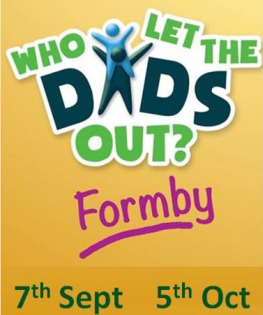


Coming soon



Harvest
Page 13



Shoebox Express

Do you have a 'to do' list of things you want to do? The Shoebox Express® elves have some very long 'to do' lists and some of their 'to do' jobs have been on the list for years! So there was much rejoicing among the elves when we were sent some photos of our very own

Christmas shoeboxes in the hands of school children in a town in Sierra Leone, Africa. Seeing our shoebox gifts in the hands of the children they have been sent to has been on our 'to do' list for nearly ten years! The children in the photo below attend a school that is paid for



by our shoebox delivery partner, Interna-

This photo is used with the kind permission of IAT.

Shoebox Express...

tional Aid Trust (IAT). A member of IAT, tells us 'The children are from incredibly poor families, many can't afford to eat a meal every day, never mind buy toys, school supplies, toiletries etc for their children. The gifts they have received will be treasured by the children. I have been in Sierra Leone previously when shoeboxes have been distributed and the sheer joy produced by a skipping rope or a pencil case full of pencils is amazing. So a huge thank you to everyone involved in Shoebox Express® for all you do, you are making a huge difference to people in great need!'

We hope you will join us for this year's Christmas shoebox bazaar

which will be held at Formby Methodist Church on Saturday 12th October, between 10am and 4pm. Please bring your family and friends with you.

In addition to building your very own Christmas shoeboxes, don't forget our buffet car, serving free drinks, biscuits and bacon rolls for all the family, it's open all day.



Also, this year, we will have a games and crafts room with all sorts of activities. There's also a quiz for the adults (which you might need to help them answer).

We look forward to your visit!

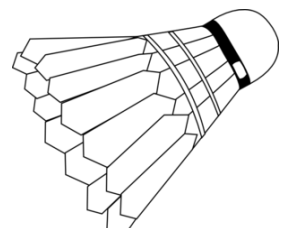
Junior Badminton

We look forward to welcoming new and existing members when we re-start in September.

The times have altered slightly. We have a new beginners group (aged 7 to 11), starting at 5:30

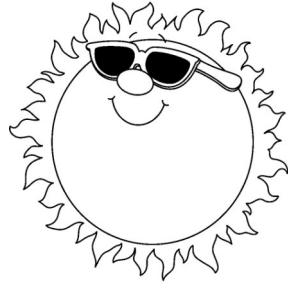
until 6:30. Then the intermediate group (aged 11-13) is 6:30-7:30 and the senior juniors at 7:30-8:30.

If you would like to join us please just turn up.



Footsteps

Luckily for us the weather was good for the Footsteps 'summer special' and we were able to



get outside for water games - water pistols and water bombs meant we had wet children.

The story we heard was about Naaman, who had got very wet himself.

Naaman was a very important man in the army. He was in charge of a lot of men. He was also very



rich and he had loads of gold at home, but there was a problem... white

marks started appearing on his skin. It soon became obvious that he had a disease called leprosy.

This was bad, very bad. It meant his whole life was going to change, nobody would be allowed near him but Naaman had a plan. His wife's servant girl said that in the next country there was a prophet called Elisha who would help.

Naaman went straight to Samaria, convinced that Elisha would meet him, after all he was a very important person, he was in charge of an army. Elisha was certain to meet him, wasn't he?

Well despite what Naaman thought Elisha didn't meet him, but he did send a message to him



that he should wash in the River Jordan seven times and he would be healed.

Naaman was really annoyed, Elisha couldn't even be bothered to meet him and then told him to wash in that dirty river. How was that ever going to work?! He was really upset and stormed off.

Eventually he saw sense when a servant had the courage to point out that what Elisha said was an easy thing to do so why not give it a try?

At Footsteps we didn't have the River Jordan but we did have some blue material behind which one of the men, pretending to be Naaman, went down once, then twice, three times,... until the seventh time, when he was there

quite a while until he got up, without white marks on his skin. He had been healed.

God had healed Naaman and Naaman then realised that there was only one true God, the one who Elisha followed.

Our quiz was based on the number seven, to remind us of how many times Naaman had to wash in the river. Can you answer any of the following questions?

- How old is a child in year 7?
- If you were born on 07/07/07 how old would you be?
- Which months of the year have seven letters in them?

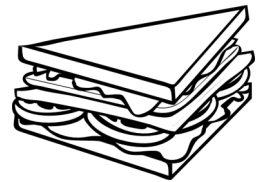
Our challenge was bandaging up a family member with toilet roll. The families were really good at this and some even managed to do it without tearing the toilet roll!

Then there were water games: knocking balls off cones with water pistols, throwing water bombs without breaking them and catching fish to name but a few.

For those who didn't want to get wet there were crafts to do: a cake with the number seven on and a jelly baby for Naaman, a woodwork Naaman model and a horse and chariot.

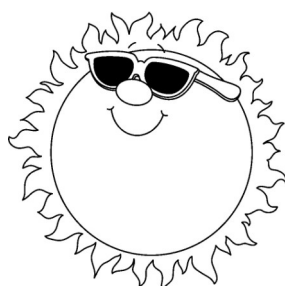
An enjoyable lunch of sandwiches, fruit and cake then finished off the morning's activities.

Our next Footsteps is on Saturday 28th September, 3:30-6pm. Everyone is welcome to come, just grab an adult and turn up, we'd love to see you.



Brownies

After the success of the Trefoil Guild performance the last summer half term has been a bit quieter!



In their Sixes the girls made a monster out of junk and even wrote a story as to how the monster arrived at our meeting. Their imaginations are fantastic! All this hard work goes towards their 'Make change' skill builder badge.

A week later we decorated wooden hands and wrote on them words to help remind us how a Brownie should behave. Among the words the girls came up with were:

Caring, sharing, loving, cheerful, happy, helpful, kind... the list goes on.

We also took the opportunity to make the best of the sunny weather by holding a meeting in Duke Street park. The girls had a great time in the sun, especially when it came to playing with the parachute.

Do you know what a good turn-o-meter is? The girls all made one at the start of July, then when they did a good turn they moved the hand by one point. Do you think you could manage six good turns in a week?

At the final Thursday meeting we took a look back at the last year of Brownies and decided what our favourite moments were. The girls chose a number of different events, including the pack holiday, carols and the show.

That was the end of the normal meetings but we still had a very special day to look forward to... a day at Scarisbrick campsite.



We had the best fun. We finished our term completing the 'Walk on the wild side challenge' which involved campfires, welly games and getting very muddy. A perfect end to an excellent year!

Toddlers

Throughout the summer term we have welcomed new little ones and seen the older ones leaving us to go to nursery or 'big' school. Our numbers continued to fluctuate partly due to many

toddlers having chicken pox during this last term.

It was great to have some of our Toddler families at the Church's Big Barbecue held at Scarisbrick camp site.

In June we welcomed one of current Toddlers new baby sister.

We gave her a little book of prayers when she joined us for the first time.

Our craft table is always popular and this term the work has centred on 'Life on the Farm'.

The fire station is a great attraction as is the kitchen corner and the dolls houses. We have a table with puzzles and jigsaws and an area especially set out for the tiny ones.

The adults do appreciate the big space in our hall for the children to rush around in the cars and trikes, using up some of their energy!

Mid-morning refreshments are served in the hall, during which time the circle room is cleared of all of the toys ready for the

children and adults to come for the last twenty minutes which includes having notices, a prayer, celebrating birthdays and lots of singing.

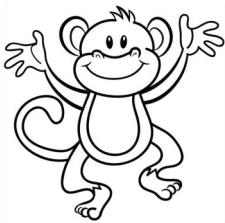
We ended the term with a party and books of Bible stories were presented to our leavers. We wish them well as they leave us to go to nursery and school and hopefully we shall continue to see them at Toddlers Little Church (held in school holidays) and they will always be welcome to come to Footsteps and Sunday Adventurers.

All the helpers would like to say a very big 'Thank you' to the parents and grandparents for their generous gift treating us to lunch out during the summer holiday.

WLTD0? (Who let the Dads Out?)

It was great to see such a good number at our recent 'Who Let the Dads Out?'. Many of us are now 'old friends' and it is good to see familiar faces as well as some newcomers.

A new feature this time, was the story about an old hat seller and



some naughty monkeys. We were all enthralled by this action packed story and

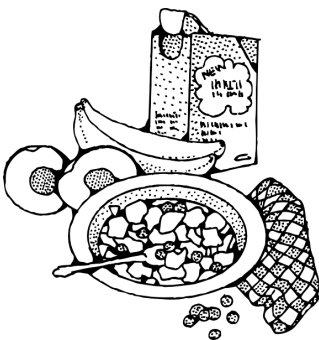
hope there will be another tale to listen to when we meet again.

We finished with some para-

chute games, when some of us were made dizzy as they sat on the parachute and were whizzed round and round on the floor, whilst others were captured underneath it (if they weren't very careful)!

After singing our farewell song we took home our craftwork and look forward to our next meeting at 10am on Saturday September 7th and in October when we meet on Saturday October 5th.

Breakfast



If you're up early enough at the start of half term come for breakfast! It's open to every-

one, young and old.

On Sunday 27th October breakfast will be ready from 9am in the church hall. There'll be cereal, bacon rolls and fruit as well

as tea, coffee and juice. There's no need to book, if you're around just turn up.

As well as food there will be games for the children (and adults if they fancy a go!).

At the 10:30am service that morning any shoeboxes which have been filled will be brought into church and dedicated before they are sent off on their journey abroad.

FOOTSTEPS

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



Saturday 28th September

3:30pm to 6:00pm

All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Email: footsteps_fmc@yahoo.co.uk

Admission - Free

GAMES EVENING

ILLUMIN 8

7th September
5th October
9th November
7th December

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!

Rainbows

Rainbows have had yet another busy half term.

We had a lovely lady come to talk to us about the defibrillators that you see around Formby. We learnt about what they are for and how to use them. The Rainbows also learnt how to put someone in the recovery position and had a go at doing CPR on dummies. We had fun but also learnt a lot of important things.

The girls did a walk around the village looking for clues/questions about what we could see in the shop windows.

Another week we made rosettes for Father's Day.

A week later we followed clues to find out more about the church and hall where we hold our meetings.

We had some fun outings too. We went to the pool park where we played games and then had some healthy fruit and drinks.

Towards the end of June the Rainbows enjoyed a fantastic day

out, with other Rainbow troops from the local area, at Scarisbrick guide centre called 'Zoom it day'. It was a day full of games, crafts, making super hero masks and capes. We listened to a lady who read some fun stories to us. There were sessions of singing and dancing where we learnt steps for a dance which everyone performed at the end of the day. We were really lucky with the weather, it stayed dry right up until it was time to go home when the very excited but tired Rainbows were picked up by their parents.



We ended the term with a colour hunt around the church hall and 2nd Formby had a party for a Rainbow who jumped over the Rainbow to start Brownies in September.

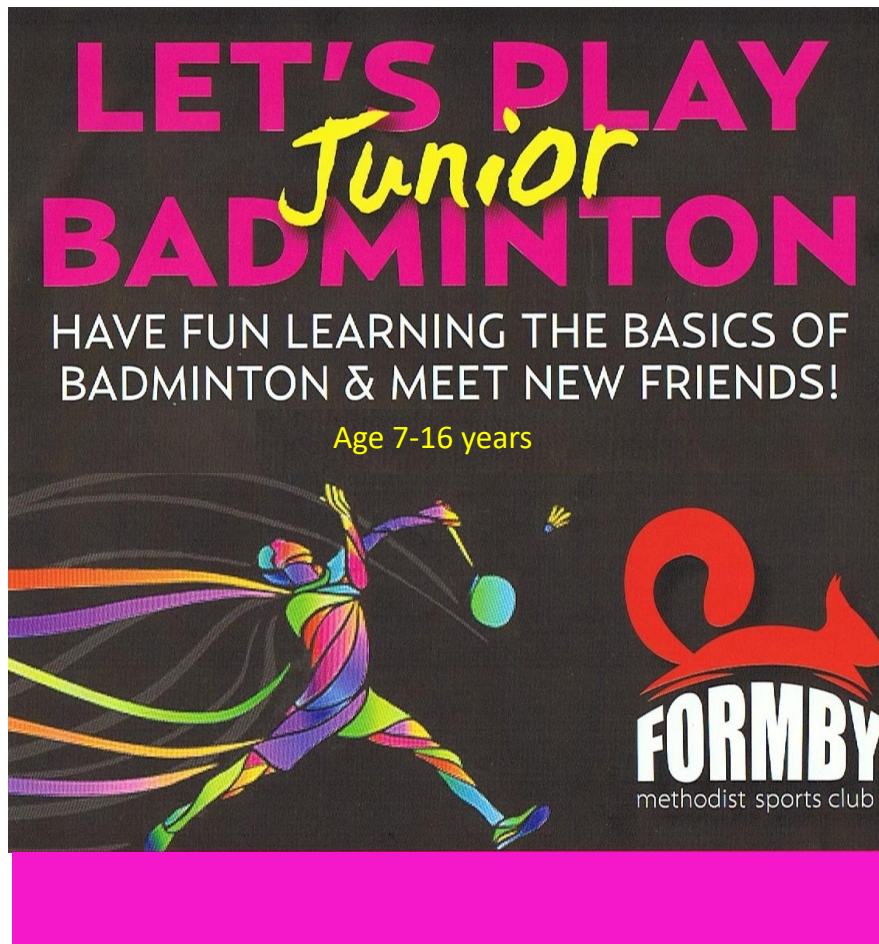
All in all a very busy and exciting last half term with lots more exciting things planned for the new term in September.

When

5:30pm – 8:30pm
Fridays
(3x1 hour sessions split into age and ability)

Where

Formby Methodist Church Hall, Elbow Lane, Formby (Behind the church)



LET'S PLAY
Junior
BADMINTON

HAVE FUN LEARNING THE BASICS OF
BADMINTON & MEET NEW FRIENDS!

Age 7-16 years

FORMBY
methodist sports club

You need

To have your own racquet, suitable trainers and refreshments (Racquets available to borrow for absolute beginners)

Cost

Try it out for £2.00 per session then, if it's for you, become a member

Illumin8

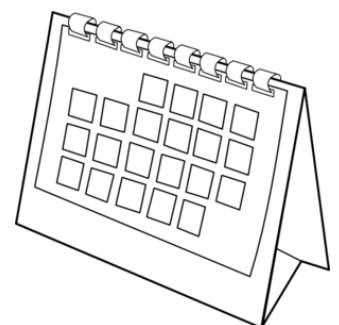
At the last Illumin8 we discovered the answer to getting a good night's sleep: play table tennis against one of the Group who has read up tips on how to improve your game. His opponent, whom we won't embarrass by naming, went home and had the best night's sleep he had had in ages!

We were able to play swingball and French cricket in the garden besides the usual games inside.

After hot chocolate and cake we ended the evening with a game of duster hockey.

If you're a member of Explorers or Footsteps and are in year 5 or above come and join us - we're meeting on the following Saturdays:

7th September,
5th October,
9th November
and
7th December
(for a Christmas special.)



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) 31st October, 9:30am-11:30am. An active Bible story time for pre-school children with their parents/carers and older siblings.

Friday

Junior Badminton, meets from 5:30pm. Term time only

Saturday

Who let the Dads out? 7th Sept, 5th Oct and 2nd Nov 10am-11:30am. A group for Dads and their children age 0-7. Come along for a morning of play.

Illumin8, 7th Sept, 5th Oct and 9th Nov 6:30pm-8pm. Games evening for young people in year 5 or above who are members of Explorers or Footsteps.

Footsteps, 28th Sept 3:30pm - 6pm, join us for an afternoon of Bible based family fun and games with tea.



TLC (Toddlers Little Church)

There were lots of boat tickets hidden around the Church and all those who managed to find one were able to board a boat bound for Tarshish. The journey started well, we sang some of our favourite songs, but then the weather changed. A storm blew up, the wind blew stronger and stronger, the waves got bigger and bigger and the boat rocked from side to side. It was frightening. The Captain didn't know what to do.

Then this passenger, called Jonah, said it was his fault and to throw him overboard and the storm would go away. We all said, "Oh no, the sea is too rough!" but the weather was getting worse. The poor Captain was in a quandary, but the wind was get-

ting stronger and the waves bigger and so he threw Jonah overboard. It was amazing, the wind stopped blowing, the waves became gentle and we all felt safe as we continued our journey.

We have since found out that an enormous fish swallowed Jonah whole. The fish swam to the beach and coughed him out. He wasn't hurt but he had learned a lesson and he told God that he would now go to Nineveh where God had told him to go in the first place. God cared and looked after Jonah just as God cares and loves each one of us today.

Our next TLC is in October half term, Thursday 31st October. All pre-school children with their parents carers and older siblings are welcome.

Guides

The last few weeks of term saw the Guides out and about as much as possible in the fine weather. One evening saw us near the Red

Squirrel reserve for a treasure hunt followed by a BBQ.

Another evening we met behind St Luke's church where they had kindly allowed us to use their campfire area. There the girls cooked on wood fires:

something on a stick,
cakes in a tin and
of course marshmallows.



badge. They had a great time
making up mocktails for us all to
taste.

One evening the Guides com-
pleted their mixology interest

Explorers

Explorers will start back in Sep-
tember after our break for the
summer.

Explorers is open to all young
people in year 5 and above. We
meet at the same time as the
morning service at 10:30am. Ini-
tially we go into church with the
Adventurers and leave after the
first part of the service.

We then go into our different
groups.

In Explorers we grab
the bean bags and pop
into the quiet room for
a chat and to play
games before having hot choco-
late and more discussion.



If you can't make it every week
don't worry, just turn up when
you can. It's always nice to see
new faces and as well as welcome
back old ones.

Harvest - family service

On Sunday 6th October we will
be celebrating Harvest in our
family morning worship. The
Rainbows, Brownies and Guides
will be joining us at 10:30am to
celebrate Harvest and you are
welcome to join us along with
your parents.

The Rainbows and younger chil-
dren will leave after the initial
part of the service whilst the

older ones will stay in.

Following the service there will
be tea, coffee and biscuits for
everyone. Or, if you are
able to stay you are
welcome to join us for
our church's harvest
lunch. There's no need
to book, just pop round after the
service, if you can.





TODDLERS LITTLE CHURCH

Our next session is on:
31st October
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




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**

**Sep. 7th
Oct. 5th
Nov. 2nd
Dec. 7th**

Adventurers

Jesus the Healer and the Story-teller.

'Tell me the stories of Jesus.
I love to hear.

Things I would ask him to tell me
If he were here!'

Who doesn't love to hear a favourite story! This summer we have been hearing some of our best loved stories that Jesus told and remembering some of the amazing miracles of healing.

We bent double to see how difficult it was for the lady with the bad back to do ordinary things like fetching food and pouring a drink of water.

We had an obstacle course to stumble through blind-folded until somebody helped us and we heard about training dogs to guide the blind and deaf.

The feeding of the 5000 gave us a good excuse for a game of 'flap the fish' and 'the fisherman's coming' before sharing a snack time of pitta bread and grapes... just like the little boy who shared his picnic with Jesus.

Do you remember the story of the three little pigs whose houses of straw and sticks fell down when the big bad wolf came to huff and puff? Their house built of bricks stood firm just like the wise man in the Bible who built his house upon the rock and not upon sand. Jesus told the parable of the wise and foolish man to explain to us that as we grow up our lives need to be built on strong foundations made up of prayer and God's guidance. (At the mention of building the lego boxes appear and everyone is happy.)

Talking of pigs.....can you think of a parable that mentions pigs? The selfish son who took his share of his father's money and wasted it on parties and ended up having to work in the mud feeding the pigs who had more to eat than he did. He was so desperate that he decided to go back home and ask his father if he could work for him as his servant. His father was so pleased to see him that he welcomed him home and put on a party. We made pink party pig cakes to remind us that *it is never too late*

to say sorry .

We thank God for
being **our** forgiving
father and ask his
help in our next term



in new schools or new classes
with new teachers or new
friends.
