



Link is our weekly (term time) evening inter-church youth group. We are very grateful to St Leonards Baptist Church who currently house us for the group. We meet from 7pm till 9pm and the group is for those in Secondary age upwards.

Link was set up over 3 years ago with the aim of being a neutral place for young people from schools that we work with to meet other Christian young people. The young people from schools whom we would suggest coming to Link are those who have openly and explicitly told us that they wish to find out more about Christianity or even to become a Christian. Often the next step of helping these young people connect with a church is really difficult as they do not feel comfortable attending a church or church activity where they will not know anyone. Therefore this group is ideal for not only young people from the schools to meet and make new Christian friends, but also for young people whose churches are not in a position to provide a regular youth Bible study group, at Link they meet other Christian young people and are able to develop their own faith.

We have a fantastic group of young people who attend link from seven different churches around Hastings and St Leonards but we are always very happy to welcome new young people on their own or with a group.

We organise every year a trip to the Soul Survivor camp in the summer for the group who attend Link. This is always exciting and a wonderful opportunity for the young people to have fun, have a holiday and spend time getting closer to God.

If you are interested in coming (you are a young person) or you know a young person(or group) who would benefit from attending Link, please get in touch before coming so that we can expect you and be ready to welcome you.



## Ultimate Frisbee Groups

Please continue to pray for our Ultimate Frisbee work. We have now had a very positive response from one of the secondary academies we are hoping to use this resource in. We now just need to be able to find a suitable time to run the activity that suits both the academy and ourselves.

Christian Schools Workers Hastings is an arm of Hastings Christian Trust.  
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## JAFFA Clubs



In terms 1 and 2 (September up to the Christmas break) we were able to run 8 JAFFA Clubs. Some of the clubs happened at lunch times and others after school. Over the course of the two terms we welcomed over 200 children coming along to find out what JAFFA was all about and a regular weekly total of about 120 across the 8 clubs. We were using

our brand new Kindle Fire tablets to engage with the Guardians of Ancora Bible exploring game in 6 of these clubs as well as a short story time and making/activity sheet. The other two clubs followed a more traditional style with games, story time, craft and activity sheets. The children have engaged so well with the Guardians of Ancora game, they have learnt lots about Jesus and we know of a good number who have downloaded the game at home to continue their exploration of the stories and activities the programme has to offer.

Thank you to everyone who has donated towards the Kindle tablets. They are a fantastic resource that we are able to use as another tool to engage the children and young people we meet with stories from the Bible.

This term all 8 clubs are continuing up until the Easter break (two will continue after the Easter Break). As we have now completed all the stories that Guardians of Ancora has currently available we will be using our own resource Bible Celebrities to take the children through the story of Joseph at 7 of our 8 clubs. Ark Little Ridge JAFFA Club is organised and run by members of St Peter and St Paul Church on Parkstone Road. It follows a different curriculum from our other clubs as the volunteers who are responsible for it plan and prepare the club independently. We are so thankful for all our volunteers who help, run, plan and prepare the JAFFA clubs that happen every week. Without them it would be very hard to serve so many schools.

## Fundraising Team

As a charity we are always looking for new ways to raise funds to keep the work going into the future. We have just formed a new fundraising team who have held their first meeting to plan ways of raising much needed funds. Do you have a passion and creativity for fundraising? Would you like to join a team dedicated to raising the profile and funds that CSWH so desperately needs? If you think you could help us with this please get in touch for more information.

Christian Schools Workers Hastings- a local ministry partner of Scripture Union.

## Sporty Sponsorship

At the fundraising team's first meeting there were lots of ideas that were flying around. An idea that we would like to challenge our supporters to take part in is a Sporty Sponsorship challenge. With the soon-to-start new work of Ultimate Frisbee that we are seeking to run in local secondary academies we thought it would be fitting to ask if anyone would be willing to do a sporty challenge in aid of CSWH.

We will be trying to organise official sporty challenge events throughout the year which individuals could take part in, or you could organise your own to fit in with your free time. During the next 12 months we hope to organise some the following opportunities:

- \* Hastings Half Marathon 19th March (our workers are already in training, you could join them).
- \* A Sky Dive (some of the management committee are particularly excited about this one).
- \* The 3 or 5 peaks challenge (We haven't quite decided which one yet).
- \* Cycle challenge
- \* A Full Marathon
- \* Tough Mudder (An obstacle course challenge only taken on by the very daring. I.E Peter Howarth)
- \* A Sponsored walk

Maybe you have something else in mind? Our commitment to you taking on a challenge for CSWH is that we will: -

- \* Set you up an online sponsorship account so that sponsorship can be paid directly. We will also send you a paper sponsor form.
- \* We will cover the entry cost of the sports challenge (if you raise more than the entry fee)
- \* If taking part in one of our teams (like the Hastings Half) we will send you a custom vest/T-shirt for the event.

If you think you are up for the challenge to run, walk, hike, jump and cycle to help raise funds then please get in touch.

You can sponsor our Hastings Half team by visiting <https://mydonate.bt.com/events/cswhhastingshalf17> or alternatively you can send a cheque payable to Hastings Christian Trust. Please indicate that it is sponsorship for the Half Marathon.

**Thank You!**

## Prayer/Reflection Spaces

Term 5 (after Easter) is fast approaching and we already have 8 prayer and reflection spaces booked in! We have picked three potential themes this year to base our spaces around. These themes enable students to reflect on their own lives and beliefs whether they have a faith in a God or not. All our spaces feature one particular activity where students spend time asking God any question they like, by writing it on card before placing it in a net.

- **Belonging**- this is a theme that we have set up and ran in the past. This theme helps the student think about how someone belongs (or doesn't), to reflect and/or pray for themselves and the people that help them to belong. They also reflect and pray about people in the world who are displaced or disadvantaged and who feel that they no longer belong.
- **Treasure**- This is a new theme for this year. It offers students the opportunity to think about what/who they most value in the world. They reflect/pray about people in the world who don't feel valuable and how they might help them. Finally, students think about their own value.
- **Lighthouse**- There have been lengthy discussions about the name of this space, but we have decided to go with lighthouse rather than light as we want the students to have the opportunity to think specifically about people who have helped them to make good choices and how they can be like a lighthouse to others.

Our spaces use interactive activities to help the students of all ages and abilities reflect on different aspects of the theme. Each space that we run costs from £900 to £950 per week. This covers the space being supervised every day for lessons and break times. It covers all the consumable resources like paper, post-it notes, glue, staples and pens. Yet like everything that we do this service is offered at no cost to the school. If you feel able to donate towards running and setting up these spaces then please send cheques to the address below and make them payable to Hastings Christian Trust. Alternatively it may be that you would like to be involved in the setting up and/or leading the spaces. If so please get in touch to find out more. We need volunteers for these very intensive activities.