

April 2018

Dear Parents

New Term, April 2018

We hope you had a super Easter break? The weather hasn't been great obviously, but there has been plenty to celebrate here at NMBC with the fantastic baptismal service and afternoon party on Easter Sunday, amongst other things!

This Sunday, 15th April, sees the re-start of Crèche and Thumbs Up, as well as the exciting re-launch of Seedlings (for 3-4 year old pre-schoolers, or those who turn 3 during this coming term). Please note that Kingdom Kids and Over and Out will both re-start the following Sunday, 22nd April so any children or young people normally in these groups will need to remain in the main service with their parents this weekend.

This term, the overall theme for our school-age groups will be "Relationships" (the intended weekly programme can be found at the end of this letter). Relationships are obviously of crucial importance to all of us and children and young people are no exception. The overall aim of these sessions will be to point them towards relationship with Jesus as being both the core of the Christian faith, and also the basis on which our other relationships should be founded. We hope that you will enjoy exploring and building on these areas with your own children at home. One particular resource which comes highly recommended is: <https://kitchentable.org.uk/> Here there are some top tips for parents with a heart to build faith in their children, including a list of 10 things we can all easily do at home – well worth checking out!

This weekend, many of our young people are away with Analice and her team on the youth weekend away at PGL, so let's remember them in our prayers – that it will be a special time of fellowship and fuelling of faith. Next week (wb 16th April) the midweek youth groups re-start after the Easter break: Rock Solid, on Thursdays 7:15-9pm for young people in year 10 and above and Club 629 on Fridays 7-8:30pm for young people from year 6 to year 9. All young people and their friends very welcome!

Some of you may have heard that a New Malden Passion play is being planned for 2019 (further details doubtless to follow)! There is no doubt that seeing the enactment of biblical events in the flesh can be a great way of bringing them alive, especially for our youngsters. If you are interested in taking your children to a faith inspiring event of this nature, then why not check out "The Life of Christ", performed at the Wintershall Estate, near Guildford: <https://www.wintershall-estate.com/life-christ>. This is a whole-day, live performance, running 19th to 23rd June (although the 23rd is obviously the only non-school day). Why not go as a family, or hook up with another family for a great day out?

Finally, it has been wonderful to see some of our children and young people using their gifts to serve within church over these past months. We want to continue to encourage this so if they are interested, whatever that interest may be, do ask them to speak to one of us about it. Possible areas might include: welcoming, using musical/IT skills, sharing testimony, praying, reading, serving refreshments etc etc.

Every blessing for the term ahead.

Simon, Analice and the Sunday Group Leaders

Overall theme – Relationships (Miracles for Thumbs Up in second half of term)

15 April – Siblings (RS03)

22 April – Parents (RS04)

29 April – Forgiveness (RS07)

6 May – Lying (RS08)

13 May – Speaking Right (RS12)

20 May – Listening (RS13)

27 May – All Age

3 June – Enemies (RS09) / Water into wine (LMJ01)

10 June – All school age children's and youth groups together in the hall (i.e. Thumbs Up, Kingdom Kids, Over and Out)

17 June – Interdependence (RS10) / Paralysed man through the roof (LMJ02)

24 June – Conflict (RS11) / Jairus' daughter (LMJ03)

1 July – Boasting (RS14) / Calming the storm (LMJ06)

8 July – Rejection (RS15) / Peter walks on water (LM07)

15 July – Favouritism (RS16) / Raising of Lazarus (LMJ11)

22 July – Helpful Friends/I'm listening (RS17) / Miraculous catch (LMJ12)

29 July – All Age