



Dear friends

New Director Update

No change, at least not yet! Although having received applications in response to our advertisement for a new GenR8 director last term, the trustees decided not to interview as the applicants did not meet the criteria. The trustees have since reviewed the process and paperwork and will advertise again this term. We trust that there is someone that God has in mind to take the work forward and seek to trust in His timing and plans for the future of GenR8. Anyone who knows me will know that's easier for me to say than do!

GenR8 Volunteers – A theology of GO 'ness'!

If you happen to meet or sit next to a GenR8 volunteer, they will more often than not be fairly quiet, unassuming, and in most senses normal individuals! But I can tell you they are anything but normal, they are extraordinary people who practice a theology of GO 'ness' (yes, a made-up word! But based on the Great Commission in Matthew chapter 28 to GO!) in parts of Cambridgeshire, North Hertfordshire, as well as areas of Norfolk and Suffolk.

Each one has chosen to put into practice the call in Matthew 28 to GO into local schools to share something of the love of Jesus for each individual, whilst communicating at times with hundreds of children. Most felt ill equipped at the beginning; most felt nervous, were apprehensive, and at times have made sacrifices along the way; but most (if not all) have been blessed and encouraged through the opportunity to live out God's call on their lives right on their doorstep.

It won't surprise you to know that the last two years have been difficult for many. Bereavement, relocation, injury, and illness has affected several of our volunteer team. At the same time, due to being unable to visit schools because of the pandemic, we have also not had the opportunity to find new team members, which leaves us with challenges in the weeks and months ahead. It was fantastic to be able to get back into some schools with our Advent tour, and we look forward to being able to do so again in the year ahead, but the reality is that we won't be able to offer visits in every area unless we find more people with the heart to 'GO'. Is this something you can consider? Do you know of others who have a heart to GO? Would you be willing to share our need for team in your church? If the answer is yes do get in touch, we would love to hear from you. Thank you.

Family

Christmas plans ended up being reduced to the 6 of us, with Megan (Bristol) and Millie (London) coming home. It was nice to catch up, get thrashed at cards, and just enjoy being family for several days. We did manage to meet up with wider family members through walks and outdoor coffees. So, although plans were downsized it felt like we crammed a lot in. I realised afterwards it was 2 years since I last saw one of my brothers and he only lives 5.9 miles away! Thank you for praying for us.

I just wanted to extend our thanks for coming into (our school) this morning. The children loved the Assembly and have been chatting about it all morning. Thank you for once again bringing in some festive cheer to our school whilst maintaining our Covid guidelines. We just love your visits.- Headteacher

- 🌸 For the readvertising of the new director post. For God's leading.
- 🌸 For bookings and preparations as we work towards offering an Easter presentation to schools.
- 🌸 That we will be guided in our plans and preparations for an 'in person' Xcellr8 weekend in February to children aged 8-11.
- 🌸 For wisdom as we consider Cool Choice dates, and possible Growing Young Disciple and Growing Young Leader days.
- 🌸 For new volunteers with a heart to GO and to join the GenR8 assembly presentation teams.

We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give. – Winston Churchill