

BiG Kids Newsletter

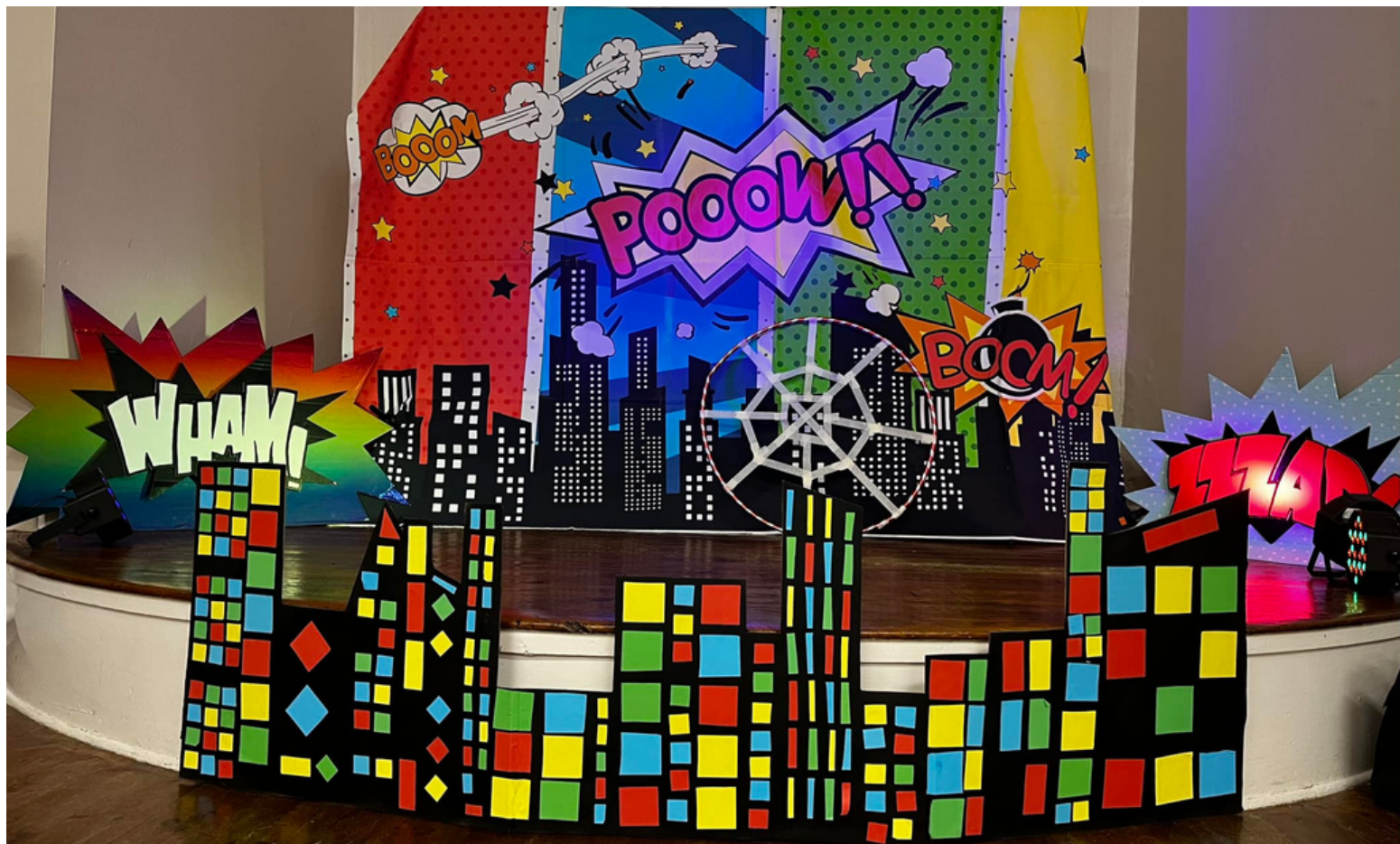
December 2023



WELCOME!

A lot has happened over the last 12 months, but as we reflect we can see how God has been working in the lives of the children of Middlesbrough. We're so incredibly thankful for His continued provision, your support and the openness of the children we meet!

Bring on 2024...



BiG KIDS



@bigkidsboro



School

This month, we have begun to see the “dots joining” in a number of ways – one of which has been three visits from St Joseph’s School to St Oswald’s Church. The Y4/5 pupils have come along for three weekly sessions, with small groups spending time in the Community Garden, crafting for the Angel Festival (keep reading to find out more...) and a taster of a BiG KIDS club!



We were also excited to be back in Park End Primary for two very different lessons- firstly, exploring the story of Christingle, ahead of the children making their own for a service in Church of the Ascension. Secondly, we visited Y5 for an interesting lesson, based on the differences between the Anglican and Baptist Church traditions. Their RE subject this term is “If God is everywhere, why go to church?” which certainly is a fascinating topic to get your teeth into!





Church

Once again we visited Middlesbrough Community Church to lead their children's work on a monthly basis. This time we had a record number of children! 47 kids came along and heard about the God who protected Daniel, even in the scariest and hairiest of situations!



Speaking of hair... this month we heard the story (or song) of Samson and Delilah at St John's in a Superhero session. In both these stories, the children heard how super strength and super bravery can only come from God!



Our EXPLORE sessions at St Barnabas have returned after the half term break with a cosmic theme! So far, we've been exploring the stars and God's promises to Abraham, and His illustration of power to Job. In these sessions, we've had some wonderful questions and thoughts come from group discussions - as we think about Psalms of Praise and the Prince of Peace in the coming weeks, let's pray for more revelations out of the mouths of children!





Community

Boro Cereal has its second project - created and voted for by St Clare's!

We had a brilliant presentation event, with proud parents coming to hear their kids speak of their grand plans for a better town!

The competing projects were;

The Dog Heroes - a budding partnership with the local Salvation Army to support pupils with Brengle and Bonnie, two therapy dogs.



Peacemakers - a plan to reduce anxiety and stress amongst peers with accessible and child friendly Mental Health First Aid kits to take home.

The Green Machine - an ingenious, fun and competitive way to spruce up the local area, with the introduction of a novelty “target bin”.

Put on Love - linked to Anti Bullying Initiative “Odd Sock Day”, this project would design and manufacture a pair of odd socks for each child in the school

Place of Peace - a memorial bench, designed by children in partnership with the in-school grief counselling service, Rainbows.

The beauty of Boro Cereal is how each of the classes we are working with have original ideas, indigenous to their own local area. We can't predict what they'll create!



The winners of the vote were the Peacemakers - though all were worthy of their votes!



Walk

In 2019, we had an idea...

Wouldn't it be cool if local school children had a chance to interactively learn the Christmas Story AND take it home with them?



29 %

Raised out of £500 target

£145.25

Including Gift Aid: £ 166.88

Raised offline: £ 0

[GIVE >](#)

The Little BiG Box was born!

Since then, we've visited 9 local Primary Schools and given out 1000 boxes!

So, we want to do it again!

Each box costs approx. 50p, so even a little amount will go a long way!

Donating with Stewardship is really easy and completely secure. If you are a UK taxpayer, please confirm that you would like to reclaim Gift Aid on your donation. This will add 25p to every £1 you give.

If you would like to donate to this just click the button below



Prayer requests

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



For the link to continue to develop between us and St Josephs, and for all the children we will meet in schools as we deliver Christmas lessons and assemblies this month.



For all the churches we work with, as they open their doors to welcome in school children and their families for Christmas activities.



For our Boro Cereal event as we move on the next stage of 2 more schools, one of which is brand new to BiG KIDS and as we prepare for the main event in March.



We pray that the Stewardship active generosity scheme to fund our Little BiG Boxes is successful and may generate some new regular givers to BiG KIDS to enable us to continue our work long into the future.