CU

2. Please pray for new Christian students starting in September that they will find the CU and be bold and courageous to stand out as Christians in the college.

3. Please pray for inspiration for the running of the CU and for potential outreach.

4. Please pray that we will make the right decision about when to meet and where (and that a suitable room would be available).

Please pray for increased prayer activity in the college.

Please pray that through our Christian lives many in the college will come to know the Lord."

Thank you  
Natasha

## Prayer ideas

We are grateful to Moms in touch and Friday Focus for the following pointers to stimulate our prayer.

As a new academic year begins we praise God for

- Every child in our schools, colleges and universities
- The curriculum that says "every child matters"
- Every member of teaching and support staff who seeks to live out their faith as they work in education
- The freedom we have in this country to speak of God's love in schools
- Every organisation that seeks to share God's love with children and young people

We pray that

- Our children will receive Jesus as Lord and Saviour, then stand boldly in their faith
- Teachers, administrative staff, and students would come to faith in Jesus Christ
- Parents who carry heavy burdens for their children will receive help and support
- Every child will receive an outstanding education
- We can be an encouragement and a positive support to our schools

We also pray for

- Wisdom for students making decisions about their futures
- Those making national educa-

tional policy, that they would establish principles to benefit all

- "Struggling" schools
- Our schools to be directed by Biblical values and high moral standards

"Your days at the most cannot be very long, so use them to the best of your ability for the glory of God and the benefit of your generation."

General William Booth,  
4th October 1910