## **Big** Newsletter April 2025





## WELCOME!

Well as they say, "time MARCHes on!"...

With our weekly sessions in schools and the start of Easter teaching, alongside our usual church commitments, a busy month in Barney's Baby Bank as well as spectacular fundraising effort and a residential squeezed into the mix -March has sped by in a flash!

PLUS! Click the link below to see one of the team feature in a video which has been watched over 1800 times!









Preparations for Boro Cereal are well and truly underway...

This is our pioneering social action scheme, with projects that are devised, led and presented by the children of four local primary schools; empowering them to make a difference in their local communities.

With the entries finalised from Ayresome and Whinney Banks, preparations are being made in these schools for our Boro Cereal final on 10<sup>th</sup> June.

Meanwhile in Beech Grove and Park End, their final projects are being decided upon, with each class presenting their pitches to their parents and peers to decide which will become their school's entry to the final (a bowl of cereal is of course on the menu!)







All of the pupils have impressed us so much with their hearts for change in Middlesbrough, and we have been genuinely moved by some of the thoughts and conversations that we have had with the children.

The future of Middlesbrough is in good hands!

Watch out for news of our Boro Cereal final, coming soon!





Even though Ash Wednesday seems a long time ago, we haven't had chance to send a newsletter since our amazing pancake party at St Chad's!

The hall was full with line dancing, crafts, and pancakes... it really was a special afternoon.

We had 24 children, 16 parents/grandparents, 24 American friends, 3 BiG KIDS, and the Eco Shop Manager Shaun helping in the kitchen too!

Here is some feedback from those who were there:

"The pancake party was brilliant. The crafts were lovely, the pancakes were delicious and the games were good fun"

"The whole party was so well organised and obviously a lot of hard work went into preparing it. Thank you so much"

"Tonight was great ! The dance was amazing, I and the twins had a great time chatting with the Americans"

A huge thank you to everyone who came and enjoyed themselves or helped out and to our partners with this; The Genesis Project St Oswald's and St Chad's, Middlesbrough UK-USA Ministries Tees Valley Youth for Christ Prestonwood Baptist Church Prestonwood Christian Academy North





Between the 14th February and 14th March, we had four fabulous weeks of fundraising.

A HUGE THANK YOU if you came along to any of the events, or contributed in any way; making cakes, serving drinks, flipping pancakes or spreading the word.

It's not about the money, it's about the connections, the friendships and the stories of how God is moving.

However, we are excited to share with you that the final total from these events is...

## £1766.53!!

Special thanks to -

- Stokesley Town Council and Stokesley Town Hall
- St Margaret of Scotland, Brookfield
- St Barnabas Church
- St Mary Magdalene Church, Yarm
- Cafe Magdalene

If you weren't able catch up with us, don't worry - you can always donate online, one off or monthly following the link!



Ros, Angela and Jean from St Mary Magdalene Church, representing BiG KIDS at Cafe Magdalene!

See the poster below for information about our 8<sup>th</sup> Birthday Coffee Morning on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May - get the date in your diary!

BiG KIDS 8TH BIRTHDAY COFFEE MORNING **SATURDAY 31ST MAY** 10:00AM - 12:00PM **Cuppas!** St Mary's Church Hall Cakes! Morton Carr Lane Stories! Nunthorpe **TS7 0JU** 

If you would like to help by making cakes or serving on the day please contact: finance@bigkids.org.uk







And "WALK" we did! 11,822 steps, 5.17 miles and 58 flights of stairs worth of walking!

We recently were invited to go with Y4 of St Clare's Primary School on their residential trip to Robin Hood's Bay. We enjoyed walking to Boggle Hole and rockpooling at sunset, alongside exploring the parable of the Wise and Foolish builders on the beach!

This trip allowed us to investigate the Old School House Outward Bound Centre which happens to be run by one of our old friends, Dave Brown, who we have known for many years!

A great time was had by all, we will be back!

## Prayer requests

We kindly ask that over the month of April you keep BiG KIDS in your prayers in the following ways.

That the children involved in the Boro Cereal projects continue to think BiG and push for positive changes in their communities.

For BiG events like the pancake party, that bring churches from across the world together, showing the kids that God's love stretches far and wide.

For faithful and generous givers to BiG KIDS, whether its a one off gift or a monthly donation, you help us to do what we do, Thank you!

Thank God for the opportunities we have to meet children where they are, walk with them on their journey, get to know them and sharing Bible stories along the way.