

Notes from the Messy Church Planning Meeting held on Tuesday 10th May 2011.

Present: Emma Coe, Jo Fletcher, Chris Hall, John Benvie, Wendy Roberts, Mary Langton, Margaret Burgess.

The meeting began with a prayer.

Feedback from Easter Messy Church.

A pleasing number of people turned up, especially as it was in the school holidays.

Quote from Teddy “Messy Church is better than Legoland, but needs to be messier!”

It was noted that when running a craft table it is not always easy to discuss the meaning behind each craft as sometimes there are lots of people all coming and going and then sometimes they are very young. Some crafts like the Easter tomb scene with the rock were easier to talk about than the others. Some of the crafts have a bible verse etc. Emma will investigate using tent cards to explain the link. It was noted that in the upfront part in the sanctuary the crafts were now often tied into the monthly theme.

Action: Emma

An appeal was made for more of the people helping with the crafts to come into the sanctuary part of the worship to get the fuller picture.

Action: All

Various ideas were put forward as to how to informally monitor who was coming to Messy Church and how often. The possibility of using the badges or by offering an email reminder list were put forward.

Action: Emma

Other points of discussion:

There are several opportunities coming up over the next few weeks to use the new publicity materials to invite people to Messy Church. It would be good to target 3Ts and Quest members as well as the other groups meeting in the church over the next few weeks.

This Sunday is a Parade Sunday. Emma to contact Leslie about advertising material being handed out and also Jo F being identified as a point of contact.

Action: Emma

On May 21st it is the official opening of the new outdoor area for the pre-school and would be a great chance to publicise Messy Church.

Action: Emma to contact Leslie.

It was noted that the November Messy Church clashes with the Church weekend so advance planning will be required to make sure there are enough helpers, especially as it Melissa's first one back from her maternity leave. **Action: All.**

Theme Bible Journeys.

- 1) Sandals. Made from carpet, ribbon and duct tape. **Action: Mary to source and run.**
- 2) Junk art vehicles. Cardboard boxes, tubes, etc. pritt sticks, tape etc. **Action: All to source, Chris to put notice in weekly news sheet. Jo to run.**
- 3) Box car. Box, coloured card, holographic paper, pritt sticks, cellophane. **Action: Emma to source and run.**
- 4) Journey games. 1 biblical, 1 local place names with 'stations' round the hall. **Action: Margaret to source and run.**
- 5) Chalk maps/journeys. Dark card, chalks. Depending on the weather do outside in the new play area or inside. **Action: Eleanor to source and run (need to check what is in Junior Church cupboard).**
- 6) Paint track and foam people pictures. **Action: Wendy to source and run.**
- 7) Rocky road bites. **Action: Chris to source and run.**

Extras: Road map rug and cars/train track. **Action Emma to source from Little Fishes or home.**

Also: For next time the theme is Bible seashores, all to think of possible crafts and **Chris** to put a notice in Contact and weekly sheet about collecting shells.

The meeting finished with a prayer.

Thank you all!