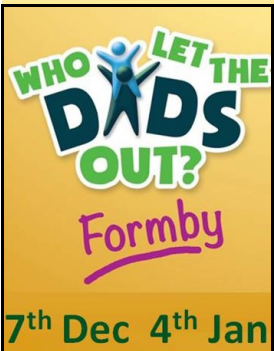


Children  
and Young  
People at  
Formby  
Methodist  
Church

Issue: 6/2019

Coming soon



See page 15



thank  
you!

Wow! Thank you to everyone who brought all the food to Church. The gifts of food were sent to Southport Soup Kitchen and Connell Court, a local nursing home. Both were thrilled to receive your gifts.

Thank you also to the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides who all took part in the service. Some of the girls had to go on a hunt around Church to find certain vegetables.

Did you know potatoes have eyes? They're the marks on them. Sweet-corn is called an ear of



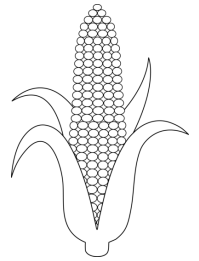
# Harvest...

corn and cabbages have hearts.

Next question... if you were a vegetable what would you say? A potato might say use your



eyes. What about a sweetcorn? Use your ears. Finally a cabbage, use your heart.




We should use our eyes, ears and heart to be kind and help people, just as Jesus asks us to.

---

## Adventurers

Have you a favourite story? The response to this question at Adventurers was diverse, no two people gave the same answer. The answers ranged from 'Harry Potter' to 'Cinderella', 'The Far Away Tree' to 'Horrid Henry' and lots more different books were mentioned.



 When Jesus lived on this earth the people loved to listen to Jesus telling stories as they didn't have books like we have. We have been looking at some of these stories which are recorded in the Bible.

On Harvest Sunday, when we were pleased to welcome the Rainbows, the obvious story to

look at was 'The Sower and the Seed'. The farmers then didn't have the equipment like we have today and the farmer had to walk up and down the field scattering the seed. Unfortunately, not all the seed landed where he wanted it to. Some of the seed fell on the path, where the ground had become hard with people walking on it and the birds flew down and ate it. Some seed fell on rocky ground where there wasn't much soil and the roots could not grow deep enough and when the sun came out it dried up the little plants so they died. Other seed fell among thorns and the thorns grew up with the little plants and choked them and so they died too. Fortunately some of the seed fell on good soil just as the farmer had wanted and it



grew up and provided lots of grain.

The stories that Jesus told often had a meaning. Jesus friends, whom we call disciples, couldn't work out what the message was behind this story and they asked Jesus. He explained that the seed is God's message. The seeds that fell on the path are like people who listen but don't take it in, other things happen and they forget about God. The seed that fell on the rocky ground is like those people who are really interested in God's message but as soon as troubles come they give up. The seeds that fell among the thorns are like people who are interested but they let other pleasures and worries crowd Jesus out of their lives. Jesus

would like us to be like the seed that landed on the good soil - we listen and take notice of his words.

We planted cress seeds which we took home to grow on our window sills - where no birds

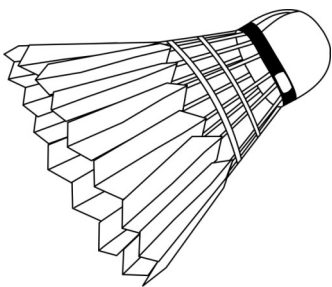


could come and eat it and no weeds could choke it - hopefully now it's looking like hair on the faces we drew on the container, just like ours is here.

Feel free to join us any Sunday morning at 10.15 am. We meet every week, just pop in when you can.

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## Junior Badminton



Welcome back to old members and new. Unfortunately there was no take up for

the beginners group at 5:30. However the intermediate group

is developing their court etiquette and positioning of the shuttlecock. The seniors are working hard on mastering service long and short, and shuttle control.

If you would like to join us please come along on a Friday evening, you'd be very welcome.

# 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.

## Friday

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

## Saturday

*Who let the Dads out?* 7<sup>th</sup> Dec and 4<sup>th</sup> Jan 10am-11:30am. A group for Dads and their children age 0-7. Come along for a morning of play.

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

*Footsteps*, 30<sup>th</sup> Nov and 18<sup>th</sup> Jan 3:30pm - 6pm. Join us for an afternoon of Bible based family fun and games with tea.

*Christingle and Cake*, 14<sup>th</sup> Dec 4:30pm. A short Christingle service followed by cake and a drink.



# Guides

We started the new term in September with seven new Guides, six moving up from local Brownie packs and one moving into Formby. They have settled in well taking a full part in all of the activities.

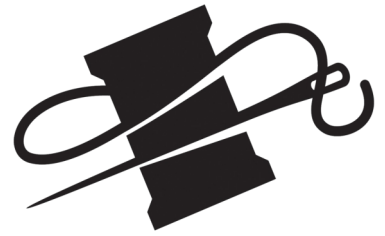
This term we are following the theme 'Skills for my future' so they have looked at various types of employment and who would need to be employed for the businesses to run. They have invented their own dips, sweet and savoury, then all tasted each others and voted for the best. They also investigated all the different ways you can pay for goods. Is one way better? Faster? Safer? In groups they also decided whether they thought they had any creative flair, testing their painting potential as an interior designer. Again the girls voted for the best design.

The girls have also enjoyed various fun games and some designed a pattern on a T-shirt.

The Guides made some sewing

cases, in which were placed suitable items, eg, needles, cotton, thim-

bles and pins. These have been put into some of this year's shoeboxes. Many thanks to all those who supplied the contents.



The highlight of the term so far was the visit by some of the girls to this year's Big Gig con-



cert in Sheffield Arena.

It is a pop concert for Girlguiding

members only featuring some of the current popular solo singers and groups. There were about 10,000 Guides at the matinee performance we attended and a further 10,000 at the evening performance. A good time was had by all.



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

Find us on  **WLTDOformby**  
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

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

2019:  
**Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>**  
Continuing  
into 2020...  
**Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>**  
etc.



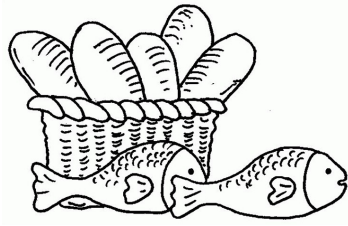
# FOOTSTEPS

The first Footsteps of 2020 is on  
**Saturday 18th January**  
Come along ... we'd love to see you.

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

# Footsteps

At the last Footsteps we heard the familiar story of



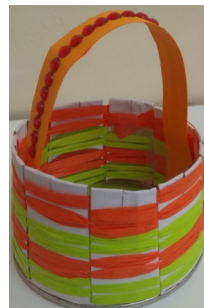
Jesus feeding the 5,000 with just 5 loaves and 2 fishes. It was a miracle - how could so little food go such a long way? Two things happened - the boy was prepared to share the little food he had and people listened to Jesus, trusted him and so did what he said.

The afternoon started with a quiz about various food items, including some exotic and unusual pieces of fruit to identify. There were autumn leaves to decorate with coloured food dyes and then write on things we can share with each other. There were also games to play. The pasta shape sorting challenge got especially competitive with a fastest time of 21 seconds appearing unbeatable until in the last few minutes of the afternoon when someone else got in with an amazing 18 seconds.

The family challenge was all

about sharing - each team had a box of polystyrene packing pieces and had to use a cup to share this with any other team across the room. The aim was to share your packing out faster than people gave it you back and the winners were the first team with an empty box. Everyone had lots of fun running round and the floor of the Maple Leaf room gradually disappeared under dropped pieces of packing. Perhaps we can have another go at this with water for next years summer special?!

Then it was in to the hall for the



crafts and some more games. There was a basket to weave, cheesy pastry fish to make and bulbs to



plant. Some children made fish covered in jewels



and foil - like the one in the story 'The Rainbow Fish'. And of course the wood-work table -

making a moving model of the boy handing his food over to Jesus.

We finished with tea - it was great that our new minister was able to join us and lead the 'thank you' prayer we always say before having our food. There was the usual selection of sandwiches, fruit and cake with the added bonus of fish finger sand-



wiches - really yummy with lots of tomato ketchup.

The next Footsteps is on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November and it would be great to see you there for some early festive fun.



## Explorers

Go on, have a think... if you won the lottery what would you do? You'd have loads of money and you wouldn't ever need to work, sounds good doesn't it?



We had a think about it. We managed to get some very long lists of what we'd do! The obvious things were on there such as buy cars and big houses as well as going on lots of holidays. Also on our lists were getting pets, giving money to our friends and family and donating money to charity.

Did you know ...

- that lottery winners on average buy 6.5 cars (not quite sure how you drive half a

car!)

- over 4000 people have become millionaires since the lottery was started in 1994.
- winners usually celebrate with a cup of tea!

But... are they happy?

It might surprise you to know that the people who have the most things or most money aren't necessarily the happiest people. Money isn't everything.



The good news though is that there are things we can do to help us become happier. They are:

- at night before you go to bed, sit down and think... what has happened today that you need to say thank

you for?

- instead of staying up late gaming or watching TV go to sleep.
- spend more time with your friends and family.
- reduce the amount of time you spend on social media.

God would love it if you had a chat with him every night before you go to sleep. Thank him for all the good things he has given you. Sometimes even if you've had a rubbish day there will be something to say thank you for: your family, your warm house, food and school might even be on the list.

Talking of school do you like English? In particular, poems? Poems can be tricky to write. There are

some good ones out there. In the Bible there is a book called Psalms (ask your parents how you say it, it's a tricky word). Anyway this book is full of poems and songs and some of these poems are thank you poems. If you get chance open up a bible and see how many 'thank you' psalms you can find. There are quite a few! Could you write a thank you poem?



Explorers is open to any young person in year 5 and above. We meet every week for hot chocolate, games, thinking and chat. If you're free pop along any week, it'd be great to see you.

---

## Brownies

Our first meeting back was busy! We welcomed lots of new girls but had to say goodbye to Brownie friends who moved up to Guides. Brown Owl did have the fun of a trip down memory lane when she made leavers books for these girls, they had been with us

for over 3 years - we wish them the best of luck.

Sparkle Owl, our Young Leader, led a fantastic evening on mindfulness and what needs are most important. The following week we said a massive congratulations to our first Brownies who earned a



theme award. Well done girls, you all worked very hard.

At the start of October we had a really good night with our family quiz as we started our fundraising campaign for a new projector screen and speakers to help with this year's carol singing.

We even managed to squeeze in some activities about hedgehogs. The girls made some wonderful hedgehog homes. Who knew that cardboard boxes and plastic bottles could make such good homes when combined with coloured paper, felt pens and the brilliant imaginations of Brownies.

The following week the girls designed posters asking people to help hedgehogs - did you know that they are endangered in the UK? This is where you can help in the following ways:

- Make sure your drains are covered - hedgehogs could fall down them.
- Build your own hedgehog home, it's easier than you think!
- Set up a food station for the hedgehogs.

- Tidy up - litter can harm hedgehogs.
- Keep some of your grass long - hedgehogs like this.

We'd be grateful if you'd give some of these a go - hedgehogs live on average to be between 2 and 5 years old but they can live for up to 10 years if we look after them.

By the time you read this we'll all be thinking about Christmas! Just



like other years we will be carol singing to help raise money for the pack.

Have a look for us, we'll be there at the light switch on as well as at the supermarkets.

# WLTD0? (Who let the Dads Out?)

Who Let the Dads Out? continues to be enjoyed by youngsters and their Dads and Grandads on the first Saturday of the month from 10am to 11.30am.

We have an exciting mix of games and craft as well as a very popular story time.

It goes without saying that our running buffet of tea, coffee, bacon baps, fruit juice and fruit snacks are



always available.

We normally end with a parachute game and see if we can 'whoosh' a tennis ball from the parachute to touch the ceiling - we haven't managed it yet!!! Then we end with our going home song and blessing.

We look forward to seeing all our friends, old and new, as we approach the Christmas season.

---

## Toddlers

This term we have welcomed several new Mums who have very recently moved into Formby and we hope they soon feel at home here and make new friends through the group.

Toddlers continues to flourish with an average of forty children arriving on Thursday mornings. It is always a joy to see eager young faces all ready to play on the tricycles and the toy cars, whilst others dash to the

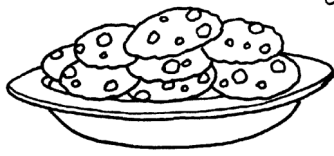
craft table to see what there is to make. Since the beginning of term the theme has been 'Life in the forest' which has included making hedgehogss, badgers, foxes and deer to name a few, all of which appear on the Toddlers display board in the circle room.



The children's ages span from new born babies to 4 year old boys and girls.

# Toddlers...

The adults and children enjoy their mid-morning refreshments, which include fruit, breadsticks and biscuits, whilst the circle room is cleared for the singing, as well as the notices, a prayer,



(which the children and adults join in) and any birthday celebrations.

Several toddlers came with their Mums and Dads to the Shoe Box Express Saturday and it was lovely to see some of the older boys and girls who used to come to the group.

December is looming and we hope to see them again at some of our Christmas events such as the Christingle and Cake Service on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December and the Family Nativity on Christmas Eve.

# Rainbows

Rainbows have already had a busy first half of the Autumn term.

We started off by having fun playing games including bingo.

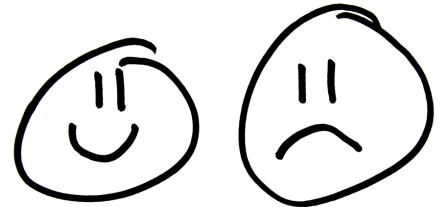
BINGO					
8	25	39	54	66	
10	17	42	52	63	
7	26	35	56	74	
15	19	32	59	73	
6	21	40	46	67	

This term we are working towards our first aid badge. We have learnt what to do when someone gets a cut, we had fun using lipstick as blood, then dealing with the cut. We have learnt about germs and how it is impor-



tant to wash your hands and how easily germs can be spread

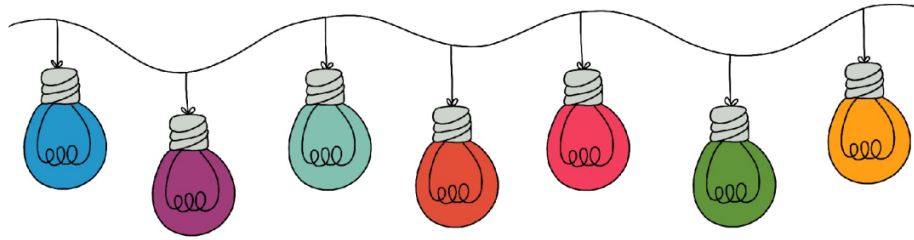
from person to person if we don't wash our hands correctly. We then talked about emotions good and bad and drew pictures of them all.



Finally we learnt about animal and insect bites and how to treat them.

At the start of October six Rainbows attended the Harvest Festival Church Parade and we have had ten girls between the two units make their Rainbow Promise.

So all in all a very busy time with lots more to come.



## Formby Light Switch On

Sunday 24th November

We will be having a stall at the light switch on this year. Come and join us for a whole range of **FREE** Christmas games and activities.

Formby Methodist Church Christmas

## Sheep Trail

1st Dec - 13th Dec 2019

10 of our woolly sheep have got lost around Formby.

Can you help us find them?

They are hiding in local shops and venues around Formby Village.  
Pick up a trail sheet from participating venues or Formby Methodist Church and follow the trail, collecting the names of the sheep you find.

Every completed trail sheet will receive a prize.



# Shoebboxes

A huge 'thank you' to everyone who came along in October to build shoeboxes. It was brilliant to see so many children and their parents packing boxes for children who have so little. With all of your help over 400 shoeboxes were filled that day.

At the start of half term all of the filled shoeboxes were brought into Church for the morning service. At this service we said 'thank you' for all those people who had taken the time to fill them as well as thinking about the children who will receive them and asking God to be with them and their families.



Do you know how many shoeboxes there were in Church? See if you can make a guess. If you want drop us an email ([info@shoebboxexpress.org.uk](mailto:info@shoebboxexpress.org.uk)). We'll let you know in the new

year how many there were and what the closest guess was.

A few days later the shoeboxes were all collected. How long do you think it would take to fill a big transit van with shoeboxes? The answer is not very long as we had lots of people helping us and some people had very long arms and could carry six shoeboxes at a time!

At the time of going to print we do not know where the shoeboxes will be going to but it will be to one of the following areas:

- Eastern Europe (Ukraine, Romania or Moldova)
- Central Asia
- Sierra Leone

Do you know where these places are? Get hold of a map and have a look! Can you find Ukraine and Sierra Leone? These are the countries that received our boxes last year.

Watch out for the next 'Our News' for our scoop on where the shoeboxes have gone.

Before then though we wish you all a very Happy Christmas when it arrives.

# Christmas @ Formby Methodist

As well as our usual Sunday services there are the following special services which you'd be welcome to come to:

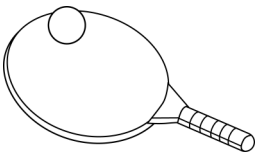
14th Dec	4:30pm Christingle and cake
22nd Dec	6:30pm Carol service
Christmas Eve	4:30pm Children's nativity service 11:30pm Midnight communion
Christmas Day	10:30am Christmas family service

Wherever you spend Christmas we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

# Illumin8

After some quiet months over the summer October's Illumin8 was bustling with lots of familiar faces and some new comers as well.

Everyone enjoyed the games and K'nex building before breaking for hot chocolate, squash and biscuits...lots of biscuits.



I think we have invented a new game - tablesquashfloor

wall tennis - basically you play with a table tennis table, bat and ball but you can play the ball off any surface (or person) and as long as it goes over the net and no one complains the game continues!

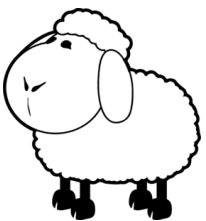
The team challenge which the boys won was the spaghetti and marshmallow building challenge and this was followed by the traditional game of duster hockey.

We meet again on 7th December. It would be great to see people there.

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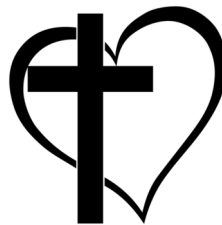
## TLC (Toddlers Little Church)

We tried to get a hundred sheep into Church for TLC. We didn't quite make it but just as Jesus



told in his story, we managed to lose one too! No need for you to worry and go looking for it though - we found it stuck by the Media desk and took him back to his friends.

Jesus told this story to show that He loves each one of us - he doesn't think 'Oh, I've got 99 it



doesn't matter about that one'. He loves us all regardless of what we look like, how clever

we are and how good we are. He loves and welcomes us all.

Unfortunately there's no TLC in the school Christmas holidays but we'd love to see you at Christingle and Cake on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December and on Christmas Eve you could help tell the Nativity story and, if you want, you can dress up.

# CHRISTMAS FOOTSTEPS

Bible based, family fun and games with tea.

Formby Methodist Church

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November**

3:30pm to 6:00pm

Admission - Free



All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

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

# CHRISTINGLE & CAKE

Join us for a short Christingle  
service followed by cake and  
a drink.

Formby Methodist Church  
**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December**  
4:30pm

