

APCM Report 2019
MABS: Children's and Families Work

Sunday Club

This year at Sunday Club we have been following the whole church learning curriculum. This has provided a more integrated approach to the children learning about the Christian faith, although it has sometimes presented challenges for the Sunday Club team when searching for appropriate resources. I would like to say a massive thank you to all our Sunday Club leaders. They are a very committed group of people who selflessly give their time to deliver creative and engaging activities week by week. So, many thanks to Cathryn Hunt and Vivien Walton who do an amazing job in Creche and Early Years. Heartfelt thanks to Diana Lane and Carole Alderson too for all they do in Juniors.

St Andrew's School

My mentoring work at St Andrew's School has changed slightly this year. Instead of hosting coffee mornings for parents, I now hold Mindfulness classes. This provides opportunities for parents to find some quiet, reflective space for themselves in their busy lives. Classes usually run every other week during term time. The new hall at the school is a perfect venue for this. I continue to deliver Mindfulness Classes for the children each week too. I meet with children on a one to one basis for mentoring with some mindfulness. This provides a space for children who, for a time, may need extra support with a particular issue that may be affecting their learning in school. I have a dedicated room for this in the new building, which has made a positive difference in the work I do with the children.

Twins Group

Twins and Multiple Births Group continues to thrive. This group takes place every Wednesday morning during term time. The group have formed their own committee this year, which means that the users can take more ownership of how the group runs. The group provides a much needed source of support to the parents and children who come. Each month parents/carers bring 'free stuff', such as clothes that children have grown out of, or toys or anything related to raising twins, that can be swapped or taken away. Many thanks to Simone Berndes and Ruth Mackay for their help each Wednesday.

Single Parents

Single Parents Meet Up happens every Tuesday afternoon and is for single parents and their children. Thank you to volunteers Lou and Thalia who help and also are instrumental in communicating and arranging activities outside the Tuesday group time. Oliver, who attends the group, became a young leader this year and does an amazing job in helping set up and pack away each week. Many thanks to Simone Berndess who also helps at the group.

Wine Club

The Wine Club usually meets on the first Thursday evening of each month. It is a group for parents who have children with additional needs that require extra care. It provides a space for parents to relax and enjoy an evening out and learn about wine at the same time.

Exodus

I began running Exodus Youth Club in September 2018. It runs every Monday evening during term time for young people from years 5 to 8. There are usually between 30 to 40 young people each week with a range of activities on offer. We loosely follow the whole church learning curriculum. The team of volunteers help make this club run so well. Thank you to

each of them for their dedication and willingness to support our local young people week by week.

Ridley in London

As a Minister for the London Diocese, we began a new venture in September 2018. St Andrew's Enfield became the London Centre of Ridley Hall Theological College in Cambridge. I work together with Rob Barward-Symmons in delivering a Children's and Youth Work course for Children and Youth Workers from across the London. The cohort of students this year consisted of six Youth Work Apprentices from the London Diocese and eleven gap year students from XLP who run youth work programmes across London.

Messy Church

Messy Church takes place usually every fourth Sunday of the month at 4pm. Messy Church includes crafts, Bible stories, songs and food. It provides families with small children the opportunity to be in Church together and participate as families in the variety of activities on offer. There is always a theme to follow each time and things can get 'messy'. Thank you to all the volunteers who ensure that Messy Church happens. You are fantastic!

Jo Griffiths

Director of MABS Children, Youth and Community Project