



During the Summer holidays Landlubbers again docked port in Ottery St Mary. Everyday around 32 children came together for the holiday club where we had lots of fun, stories, games, songs, crafts and pirate mayhem. The crew was made up from people from the various churches in Ottery St Mary. Our stories focused on the ups and downs of David. We looked at the highs in his life when he was chosen to be King and when he defeated Goliath but also the lows when he was running away from King Saul and from the Philistines. On the Wednesday we looked at Psalm 23 and how the Lord is our Shepherd through the highs and the lows. The children in their various table activities made Pirate masks, Pirate book marks, Pirate hats but also, they had fun with freeze frame Drama and making Shepherd Posters. Two of the things the children looked forward to, and not necessarily the leaders, were the Leaders challenge and, appearing for the first time, the 'Compass of Doom'. The former involved the children going up against leaders in various tasks such as the strawberry lace challenge, cookie slide and Malteser racing. The latter however was far more messy. The chosen leaders had to partake in having their faces covered in shaving foam and washed off in water pistols, eating chocolate covered donuts from a piece of string, dropping trifle ingredients on faces and grabbing a sweet from flour using only your mouth. To make matters worse the loser had to endure a parrot poo pie, which somehow, I encountered twice!

This year, on the fourth day, we held Landlubbers at The River Dart Country Park near Ashburton. Thirty-two children, most of their parents and leaders all went down. The weather turned our really lovely, after a bit of a wet start. We started the day with our Landlubbers session which included wide games, a story, and our memory verse. Part of the session was then taken to the lake where we did the leaders challenge – collecting coloured balls from the lake and the 'Compass of Doom' – which was the donut challenge. It was really great all of us being together having so much fun. It was great chatting to the Parents too. After the session finished the children and parents were then able to spend the rest of the day there doing their own thing.

We all thoroughly enjoyed doing the holiday club and we are already thinking about the Holiday club reunion in the New Year and how we can build on what we did. There was even talk about next Summer's Holiday club before this one had even finished!

Thanks' must go to all the leaders that gave up their time to help at Landlubbers this week. Without them something like this wouldn't be able to run. Also, a massive thank you to the parents and all the children who came. Everyone contributed to making the week a lot of fun and very enjoyable





Towards the end of term, we were greatly encouraged with how many young people were starting to drop in to The Hub Youth Café, on a Wednesday straight after school. Like all these things they can take time to build up, but build up they do. We started off with a couple faithfully coming each week from May but by the end of term we were seeing around 9 or 10 each session. Every week we have cake, cookies and drinks available for the young people to enjoy. It is a great time for them to chill out and relax after a day at school. Towards the end of term, the young people started using the hall a bit more, playing their own games and expelling lots of pent up energy. There were also times of conversation which I myself got a lot from and I hope the young people did also. This in fact is one of the reasons the drop-in café was started. It was to be a place where young people could talk to me, as a trusted, supportive youth worker which they may find difficult elsewhere.

This term we will be continuing the Drop In – Starting on Wednesday 11th September. We hope to get some more games and activities the young people can take part in. Also, we hope to increase our menu to include milkshakes!! A big thankyou to all those who come on the rota to help me. If there are any others that would also like to come and help, maybe you have some board games we could use or even make a cake – then please contact me.



The last term of the 2018/19 academic year was very busy in the schools. I really enjoyed all the transition work and the various assemblies. It was also great to see the young people try out their new Secondary Schools. From the nervousness of the first day to the confidence and dismay to having go back to Primary school was really good to see. That isn't thinking negatively of the Primary schools. It's more about seeing the fear, that builds up over the year during year 6, ebb away as they see that Secondary school isn't so bad after all. I am really looking forward to seeing all the children when I go back into King's School at the beginning of the term. Though, now with all the children in the same uniform, it's going to be more difficult to place the young people. I accept the challenge though. Last term at Feniton Primary School I ran a Bible Explorers Club, which went really well. I had a number of year 5 and year 4 children coming along. I will be running that one again during this term. Over the coming months I will also be developing the work in Ottery St Mary Primary – in mentoring and friendship clubs. Furthermore, I will also be looking at how I can support the other schools in the area with a lunchtime club or after school club. All these things are something I really enjoy doing and I feel is really important for the children.



Over the summer holidays I visited Feniton Parish Church and shared with them the work I am doing with TheO6. It was lovely to spend time worshipping with the congregation. On September 8th I took the service at the United Reformed Church in Ottery St Mary on the subject of 'Education Sunday'. During the service we prayed for all those in education and the schools/colleges and universities. On Sunday the 22nd September it is 'Youthwork Sunday' and I will be at Payhembury Church – which I am very much looking forward to going too. Over the summer youthwork tends to stop but we are now back in full force. FiSH at 'The United Reformed Church' has virtually tripled in size which is very exciting. The first session of the new term saw us eating hot dogs, tray cake and playing some pretty competitive games. It certainly is the best part of my job – hanging around with the youth, wherever they are. From this term I will also be visiting New Life youth group more due to a change in circumstance – which you can read below.



I am delighted this month to be starting a new role as Children, Youth and Families worker at St Luke's Church, Newton Poppleford alongside my work with TheO6. Over the last two and a half years I have worked with their youth and children's groups, built some great relationships and have been greatly encouraged by what they are doing in the community. There will be lots of crossover with my work in TheO6 as a number of young people go to King's School. I am really looking forward to developing the work there and am excited at what God has in store. Please pray for this work and my new role.