

# News & Prayer

## Looking back



*Sharing Christian hope with a new generation*

The Home Together live event in November was well attended. Families enjoyed making cut out puppets of characters in the Nativity Story which Mark then filmed against a green screen, and also recorded a script voiced by the children. The whole thing was then cleverly edited together, with added backgrounds and captions. The resulting video became the December edition of Home Together, watched over Christmas by the growing number of families who have signed up.

The February edition of *Home Together* continued the *Parables of Jesus* series, and the March edition has just been released. "A big party" can be viewed here <https://youtu.be/z7QkihVv-ak>

## This term



We have recently delivered our *Parables of Jesus* workshops in Eyemouth – three hour-long sessions with P4, P6 and P7 classes. In each case we began with our slightly OTT display of parables (left over from a Holiday Club many years ago) then looked at each one in more detail, making good use of the stories from recent *Home Together* videos to explore what they might tell us about God's attitudes towards us, or how we might relate to God, or how we might behave towards each other. The workshops were well received by both children and staff, and we received

some very positive feedback. (You might be able to work out which parables we explored from some of the pictures - or you could look up the cryptic Bible references!)

**Assemblies:** Lent and Easter are our themes for assemblies booked in for various schools this term (although Mark has also delivered an assembly on Thankfulness – one of the school values being explored in Coldstream School this term). Pictured (right) is Mark telling the story of the feeding of the 5000 using a "Godly Play" script, but making good use of our technology so that everyone could see the figures representing the main characters (and the crowd) in the story. We used this as a way in to the "takeaway" challenge: could the children think of ways they could help others, even if this was at the expense of them having to give something up (as did Jesus, the disciples and the boy with the five loaves and the two fishes in the story), such as their time or energy, or by sharing in some way?



**SU Groups:** Mark (assisted by Susan) is running the group in Reston, with so many children attending that it made sense for one of the lunchtime supervisors to stay in with the children, there being more inside school than out on the playground! Chirnside SU Group has also seen an increase in numbers attending, Charles and Susanne reporting having 20 children in recent sessions. Stuart and the Rev Susan Brown have just re-started the group in Greenlaw, with 11 children attending the first session and others who have expressed an interest.

**Explore** continues to meet fortnightly. Please pray for those who are attending, and for those who lead. We were exploring the lives of some key OT characters and what we can learn from their experience of God applied to our own lives but have now moved on to looking at some key faith issues.

**Coldstream Saturday Special** How good it was to be back with the team at Coldstream after three years of absence (as far as Saturday Specials are concerned). We adapted the *Wild Things* outdoor Holiday Club programme (first used in Chirnside and Ayton two summers ago) for use inside the cavernous space of Coldstream Parish Church, where the 20 or so children and a strong team hunted for sheep amongst the pews (one was so well hidden it was never found!) to work out that the theme for the day was the story of King David. We also constructed houses and giants out of cardboard boxes; enjoyed the provided lunch and fruit snacks; built hideouts with blankets; made musical instruments and colourful crowns; and heard how God took an unlikely shepherd boy and made him king of Israel, and the precursor of the Messiah.



Sadly, this was Rev David Taverners's last Coldstream Saturday Special as he prepares for his retirement this Easter, and we joined with the Coldstream team in wishing him well for his final weeks in Berwickshire and his new life hereafter.

## Prayer Points

Be...faithful in prayer. (Romans 2:12)



BCYT Prayer meetings continue to be held on Zoom on the last Friday of each month, at 7.30pm. If you would like to join others in praying for BCYT, please contact Ishbel ([ijidorward@gmail.com](mailto:ijidorward@gmail.com)) and she will give you the necessary meeting code and the password.

### Let's give thanks for:

- Renewed access to so many schools, and especially the warm responses from our Primary Schools to our offers of assemblies and RME support
- The impact of the *Home Together* programme on children and their families.
- The engagement of the children attending the Coldstream Saturday Special

### Please pray for:

- The SU groups, in Reston, Chirnside and Greenlaw.
- The *Explore* leadership team, and those who attend, especially for new members, that they integrate quickly into the group.
- The effectiveness of our Lent and Easter assemblies and RME input, and for an impact on both minds and hearts.



Berwickshire Christian Youth Trust is a charity registered in Scotland, No SCO26804  
BCYT: an independent Trust in partnership with Scripture Union Scotland



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