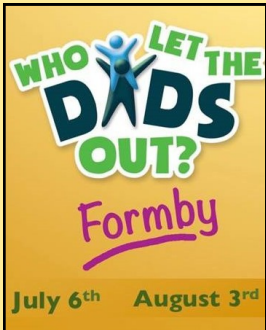


Coming soon



## Church BBQ



See page 13



Eighty people made the trip to Scarisbrick for the church BBQ. There was even a minibus so that those without their own transport were able to make it as well. We were lucky to have a brilliant sunny afternoon - no need for the plan B 'wet weather activities' - they'll keep for next year! It was great to have a wide range of ages from the very young to the not so very young and activities varied accordingly. While some people were happy to enjoy tea, chat, quizzes and some sunbathing

others took advantage of the open space. We were able to use the zip wire and assault course and play with lots of games including giant connect 4 and swing ball. There was a scavenger hunt around the grounds - some people didn't notice one of the ditches had water in it and ended up with wet feet :(

As the kitchen and BBQ team got to work on the food there was time for a game of rounders - lots of fun for everyone - not quite sure who won though.

## Church BBQ...

Clouds of smoke wafting round indicated that the burgers and sausages were burnt/ready (delete depending on which you got) and people tucked in.

The BBQ food was followed by cake and ice cream cones. While

the children kept running round the clearing up started - thanks to everyone who got stuck in with washing up, drying and putting away - it was a real team effort.



Same time next year?

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## Shoebox Express

If it's important, look after it!

If we have something important, we look after it don't we? Maybe it's a pet, a treasured keepsake or a special toy. A very good friend of mine often reminds me that *Shoebox Express®* has developed a life of its own. He's right, of course. Over the years, you, your parents and perhaps even your grandparents have helped to make the *Shoebox Express®* Bazaars we hold happy and rewarding occasions for all of us, ones that attract people from as far away as North Wales!

We should also remember the thousands of needy



children you have supported with school supplies, toiletries, toys, games and hats and gloves. That's important, so we need to look after it.

The Trustees have been thinking about how to protect what you have helped to create. If it were an invention it could be patented. If it were a book or a song it could be copyrighted. But what you have created is a good reputation and how on earth do you protect that? The answer to that question is given in the slanted writing and capital -R-in-a-circle and readers of 'Our News' are the first to be told.

*Shoebox Express®*

has been Trade-Marked. This means that the project has legal protection from people who might wish to steal, copy or profit from the good reputation you helped to create. That's not just good for us: it's important for our supporters too, so they know what they are supporting and how their money is used. After all, if you spend the time creating, developing or discovering something, wouldn't you want the credit for it?



This year, the *Shoebox Express*® Bazaar is on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October between 10am and 4pm. Please bring your family, and your friends, to fill as many Christmas shoeboxes as you can. There's free drinks, biscuits and bacon baps for everyone!

## Guides

This term the Guides have been working from the theme 'Live Smart' so they made their own pencil case and decorated it, they invented a new sauce to go with pasta and planned a party - working out all the jobs which needed to be done and who was to do them. They also had to figure out how to collect some liquid treasure using only poles, string and a small pot.

One evening we had a BBQ whilst

another evening saw us down on the beach collecting litter, as part of our community action. The Guides collected 26kg of rubbish plus a metal pipe over 3m long.



A few weeks ago we formally welcomed another girl as a Guide when she made her Promise and over the last few weeks we have welcomed Brownies to our unit meetings -



they will be joining the unit in September.

The highlight of this term was the visit to Rock and River adventure centre in Mawdesley. The girls enjoyed the climbing wall, high balance beam and canoeing. They all managed to walk along the highest beam which

was about 6m off the ground - well done to them all.

One of our Young Leaders, has recently completed her Young Leadership qualification, congratulations and well done.

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## TLC (Toddlers Little Church)

The floor shook as the enormous giant fell to the ground, killed by a small boy and a pebble ... well not quite.

The giant was made of cardboard and the pebble was only crunched up tissue. Can you guess what our story was at TLC?



Yes, David and Goliath.

There was Goliath with his helmet, shield and spear and there was David, a small shepherd boy. He'd only gone to take food to his big brothers but when no one else would fight the giant David stepped forward.

He was used to scaring away the wild animals that frightened his father's sheep. He didn't have armour, just five pebbles but ... he was a good shot.

He wasn't scared either because he trusted God to look after him and He did.

So if you're ever scared of anything remember God will take care of you.

And ... if you saw children trying to throw little balls into paper cups decorated with two figures, one big, one small ... they'd been to TLC.

Why not join us next time on Thursday 25th July?



# 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)* 25<sup>th</sup> July, 9:30am-11:30am. An active Bible story time for pre-school children with their parents/carers. Older siblings are welcome.

*Footsteps*, 15<sup>th</sup> August 10:30am - 1pm, join us for a morning of Bible based family fun and games with picnic lunch.

## Saturday

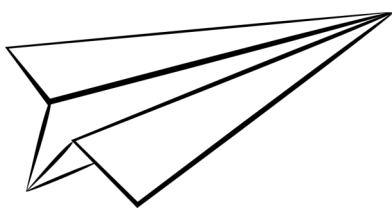
*Who let the Dads out?* 6<sup>th</sup> July, 3<sup>rd</sup> August and 7<sup>th</sup> September 10am-11:30am. A group for Dads and their children age 0-7. Come along for a morning of play.

*Illumin8* 6<sup>th</sup> July, 3<sup>rd</sup> August and 7<sup>th</sup> September 6:30pm-8pm. Games evening for young people in year 5 or above who are members of Explorers or Footsteps.



# WLTD0? (Who let the Dads Out?)

At our recent meeting on Saturday, the first day of June, there was a record turn out, with lots of Dads and lots of youngsters. As usual, for those of a senior vintage, tea and coffee and bacon and sausage baps were available as a running buffet, together with our 'healthy option' for those of more tender years!

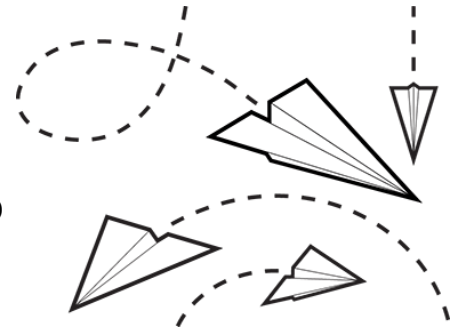


The craft was up to its usual high standard and

we made paper planes of all shapes and sizes. These highly

individual creations were kept safely, until as a finale, they were given their first test flights.

Every plane that was able to zoom through



the elevated hula hoop gained a prize. The planes and their pilots performed brilliantly.

Before leaving for home we ended with our special song asking God to: 'Bless us 'til we meet again.'

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## Adventurers

Your name in pictures.

It's interesting to find out what your name means!

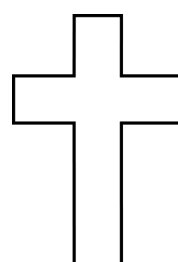


If you had to design an illustrated plaque of your name to show who you are and what you are interested in what would it be like?

We designed one for Peter on

our notice board.

**Peter**.....Making a nice big **P** reminds us that Jesus changed his name from Simon to Peter which means the rock. Peter was to be the rock upon which the first churches were founded. In the middle of his name is a **t**



which looks like a cross to show that Jesus was central to Peter's life. If we make the cross large it reminds us of

Good Friday when Peter was horrified to learn that, just as Jesus had predicted, he had denied knowing Jesus three times before the cock crowed.

(Perhaps we all know that feeling of shame when we let down the very person we claim to be our best friend.)

If we make the central letter **t** even bigger it can be made into the mast of a fishing boat to remind us what he and his brother were doing when Jesus called them. Add a fishing net and some fish and we remember that Jesus said 'I will make you fishers of men'.

Who doesn't love a BBQ? Peter must always have remembered the time after Jesus had died when Jesus appeared on the beach whilst they were fishing and cooked them breakfast. When Jesus told the fishing disciples to put their nets down on the other side of the boat and they were miraculously filled with loads of fish it must have reminded them of the time 3 years earlier when Jesus had told them to do the same thing

and then asked them to 'follow him'. The disciples felt lost after Jesus had left them but at Pentecost Jesus kept his promise to send them a guide and helper and they were filled with the Holy Spirit. They were set on fire with enthusiasm and given the ability to go out and teach, travel and heal. The first Christian Churches grew and spread. In St Peter's Cathedral in Rome people today look at the stained glass window of Peter, the fisherman and remember that Jesus chose ordinary people like fishermen and us to spread the good news that God loves and forgives us all if we follow him.

We made cheese pastry fish shapes and decorated cakes with icing flames to help us remember the story of Peter at Pentecost. Have a look at our notice board to see our Pentecost memory verse too.

# Footsteps

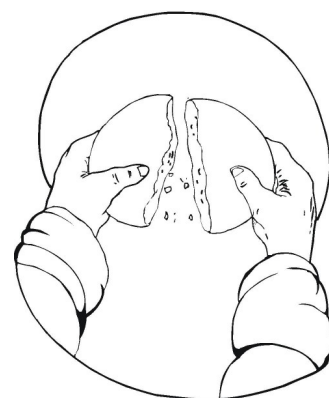
Twitter, What's App, Snap Chat, Instagram, You Tube - there are lots of ways for news and information to travel - it happens quickly and can be shared with lots of people.

Just think what would have happened if someone could have taken a selfie with Jesus when they met him after Easter Sunday - I bet it would have gone viral. In Jesus' time news travelled slowly by 'word of mouth' - people telling others about what had happened to them.



At Footsteps we watched a DVD telling the story of two people who had an encounter with Jesus and then went out to tell everyone about it. They were walking towards a place called Emmaus - a village near Jerusalem - on the way another man met them and they all began to talk. He asked them what had happened recently and they told him about Jesus being killed and the empty tomb

on Easter Sunday morning - they couldn't believe this new man hadn't heard about it. As it was getting late they suggested that he should join them for a meal. When they were at the table their guest took a loaf of bread and broke it - suddenly they realised he was Jesus. Then he disappeared and the men ran off to Jerusalem to tell people who they had met - this was how news travelled.

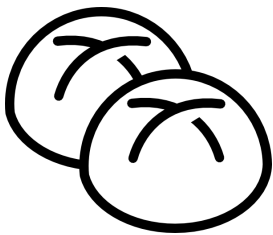


If Jesus turned up in Formby would you recognise him? How would you tell everyone you had met him?

Before watching the DVD there was the picture quiz - a mixture of close up photo's and foot prints - something for people to really get their teeth into. The winning score was a brilliant 19/20 - only failing to identify the crocodile footprints - we assume this snap wasn't taken in the pinewoods! There was also lucky dip, putting the eggs together and a toppling domino challenge. Some people made



footprints of their own with paint to remind us about following in Jesus' footsteps. Fortunately they all ended up on the paper and not the church carpet! The family challenge was to build a person - this proved that people come in all shapes and sizes and sometimes have trouble standing up. Then we went through to the hall for crafts and more games. There was a woodwork and wool thread cross, bread rolls to kneed and bake, a cress head foot cup, and a mirror. There was enough dough left to make some full sized



loaves for families to take home - the fresh bread smelled and tasted

really good. For people who fancied doing something else there were more games - knock the eggs off cones, marble run, shove 2p and bag packing - some of the girls might get a job in



Tesco's - it got rather competitive to see who would get the best time.

Everyone was having such a good time that we went through late for tea - never mind - there was still time to enjoy the usual selection of sandwiches, crisps and cakes.

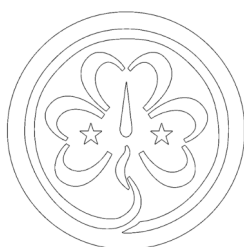
It would be great to see everyone at the next Footsteps and don't forget our Summer Special on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August.

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## Rainbows

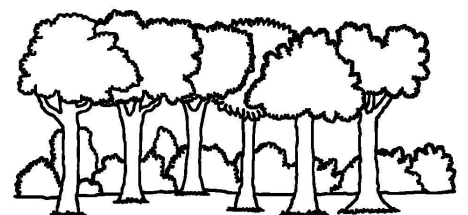
Rainbows have had another busy term.

We have continued working towards Reflect, our first badge in the new program. We talked about and coloured in Trefoils, the symbol of the World Association of Girl Guides



and Girl Scouts and did an activity called 'fastest friend first' where we all discovered how much we know about each other.

We had lots of fun on a Woodland trail .



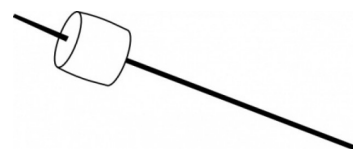
A Police Community Support Officer came and talked to us about 'stranger danger' and road

safety. We even got to try on some helmets and jackets.

The meeting before half term was an evening playing games and enjoying marshmallows and chocolate biscuits cooked by our young

leaders on a BBQ.

We have lots more exciting activities planned before we break up for the summer.



## Brownies

What a half term! This half term we looked at the serious subject of refugees. If you aren't sure who a refugee is, it is a person that can no longer live in their home and town. Sometimes due to war people have to move from their homes as it's too dangerous to stay there, they and their families may end up walking away



from everything they knew. They don't know where they are going and they are probably very frightened. It's not an easy thing to think about. Could you imagine leaving Formby with your family? The following weeks saw us start to put a performance together which told the story of a child

who became a refugee. The Brownies worked so hard learning new songs and dances throughout the term. Some girls were even brave enough to sing solos, well done! One night the girls had ice lollies as a treat after a hard evening's work rehearsing. Another night was spent making 18 chefs hats for the performance. Before we knew it the night of our performance for the Trefoil Guild at the Royal Clifton was here. The girls were fantastic, we, The Owls, are so proud of them. If you want to see their performance have a look on our twitter page (@6FormbyBrownies).



As well as all of this hard work we welcomed 3 new Rainbows and even learnt the Brownie promise in Makaton sign language.





# TODDLERS LITTLE CHURCH

Our next session is on:  
**25<sup>th</sup> July**  
**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  **WLTDOfarmby**  
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**

**July 6<sup>th</sup>  
Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Sep. 7<sup>th</sup>  
Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>  
Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>**

# How cool is school?

Are you too cool for school? Last month, two of the *Shoebox Express*® trustees were told about school life in the Philippines. To save money, there are at least 50 children in each school class and school hours are either 7am - noon or noon-5pm. That's one teacher for 100 children: 50 children in the morning and a different 50 children in the afternoon. Uncool! Oh, and the icing on the cake: those children who are at school for the Friday afternoon session also have to clean the school before they go home! Seriously uncool!



Children that finish school without good grades can expect jobs as adults that pay around 80p per hour. How does that compare with the money your Mum and Dad pay you for doing chores around the house?

So most children in the Philip-

pines work extremely hard at school because getting good grades will open doors to jobs that pay much higher wages. Your Mum and Dad probably tell you to do the same, because the reasons for getting a good education are the same wherever you are in the world.

The boys and girls that receive Christmas shoeboxes from you would like a good education too. But often they don't get one, because they can't afford the school supplies they need to provide. This is why we ask you to put school supplies in every Christmas shoebox you fill. The exercise books, pens, pencils, geometry sets and solar calculators you put in your shoeboxes help children to learn more, get better grades and find better jobs.





# Be Our Guest

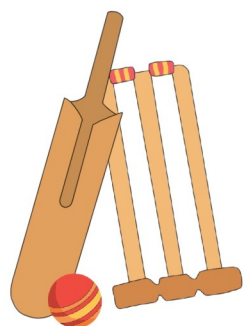
From the **12<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> July** we've got a weekend of **fun** and **free** family events

You're **invited** to all of them and can even bring your **friends!**



## Friday 12th

6-8.30pm - Barn Dance  
Supper and drinks included



## Saturday 13th

10.30am-12pm - Family Brunch  
12-3pm - Family Games or Walk



## Sunday 14th

10.30-11.30am - All Age Service of Invitation  
11.30-12.30 - Tea and cakes



family  
friendly

free

Please

RSVP to Carol for the Barn Dance

07882 969 738

[carolshanks55@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:carolshanks55@yahoo.co.uk)

All activities take place at Formby Methodist Church except the family games which will take place at Duke Street Park. The walking group will meet at the Church before heading out.



# Explorers

How good are you at following instructions? Is it easier sometimes than others?

Did any of you watch 'Planet child'? In this programme a group of 3, 4 and 5 year olds were left in a sweet shop all on their own and they were given the instructions 'don't touch anything and don't eat the sweets.' Did the children manage it? What do you think?

They did for a bit and then that was it. They started filling up the paper bags with sweets telling each other that they hadn't done anything wrong as they were getting them for Chris, the presenter, who had given them the instructions. One lad had filled 3 bags! Then before long the children started to eat the sweets. On the plus side the children did own up to it!

I think to be fair anyone would find that challenge hard.

After Easter when Jesus had risen from the dead he visited his disciples many times. On one of those times he told his disci-

ples 'To stay in Jerusalem and wait for the gift that God was going to send them'.

This sounds simple enough doesn't it?

However, you need to remember what had

happened. On Good Friday the crowds in Jerusalem had turned against Jesus and they had him killed. Surely the disciples might have been a bit scared, if the people of Jerusalem had done that to Jesus they may do it to Jesus' followers?



After Jesus had given this instruction he was taken up into Heaven. We now call the day this happened Ascension. This year Ascension was on the Thursday of half term.

Ten days later at what is known as Pentecost the disciples were all together again in a closed room. A wind came into the room and they were filled with the Holy Spirit. This was the gift that Jesus had promised the disciples. It gave the disciples the ability to speak in lots of different languages and the confidence to go out and tell people about Jesus.

The Holy Spirit isn't an easy thing to understand but think about the wind. Can you see it? No, you can't but you can see what it can do. It can make trees move, you can feel it on your face, it can help you fly a kite. The list goes on.

After Jesus was taken up into Heaven he was no longer here on Earth as a man. But because of the Holy Spirit, God can be everywhere at the same time giving us all the power to do what is right.

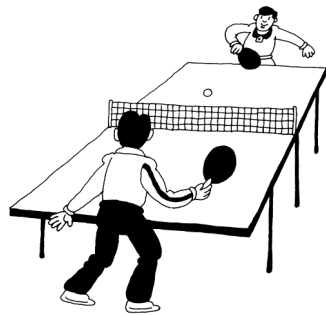
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## Illumin8

Wow! May's Illumin8 was a record! We welcomed 16 young people, it was fantastic.

There was loads going on - pool, table tennis, table football as well as chatting, drinking hot chocolate and eating biscuits!

It has to be said that the way we play table tennis at Illumin8 isn't quite the right way. We reckon that if you hit the ball that's fine, the ball doesn't even have



to bounce on the table, it could bounce on the floor, wall or even ceiling! It does mean that there is a lot of running around and you get tired quickly.

There weren't quite so many young people in June but we still had fun.

If you're in year 5 and above and come to Footsteps or Explorers come along, the more the merrier! Fingers crossed for good weather over the summer - hopefully we can fit in a game of rounders on Duke Street park.

# FOOTSTEPS SUMMER SPECIAL

Bible based, family fun and games with picnic lunch.



Formby Methodist Church

## Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2019

10:30am to 1:00pm

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



6<sup>th</sup> July

3<sup>rd</sup> August

7<sup>th</sup> September

5<sup>th</sup> October

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!