

BiG KIDS

Newsletter

November 2024



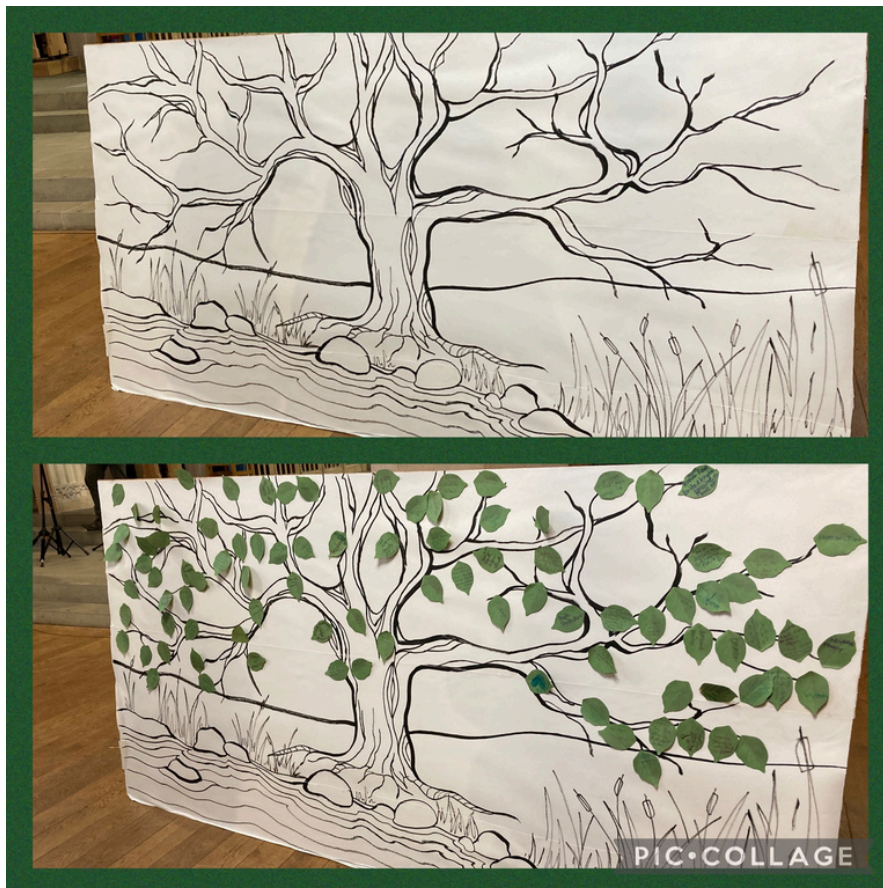
WELCOME!

We've just blinked and its now November!

We hope that you have had a wonderful Harvest Festival season and managed to enjoy some sparkly, smokey fun on Bonfire Night!

Even including a half-term break, this has been a jam packed month for BiG KIDS!

Join us as we look back at some of the fun things we got up to over October and as we look ahead to the C word!



BiG KIDS



@bigkidsboro



School

At the start of October, we welcomed some new (and a few old) friends who were visiting from Immanuel Baptist Church in Tennessee. They returned to serve at St Oswalds and St Chad's Church, alongside the Genesis Project.

The week was full of amazing moments and opportunities. We visited 3 local schools, lead a Harvest Toddler Service, thanksgiving themed kids club and much more.



Our schools work kicked off with Harvest assemblies in both Beech Grove and Newham Bridge Primary, before we spent two lovely days in Beverley School, running Bible drama lessons for kids from Primary, Secondary and Sixth Form age groups.

They all had so much fun, learning about parables and acting them out with props and costumes. From inflatable pigs to sheep hair bands, hi-viz jackets to ponchos! We laughed lots and remembered the stories of; the Good Samaritan, Wise and Foolish Builders, Lost Sheep and Prodigal Son.



Judith, the head of RE for Beverley School, sent these kind words of thanks:

"I just wanted to say a huge thank you for the workshops delivered last week, they were absolutely tremendous. Both our pupils and our staff thoroughly enjoyed them and I was completely blown away... The warmth and mutual respect on display were palpable and I know that the experience will be spoken and remembered about by our pupils for a long time to come."



Church

In mid-October, Debs & Sam did their “usual” - joining St Barnabas Pathfinders on their annual weekend away to Wydale. We looked at Jesus being the centre of everything, and how we can make room for Him amongst the rest of the busyness of everyday life.

Why not watch the video of everything that we got up to by clicking the button below.

Another of our regular commitments for St Barnabas is Mini Praise, a weekly a toddler group which allows time for fellowship, refreshments, crafts and worship - following the same Bible themes as our schools work.

So far, we’ve learnt about Moses’ life, King David and had fun throwing stones (pompoms) at our Goliath (Sam)!

Mini Praise is supported by a band of faithful volunteers; Jess, John, Ray, Sheila, Oli and our new volunteer, Caroline. Caroline joined Mini Praise as a parent just over a year ago and when her daughter moved on to school in September, Caroline felt called to come back and support us as a helper
- Praise God!

Take a look at the beautiful wreath made by Mini Praise this morning. It will be laid by the Park Ward councillor at the Cenotaph on Sunday during the Remembrance Parade.



In our other regular commitments;

At St Chad's, alongside Toddlers and the weekly church service for families, our Kids Club has continued to work through the A-Z of the Bible, with a brief pause to reflect on the importance of Remembrance Day.



At MCC we explored the importance of remembering Jesus' sacrifice for us, through the fantastic Disney film, Coco, and the Mexican tradition of "Day of the Dead".



At St John's, we made an army (or a plague...) of frogs as we heard about Moses' escape from Egypt.



And at EXPLORE, we've been getting arty, learning about God the Potter, and Jesus the Carpenter.





Community

Barney's Baby Bank is now one month old and is going from strength to strength. In its first month of action, we have helped 14 families and given out a whole host of items!

Including:

14 packs of nappies

14 packs of wipes

10 bundles of boys clothes

8 bundles of girls clothes

1 pair of shoes

10 sets of shampoo, baby wash, bubble bath etc

3 prams

2 highchairs

1 baby walker

And look at the fantastic bundle we put together for a family this week! They were so grateful and the joy on their faces as we handed it over shows the real heart of the project.



A huge THANK YOU to everyone who purchased from our wishlist too!



Walk

As you can see, this Harvest season has been particularly busy for BiG KIDS.

In fact, our schedules have been so full, that some of the new skills learned through COVID lockdowns took a backseat. In other words, we hadn't made a video in a while!

Well, this year, inspired by a compassionate response to recent unrest in Middlesbrough, we wrote a song! Thank God for the Boro celebrates the greatness of our town - and the fact that God loves our little part of the world!

This video has gone far and wide, used in harvest festivals, school assemblies, church services and kids clubs across the Boro!

Check out the video below - with BiG thanks to our new team member, Abbie - writing funding bids by day, lead vocalist by night!

Dare we mention it? Christmas is knocking on the door!
But you know how organised we are, we've been speaking to
schools about the festivities since last month and to date
we have 11 schools booked in
We will be delivering our Little BiG Box lessons to almost
600 children!

With this in mind we need your help!

Each child takes home their own box which helps them
retell the Nativity Story, including a poem card and a prop
for each part of the story.

Essential items include chocolate coins, cotton wool and
pipe cleaners!

We have set up an Amazon Wishlist with the items we are
short of - if you would like to help a school child have their
own box please follow the link to the list.





Prayer requests

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



For our upcoming Christmas lessons and school visits. For good health, energy and continued positive relationships with staff. (And yes, for some schools, Christmas starts in November!)



For the St Barnabas Pathfinders, that they will put Jesus in the centre of their lives and be encouraged to explore God further.



Thanks for the Baby Bank! God's provision and advancement of this ministry. That we compassionately share His love with each family we come into contact with.



Thank God for the Boro, the town we live in. For our heritage and prospects for the future - that God's peace will reign across all communities and peoples.