

Notes from Children & Young People Vision Group Meeting

Thursday 28th April 2022

1. Apologies

Julie, Vanessa, Joanna and Alison.

2. Toddler Group:

The increasing popularity of the group is, on occasions, causing the problem of how to manage larger numbers. Numbers average 16/17 families attending each week but there were 21 on the Friday before the vision group meeting. This made holding the coffee break and story time in the Reading Room rather too crowded and, as there was only Carolyn and me organising that day it took a long time to serve the teas/ coffees etc. This is a nice problem to have but it is one that needs addressing. It would be good to have more helpers so that we could always be sure that there will be 3 responsible for each Friday. We also need to make contingency plans for the days when numbers of parents/carers exceed 20. Jeanette, Carolyn and Vanessa will discuss solutions to this problem and try other ways of arranging this.

The other topic for discussion was that of donations. At present there is a tin beside the signing in register with a note saying suggested donations are £1. There was much discussion around this topic but, after talking it through with Vanessa later, it has been decided to put the amount up to £2 and Vanessa will circulate this change to parents and carers via our Facebook page.

Equipment: Toddler group is well equipped but there are just a couple of things that need replacing. The 2 car mats are very worn and will be replaced when one of us makes a trip to IKEA. The carpet used under the climbing frame bridge also needs replacing and we will look out for an off-cut that is the right length.

3. Baptism Families:

Since taking over from Pam Parke, Carolyn has started to give a small book to each child on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd anniversary of their baptism. She also aims to be in contact with the families every 6 months.

As another way of maintaining links with these families Carolyn suggested that we try to do a Godparent Sunday, maybe linked with a family picnic. Carolyn will talk to Beverly about this.

4. Children's Church:

Alice has completed all that is necessary for her to join the team. She joined us for the breakfast we held when we had 9 attending as well as Carys and Ellie.

Carys has now become a regular helper and is a great asset to the team.

Julie and Jeanette will meet to plan for the summer term.

5. Youth Group:

As with all our groups, there is the need for more helpers, particularly after the summer when Joanna will return to university.

The youth group is well equipped but the table tennis table is problematic as it is so heavy and unwieldy. It is well used at youth group sessions and would be missed if not available. After a short discussion, which included storage which wouldn't involve having to move the table up steps, it was decided that we should investigate purchasing another, lighter table. This could possibly be a second hand one. This is probably something that needs to be raised in the PCC.

Donations to youth group sessions was discussed and it was agreed that at the July meeting we would start to charge £2 per session. We will invite all the year 6 children to this meeting and from September we aim to run youth group monthly. We just need to decide which Sunday each month will be best.

6. Next Meeting:

Wednesday June 22nd 7.30pm