

Sunday School report

This year has seen a number of changes to the way we run Sunday School.

We no longer do God's FireWorks, our monthly children's service. We ran it for over four years but felt it was time to have a break. Although it has finished, it is not to say that it can't start up again, maybe in a different format and with new volunteers.

The Sunday School format has also changed. We are now working our way through the Bible, from beginning to end. This may take some time! We try to show the children a short DVD or other video clip of that week's story. Then we do an activity/game and finally some craft. We are making a huge poster (we're on our third roll of wallpaper) to emphasise the stories and their order in the Bible.

We have a great team of staff, who give up their time to meet together and prepare.

We currently take children from Reception year to year 6. This has its challenges, as it's important to keep everyone engaged and teach them at a level appropriate to each individual.

We are also aware that more needs to be done to make sure no child misses out and that we try to widen our age ranges.

We really need a pre-school group, somewhere for children who are too old for crèche, but not yet ready for Sunday School.

Likewise once children have outgrown Sunday School they need to have their own group, so they aren't just left listening to sermons, getting bored.

However, as always, in order to have more groups we need more volunteers. At the moment we barely have enough to run the groups we have.

Hopefully, as the church grows, more people will come forward, so we can run group for all ages, so it's the kids dragging parents to church, not the other way around!

We have really good material, based on the scriptures with ideas for discussion. Thank you to the author of these.

You don't have to be an academic to teach in Sunday School, you just have to be prepared to give up some time and be able to talk to the children about their God.

If this sounds like something you want to be a part of or want to know more about what we do please speak to me or any of the Sunday School staff.

We hope to show you soon our poster so far. At the moment we're learning about Moses and how his obedience to God ensured the release of the Israelites from Egypt.

Matt O'Rourke