**Prayers for Education Sunday**

**Written by Fiona Johnson, Resource Co-ordinator (including schools)**

Dear Lord, thank you for the gift of reading and the joy it brings to so many people. Please be with children as the world opens up to them through the power of books. We ask that you are also with those who find reading a challenge, and that their struggles are recognised and supported. Amen.

Lord, we pray for students as they are learning mathematics. Let them see the beauty in the patterns numbers make and enjoy their learning. We pray for clear teaching and understanding so they can learn the skills they need which will support them through their life. Amen.

In the struggle to achieve academic results, there can be limited time for creativity and originality in our schools. Lord, we ask that there is space for our children to explore and express themselves; to be creative in different ways – in art, drama, dance and writing; to become the unique and blessed individuals you, who created all things, created them to be. Amen.

Father God, look after the health of our young people in our schools. We pray that their bodies are nurtured as well as their minds. We pray that they learn about healthy lifestyles and value the many benefits that sport and activity bring to us. We pray for their mental health, and that they have support networks to help and guide them. Amen.

Dear Lord, we pray for Religious Education in our country; that students explore theological concepts and understand Christianity as a living world faith. We ask that they connect with their learning, that it has a meaningful impact on their lives. Amen.

Dear Lord, today we pray for the people who work with our children in schools. Thank you for the dedication and hard work given by teachers and support staff, the school leadership team and school governors. Be with them and guide them as they support the young people in their care. Give them strength and wisdom, compassion and insight in all that they do. Amen.

Dear Lord, we pray for The Salvation Army that works within and supports our schools. They seek to serve their community through mentoring, running clubs and by leading lessons and assemblies. Let them be a reflection of your love for our children, that our children may encounter Jesus and you through them. Amen.