

Ideas for Pray Day



Download all resources (in italics) from www.suscotland.org.uk/pray/pray-day-for-schools (some only available nearer the time) or email pray@suscotland.org.uk / tel. 0141 352 7632

Tuesday 16th November 2010

Pray Day in school ... for teachers, pupils, SU groups, chaplains

- Prior to Pray Day, run a **series on prayer** at your SU group. *Prayer outlines* are being prepared – check out our website from mid October onwards.
- Prior to Pray Day, go round classes explaining what Pray Day is all about. Tell pupils there will be a special Pray Day **“Ask-it Basket”** (decide where this will be kept). Inform them they can confidentially and anonymously write down prayer requests, which will then be prayed for on Pray Day.
- Kick off Pray Day with a staff/pupil **prayer breakfast**. Have bacon rolls or croissants, then pray!
- Make a **prayer room** in your school (do you have a contemplation/multi-faith room you could use?) Provide a roll of wallpaper to write on “grafitti” prayers, people shapes on which to write prayers for individuals, a prayer box for specific prayer requests, the **“5” leaflet** and **“Pray the Bible”** cards. Advertise it round the school in the run-up to Pray Day.
- Have a special SU group **prayer lunch**. Eat together, then continue with some interactive prayer activities such as those below:
 - The *worksheets* from our web page
 - The **“5” leaflet**. Remember to feed back the answers!
 - **“Pray the Bible”** cards, using Bible verses to pray for others
 - Light a tealight while praying for a friend. Ask God that Christians would let their light shine at school.
 - Share what each member would like prayer for in the school
 - Invite the young people to write down prayer points, pop them into a Prayer Box and commit to pray for them after Pray Day
 - Hand each individual a **“Pray for me”** bookmark. Take them in and give them out to adults who will commit to pray for them.
- Take a **Pray Day assembly**. An *assembly outline* is being prepared and will be available nearer the time.
- Download the *prayer walk* leaflet. Gather Christian pupils and/or staff after school and go for a **prayer walk** around town, stopping outside all the schools to pray. Liaise with your local chaplaincy team and finish in a local church hall with pizza or chips!



Pray Day at Church ... for prayer groups

- Make a **prayer room** at your church where folks can drop in throughout the day. Have interactive prayer activities, or quiet music and a contemplative atmosphere. Pin up photos of local schools, staff, church children and supply prayer points specific to your area.

- Gather together your **prayer group** to pray, remembering that others all over Europe are praying too. See the foot of this page for prayer points.
- Arrange **24-7 prayer** cover throughout the day so that at every point during Tuesday 16th November someone is praying for a person or situation to do with schools – provide people with individual names, local and national prayer points.
- Hold an **after-school drop-in** prayer opportunity, inviting along local school staff. Provide someone willing to pray with anyone who would like prayer; set aside a quiet contemplative space (a prayer tent?) for private time alone with God; see elsewhere on this sheet for interactive or written prayer ideas.
- Hold a Pray Day **evening prayer event**. Provide information on what is happening locally in schools (invite your local SU group leader, Regional Worker, associate worker, youth worker along to share), run pictures of SU weekends etc on a PPT loop, share stories of answered prayer, give opportunity to pray.

Pray Day on the move ... for individuals

- Mark Pray Day in your diary and **pray on the way to work**. Pray for every school you pass on your journey.
- Enjoy a walk? Get together with friends and have a **prayer walk** around town, stopping outside different schools to pray for the staff and pupils there, by name if known.

Pray Day at home ... to pray on your own

- Set your **alarm** for different times throughout the day:
 - 9am - pray for pupils and staff as they arrive to start the day
 - 12.30pm - pray for lunch break and any children who are lonely, or spending lunch time in detention; pray too for dinner ladies!
 - 3pm - pray for safety as children return home, praying for lollipop people and the family situation to which each child will return.
- **Use the internet**. Go to <http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/scottishschoolsonline/nearest.asp>. Enter your postcode and pray for the schools which are nearest you. Click on each school individually to access their website and pray for the headteacher, current news and events.
- **Make a list** of all the school teachers and pupils you know and pray for them individually.
- Focus prayer in your **“quiet time”** on prayer for schools:
 - Pray for teachers who deliver RME (religious and moral education). Pray for delivery of clear and informed sex education, and for positive teaching on Christianity.
 - Pray for wisdom and good management for local head teachers, and for a happy, calm and positive ethos in local schools.
 - Pray for pupils with special needs; for those with behavioural problems, depression, coping with bereavement or family problems, and for guidance staff.
 - Pray for Christian young people to resist peer pressure and live lives worthy of the Lord, pleasing him in every way (Colossians 1:10). Pray that they would be salt and light in their schools.
 - Pray for schools attending SU Educational Activity Breaks at Lendrick Muir and Alltnacriche and other Christian outdoor centres; pray for those who have been to SU camp or weekends, that God would water and nourish the seeds sown.