

Dear Friends,

## **HOLIDAY CLUB 2025 CANCELLATION AND PLANS FOR 2026**

At the recent CTIPB committee meeting, we reached a consensus with the ministers' recommendation that the Holiday Club should not run in 2025. While there was naturally some disappointment, we acknowledged that the lack of available leadership resources made this decision unavoidable.

Several factors contributed to this outcome. Pope Paul School will not break for summer until Wednesday, 23rd July, with teachers still in school on 24th July. Although we initially planned for the club to take place from Tuesday, 29th July, to Friday, 1st August, significant scheduling conflicts emerged. Several ministers are scheduled for sabbaticals in the summer of 2025, and at least one is unable to postpone it. Consequently, we will lose key leadership roles, including two group leaders, a musician, and the drama leader.

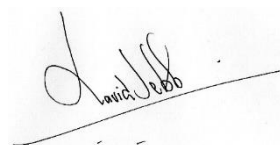
Moreover, some volunteers faced challenges balancing work commitments during the 2024 Holiday Club, with pastoral and other responsibilities continuing throughout the week. A key organiser will also be unavailable next summer. Without sufficient experienced leaders to oversee building security, emergencies, and overall coordination, running the Holiday Club in 2025 would be impractical.

Given these constraints, we agreed to take 2025 as a year to regroup and strengthen our foundation. During this period, we will focus on developing our own resources for 2026. We will also enhance our provision for children with additional needs and further develop our connections with Potters Bar Primary Schools.

The committee acknowledged the necessity of resting the Holiday Club for a year and supported our recommendation. While the decision comes with some sadness, it was agreed to be the most sensible course of action.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to all the past volunteers for their invaluable contributions and dedication. Your efforts have made a significant impact, and I encourage each of you to look forward to returning even stronger in 2026. Together, we can continue to make a positive difference in our community.

We plan to reinstate the Holiday Club in 2026, refreshed and better equipped to serve our community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Jebb', written over a horizontal line.

Revd David Jebb - dated on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2024  
Chair of the Churches Together in Potters Bar