

Messy Church Report 2024

Messy church is run for one morning, every half term. We work jointly with the Methodist church in North Avenue, alternating the venue between there and St George's Parish Hall.

Each event runs from 10.00 to 12.30 and is set round a theme. A range of activities are set out for children aged up to 11, although the majority of children are 3 - 8. Parents / carers are expected to attend with their children. After a time of activities there is a short talk based on the theme and then lunch is served for everyone. The following themes have been studied:

- The church family and how God helps us
- Harvest, based on the story of Ruth
- Coming into the light of Jesus, based on blind Bartimaeus
- The Free Gift of Christmas
- Following God, based on Jonah and the big fish
- The Road to Emmaus

We are heavily reliant on volunteers to run each activity base. The Lord has never let us down regarding this and we always have enough helpers. I would like to thank Hazel, from the Methodist church and Ros who work on the organisation of each event and all those who help us on the day. Thanks also goes to Andrew, the cook, who always provides a very tasty lunch.

This is a great way of sharing the gospel and meeting with those in our local community. Families really enjoy the time we have at Messy Church and often book for the next event straight after the one they have attended. We look to the Lord to guide us as we continue with this work in the future.

Susan Taylor