

Children  
and Young  
People at  
Formby  
Methodist  
Church

Issue: 3/2019

Coming soon



## Footsteps

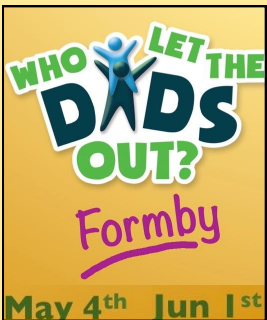
Have you had a busy week?

I'm sure it would be nothing in comparison to the 'week' which is described at the start of the Bible in the Creation Story. Day 1 - light; day 2 - water; day 3 - dry land; day 4 - day and night; day 5 - sea creatures; day 6 - animals and people, after all that 'creating' God decided to have a rest on day 7. The theme of 'creation' provided lots of choices for questions in the opening quiz like 'Can a Bombay Duck quack?' (answer - no, it

is a fish!). There was also a plastic cup tower challenge and animals to paint to go with the creation picture which



was created in real time as we heard the story. It looked really good - we should have done it straight on to the church wall to create a mural! After the story we had the family



# Footsteps . . .



challenge - building a rocket - there were even some wannabe astronauts who managed to sit/stand in them. Getting them over to church on a windy afternoon proved slightly more tricky than landing on Mars - running re-

pairs were required on landing! Most people were unaware of the difficulties faced when moving rockets as they enjoyed more crafts and games in the



hall. There was a cake to

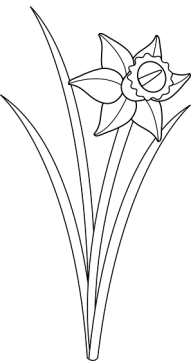
decorate, a woodwork spinner, bird mask and bulbs to plant. The star attraction was making and firing plastic bottle rockets - some

went the length of the hall - everyone playing games had to duck (or perhaps fish - just testing if you've read the whole article). No Footsteps would be complete without tea - we went through to the circle room to enjoy sandwiches, sausage rolls, crisps, cakes and ice cream.

A big thank you to everyone who helps out in the kitchen each time. The next Footsteps is on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May - why not bring a friend along?

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## Rainbows



Another busy term for the Rainbows!

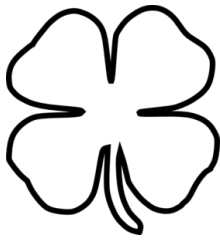
We have made daffodils for Saint David's Day and 25 Rainbows attended our annual

Thinking Day service then enjoyed an afternoon of fun

crafts.

We made pancakes to celebrate Shrove Tuesday and played a game called 'If your eyes are brown...' in which the girls were given different scenarios for which they had to do an action. For example, 'If your eyes are brown turn around' or 'If you have a blue front door sit on the

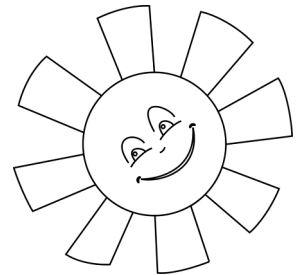
floor'. This is part of our preparation for yet another of our badges.



For St Patrick's Day we decorated shamrock shaped biscuits. We made key-rings and cards for Mother's Day. On the last day of the term

as well as decorating Easter baskets both groups had one Rainbow jump over the Rainbow to move on to Brownies.

We are now looking forward to the summer term when we enjoy the great outdoors !



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## Explorers

Can you remember what big sporting event happened at the end of April? Need some help? Well here are some clues....

- 390,000 people wanted to take part, but...
- Only 55,000 people could.
- Over £900 million has been raised for charity since the event started in 1981
- Many people race in fancy dress
- The fastest person to complete the race was in 2 hours and 3 minutes, most other people take a lot longer!

Have you guessed? It's the London marathon, a 26 mile run around London.

Could you just turn up to the marathon and run it? Well you could try but you wouldn't be very

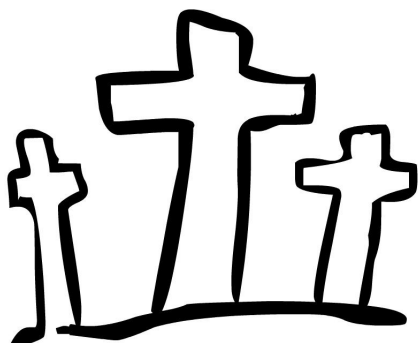


successful. You are recommended to train for at least 17 weeks, that means starting in December at the latest. You

start with walking, increasing the time spent walking and then building in runs. Eventually with time and hard work you should be able to run the marathon. Do you think you could manage that?

You might not have thought about it but to fully understand Easter you need to put in 'training' time. Easter is not just about time off school and chocolate eggs or bunnies. Easter is really important. It is when Jesus died on the cross for us and then rose from

the dead on Easter Sunday. Be-



cause of this we can now have a relationship with God.

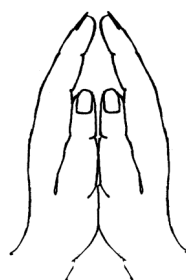


It's hard to get your head around it and it is for this reason we need to spend time with God in prayer and looking at the Bible. Lent is the time

for this.

In Lent people sometimes give up

something, for example, chocolate, biscuits or maybe social media or limit the amount of time that they spend on their mobile. Putting your mobile phone away would certainly free up time!



God is always with us, ready to listen - talk to him. Think about picking up and reading the Bible, it's an amazing book, we can learn so much from it.

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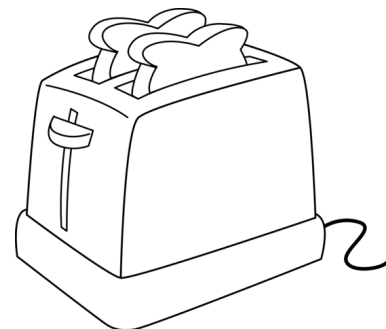
## WLTD0? (Who let the Dads Out?)

Our most recent meeting on Saturday April 6<sup>th</sup> had many of our regular Dads and children attending, in spite of it being the day of the Grand National!

Much fun was had with the giant Connect Four and the skittle alley. As usual we had excellent bacon



baps and tea and coffee for the Dads with toast and jam as required. There were very healthy fruit snacks for the younger age group - but many of the children enjoyed the hot buttered toast as well!



With this being our last event before Easter, there was an



'Easter Egg and Spoon' obstacle race, through tents and tunnels and over hurdles. The best part being that the Easter eggs were able to be eaten or taken home, (according to taste) with some extras taken for brothers and sisters not present!

It was a great morning and we look forward to the next Saturday mornings on May 4<sup>th</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup>.

WLTD0 is for any Dad or male carer and their children aged 7 and under. Come along it's always good to welcome new and old members.

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## Illumin8



Who thought the paper cup challenge had been won? Those coming to the last Illumin8 took up the challenge.

We are going to keep the challenge open for a while longer - with a few rules - to see if their efforts can be beaten. Just let

us know if you want to have a go.

We also found time to play table tennis, table football and lots of other games before the ongoing battle with duster hockey - dare I tell you who won?

If you're a member of Footsteps or Explorers in year 5 or above join us for hot chocolate and cake besides the games at Illumin8 on the 4<sup>th</sup> May, 8th June and 6th July .

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## Guides

At the beginning of this half term we celebrated Thinking

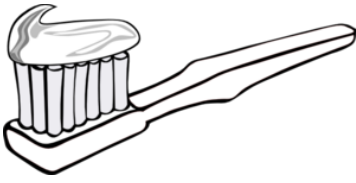


Day, tasting food and trying out games from other countries. We then attended the Division Celebration, after a celebration in Church, there were various activities to do.

The Guides also helped to fill 100 comfort bags with items brought by all the Rainbows,

# Guides

Brownies and themselves. These included tooth-paste and shower gel which were then given to the Sefton Women's and Children's refuge.



The unit continues to try out some of the many new activities which we have been provided with. These include creating a magical mythical beast and flexible first aid kits - using everyday items such as blankets, jackets, scarfs and cling film to deal with first aid emergencies. Also learning how to negotiate with others, by buying and selling items at a good price. One week saw the girls taking time for

## Adventurers

Forty days since pancake day (not counting Sundays) and our lent diaries helped us to remember to think of others and to be more self controlled. On Mother's Day we counted and tied about 70 bunches of daffodils to give out to the ladies in

themselves by creating a mindfulness jar, and thinking about happy memories. Another week they identified as many emojis



as they could and then invented some more.

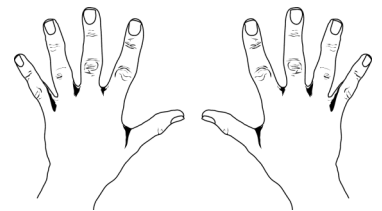
Of course we had to have pancakes and the Guides also made gifts for their mothers - hand made chocolates and cookies.

We welcomed a new Guide. up from Brownies and 4 girls gained their photography badge congratulations to them.

church.

So now it is Easter and everyone seems happy.

Could you tell the Easter story using your hands?



EASY! The clue is in using hand prints. Press your hand on the paint pad then press it onto the

paper. Wash your hands and get creative.....

### Palm Sunday?

Print with fingers spread out. Cut out and wave as **palm leaves**.



Print with fingers down and thumb stuck out. Add a nose, ears and tail for a **donkey**.

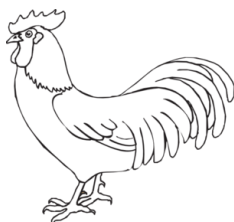
### Easter week?

Print both hands side by side, add gold circles for **coins** and remember that Judas betrayed Jesus for money and then could not forgive himself.

Print both hands with all fingers straight up from the bottom of the page. Make these stems into flowers to remember the **quiet garden** where Jesus went to pray.

### Good Friday?

Print fingers closed and thumb sticking out, add a beak and feet and colour in the feathers on the **cockerel** that crowed when Peter had denied knowing Jesus....just as Jesus had said he would.



With wrists together in the middle and fingers pointing left and right print hands to show Jesus' hands on the **cross**.

### Easter Day?

Make a **happy face** hand with fingers labelled **J E S U S** to show Jesus is Risen and will always be our friend.



On Easter Day we made an Easter garden and if you look in the porch you will see it full of forget-me-nots that we planted to show God that **we will not forget** his love for us.

Hurray! An egg hunt! The clues led us to numbers and names on notices and plaques around the hall, porch and Maple Leaf room (do you know why its called the Maple Leaf room with a Canadian flag over its' door??) this meant we could crack the code to find the hidden treasure and then at last .....to crack open our chocolate eggs!!!



# WHAT'S ON

## Sunday

Services at 10:30am and 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome to join us for worship. At the same time as the morning service there are two children's groups.

*Adventurers* All children are welcome for Bible based games and activities.

*Explorers* All young people in year 5 and above are welcome for hot chocolate and chat.

## Thursday

*Toddlers*, 9:30am - 11:30am. All pre-school children with their parents or grandparents or carers are welcome. Term time only.

*Rainbows, Brownies and Guides* meet from 5pm onwards. Term time only.

*Toddlers Little Church (TLC)* 30<sup>th</sup> May, 9:30am-11:30am. An active Bible story time for pre school children with their parents or carers. Older siblings are welcome.

## Saturday

*Who let the Dads out?* 4<sup>th</sup> May, 1<sup>st</sup> June and 6<sup>th</sup> July 10am-11:30am. A group for Dads and their children age 0-7. Come along for a morning of play.

*Illumin8* 4<sup>th</sup> May, 8<sup>th</sup> June and 6<sup>th</sup> July 6:30pm-8pm. Games evening for young people in year 5 or above who are members of Explorers or Footsteps.

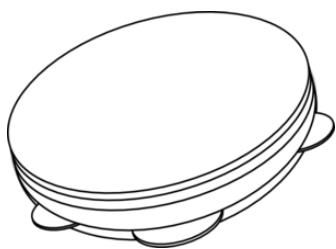
*Footsteps*, 11<sup>th</sup> May and 29<sup>th</sup> June 3:30pm - 6:00pm, join us for an afternoon of Bible based family fun and games with tea.

Church BBQ, 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2pm - 6pm. Everyone is invited to an afternoon of fun and games, finishing with a BBQ at Scarisbrick Guide campsite.





# TLC (Toddlers Little Church)



There was cheering and waving; tambourines, maracas and assorted

shakers when mums, carers and toddlers acted out Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Could the actual crowds have made more noise?

Yes our theme was Palm Sunday.

A 3D model of the road to Jerusalem was made and we lined the road with a variety of people made from play dough and polystyrene bits.

Then there were donkey ears to be made and a model donkey

which went on the road or joined lots of others in a huge green field at the front of church. One donkey was chosen by Jesus' friends to carry Him into Jerusalem.

What a story he had to tell when he returned.

And of course we couldn't have TLC without Old Macdonald who obviously had a donkey on his farm.

We finished in the church hall with snacks, including hot cross buns, and ride on toys.

Why not join us next time? The next TLC is on Thursday 30th May.

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## Church Family BBQ - 22nd June

Summer is nearly here! That means plenty of fun outside and some BBQs. You are all invited, you and your parents and brothers and sisters, to our Church BBQ on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2pm-6pm, at Scarisbrick Guide campsite.

Please come and share in the afternoon of fun. There will be a scavenger hunt, rounders, giant games and of course a BBQ. Tickets (£5 per person and £3 for pre school children) are on sale now from any of the leaders of your groups.



# TODDLERS LITTLE CHURCH

Our next session is on:  
**30<sup>th</sup> May**  
**9:30am to 11:30am**

An active Bible story time for you and your toddlers, with refreshments.

For more information email:  
[toddlers\\_little\\_church@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:toddlers_little_church@yahoo.co.uk)




At: **Formby Methodist Church Hall**  
Elbow Lane, Formby L37 4AF

Find us on  **WLTDOfmby**  
Or contact Tristan 07752 612775

*Play group for dads, grandads & father figures  
with children aged 0 to 7* **-FREE ENTRY-**

Give mum some  
time off

Meet other  
dads

Tea, coffee,  
bacon baps and  
toast

Toys for the  
children to play  
with

**DROP IN 10-11:30AM  
FIRST SATURDAY  
IN EVERY MONTH**

**Upcoming  
2019 Dates**

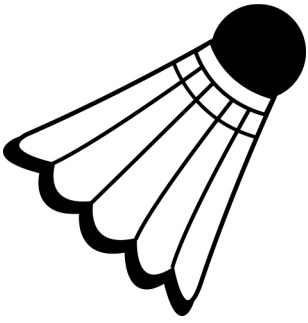
**May 4<sup>th</sup>**

**June 1<sup>st</sup>**

**July 6<sup>th</sup>**

**August 3<sup>rd</sup>**

## Junior Badminton



The junior badminton season finished just before Easter with a competi-

tion for the younger juniors based around basic badminton skills, and completion of a mini tournament. It was a close competition with only 9 points between the lowest and winning score.

The older juniors took part in a handicapped tournament which kept the games really close.

Well done to all on their good

conduct during the closely fought games. A special thank you to those who lead the sessions this season, keeping the younger juniors on their toes and



helping them to gain valuable match experience. I would also like to thank senior members of the adult club who have welcomed some of the juniors on a Monday evening.

The badminton season has now ended for the juniors but we will be back in September.

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## Toddlers

Since the February half term we have welcomed nine new little ones accompanied by either a parent or grandparent. We hope they will soon find new friends within the Toddler group. At the end of term two of our Toddlers

left us to go on to Nursery after Easter. We gave each of them a book entitled 'My very first Bible Stories,' a collection of well known Biblical stories providing a simple introduction to the important teachings of the Bible. (We hope we will continue to see them at 'Who Let the Dad's Out' and at 'TLC').



# Formby Methodist Church Barbeque

For more information, please email us at: [fmc\\_church\\_bbq@yahoo.com](mailto:fmc_church_bbq@yahoo.com)



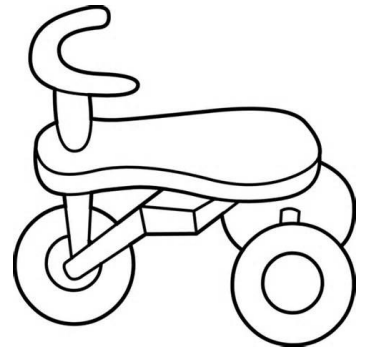
Fun for All Ages ☺ Sit & Chat ☺ Scavenger Hunt ☺ Rounders  
Games ☺ Zip Wire ☺ Woodland Assault Course



The children made beautiful little posies for Mother's Day at our craft table and Easter cards at the end of the term. In between these two special celebrations the theme has been 'Old MacDonald's farm' a song that the children enjoy singing each week. On the display board you can see some wonderful cows, pigs and sheep grazing in the

farmer's pasture!

The tricycles and the cars in the hall are always in great demand and we have recently introduced a large lego set and other building tools which are being well used.



## Holiday Club

We held our Easter Holiday Club on two mornings at the start of the school Easter holidays. The children had a wonderful time



hearing the Easter story in different ways and learning wor-

ship songs: Our God is a great big God and My Lighthouse - new to some of them, along with some energetic actions.

We made tasty flat bread, like Jesus and the disciples may have eaten at the last supper, and it was eaten so quickly that our



chance to taste any!

The children also made Easter garden biscuits, with a Jammy Dodger for the tomb and a chocolate egg as the stone rolled away. These also disappeared quickly at snack time!

Everyone enjoyed creating the Easter garden collage and our



'Stone that was rolled away' is decorated with stones on which

the children wrote or drew Easter pictures and messages. They also decorated a stone each to take home with them.

All these activities helped share the Easter message and in between we played some wonderful, silly games such as the Wotsit challenge - seeing how many would stick to shaving foam covered faces; the after dinner mint challenge (wriggle it down

your face to your mouth!) and a relay race with lots of egg related challenges!

A huge thank you goes to all those from church who helped in so many ways to make this happen. It's safe to say a wonderful time was had by all; and I think the children enjoyed it too!

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## Shoebox Express

How many bars of soap can you fit in a Peugeot 107? Oh dear, this sounds like one of the bad jokes adults tell, doesn't it? But it's an actual problem the Shoebox Express elves had to solve last month when they arrived at the supermarket to collect 2000 bars of soap. Simple? No, but working in pairs the supermarket team and the Shoebox Express elves managed to fit 1000 bars of soap into the car with room for the driver and a passenger. In fact, the supermarket team worked so hard Jingle felt he had to reward them, saying,

'Here, I'll put these coins in your palm, Olive.' Despite driving with exceptional care, the elves were half-way home when the



hatchback popped open and a box of soap made a dash for freedom! The scene in the rear-view mirror as it hit the road was a sight to behold, but unfortunately the car only has a forward-facing camera, so no chance of £250 from Harry Hill! The elves stopped to pick up every scrap of soap and packaging before the local doves and pigeons started eating it. Fifteen bars of soap were damaged,



but the elves made a clean getaway and got home without further incident. Could Jingle make that mistake again? Not on your

life, boy! On the second trip, he made extra sure that the boot was properly secured and all 1000 bars reached Shoebox Express HQ without incident.

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## Brownies

The new Brownie programme is in full swing. At the start of this half term the Brownies took part in their first skill builder activity. They learnt all about



**WAGGGS**

WAGGGS (World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts), Brownies, the World Centres and the Thinking

Day trefoil. (Skill builder badges are new badges that the Brownies do in the weekly meetings in small groups.)

This year Thinking Day fell at the end of half term so we celebrated it at the start of March with the other Brownies, Rainbows and Guides in Formby. After a short Church service to celebrate Guiding across the world the girls took part in a va-



riety of activities including djembe drums and different crafts.

To celebrate World Book Day the following

week we had a wonderful time creating our own stories and performing them in our tent theatres!

Do you know how to make champagne glass flowers? The Brownies do! They made them and then treated their parents to a lovely evening with cake and coffee (or tea!).

What a wonderful final Brownie meeting of the term! We loved completing Easter activities such as a word search, a quiz, colouring an Easter egg, sequencing the Easter story and making beautiful Easter baskets.

# FOOTSTEPS

Bible based family fun and games with tea at Formby Methodist Church



**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May 3:30pm – 6pm**

**ADMISSION FREE**

**All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult**

**Email: [footsteps\\_fmc@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:footsteps_fmc@yahoo.co.uk)**

## GAMES EVENING

ILLUMIN



4th May

8th June

6th July

3rd August

**6:30pm – 8:00pm**

**Refreshments • Pool • Table Football • Table Tennis •  
And more!**

All young people in year 5 or above who are members of Explorers or Footsteps are welcome to join us!