Primary Schools' Chaplaincy

March 2025 – April 2025

News and Information for Term 5 for Parents!

Christ Church Downend wishes you and your families a very Happy Easter and holiday!
Have a wonderful and well-deserved break and a great April/May term!

Easter at Christ Church Downend



The Easter services at Christ Church Downend are as follows. All are welcome.

Services that specifically include children are as follows:
Good Friday: Friday 18th April - All age service at 10.30 am. We remember Jesus' death on the cross, showing us what love and forgiveness look like from God.
Easter Family Fun Day: Sat 19th April – see below
Easter Sunday: 20th April. All age communion at 10.30 am.

If you are looking for more information about our church services, please see our website, for details.

For more information about family services, please contact harriet.jolly@christchurchdownend.com

Experience Easter at Christ Church Downend

Our recent "Experience Easter Outside" event was attended by children from five primary schools. Four hundred plus children from year 1 to year 3 came to visit our church garden. They heard the Easter story retold in a different way and were able to discuss what Christians believe about Jesus and the reason we have Easter eggs, a school holiday and more at home. They were encouraged to reflect on their own response to the story through practical activities.

Thank you to all the school and church staff and volunteers who make this special time possible.









Bubble Church, Quaker's Road Church Centre – 1st Sunday of the Month at 4pm



Especially for children aged 0-7 years, this is a half hour of puppet packed worship with stories, songs with actions and simple prayers especially for young families. Older children welcome, too with opportunities to lead once they are feeling confident. Introduce your children to the Christian faith and build the community at Quaker's Road.

No charge, but donations appreciated for food and drink that appear at the end! Scan the QR code to sign up each month so we have enough refreshments!

Families at Christ Church Downend

Would you like to explore the Christian faith with your children at church? If so, there are various activities during the week that you can come to as well as our Sunday morning groups.



Jigsaw – Fridays during term time. A free, relaxed toddler and parent group for children aged 0-4 years. We meet at 9.45 - 11.15am for playing, singing, worship time, refreshments, and crafts. You will be most welcome to join us – come and meet Monty Mouse!

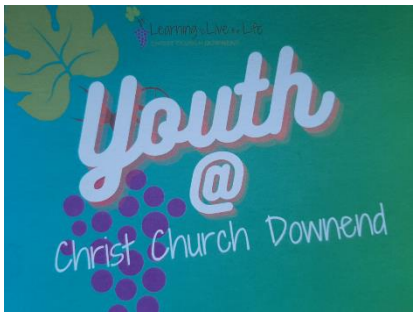
Creche – For 0 – 3-year-olds on Sundays 10.30 – 11.30 am. Play, listen to stories, sing and pray with Monty Mouse

Sparklers – For 3-year-olds – Y1 on Sundays 10.30 – 11.30 am. Story and song time with Jack the dog, learn about God, craft, playtime and fun with friends.

Connected – Y2 – Y5 on Sundays 10.30 – 11.30 am. Learn about Jesus, share faith with friends and leaders, craft, active games and prayer.

To find out more, please contact our children's lead on harriet.jolly@christchurchdownend.com

Youth – For Y6-13. Sundays @ the Youth Hub, 10.30 am – 12 midday (Discipleship and discussion)



Thursdays @ the Youth Hub, 7.00 – 8.30 pm (Games, tuck, community, discussion and prayer) – free to attend but bring money for tuck.

To find out more, please contact our associate vicar and experienced youth lead, paul.peterson@christchurchdownend.com

Easter Family Fun Day! – Saturday 19th April – 10.00-11.30 am at Quaker's Road Church Centre



Just turn up for this free family event! A great way to spend time with your family and discover the Christ Church Centre at Quaker's Road in Bromley Heath!

Our building is fully accessible and there are modern toilet and baby changing facilities.

Bouncy castle, make Easter gardens and crafts and enjoy puppets retelling the Easter story! 😊

The Lego Easter Story!

Here is a retelling of the Easter story (Jesus' death and resurrection) in Lego format for you to enjoy as a family

https://gochattervideos.com/the-lego-easter-story/



May Bank Holiday Weekend Celebration – All invited



Sat 3rd May: 2 pm – 4 pm, Cream Tea at Christ Church Downend

Sunday 4th May:

10.30 am – All Age Café Church at Christ Church Downend

4.00 pm – Bubble Church at Quaker's Road Centre, Bromley Heath

Monday 5th May: Family fun BBQ and Bounce at Christ Church Downend – 2 pm – 4 pm

South Glos and Bristol Holiday Activities and Food Club

If your children receive benefit-related free school meals and live in South Glos, you can sign up to these holiday clubs and food programme this Easter. There are four hours a day for four days of the week for one week available this Easter holiday.

Here's a video to explain more. There are different clubs at different schools in the winter, spring and summer holidays. https://youtu.be/UghoVytq7iU?feature=shared

If your child attends a Bristol Council school, the equivalent holiday clubs are available here: https://www.bristol.gov.uk/residents/people-and-communities/find-a-holiday-activity-in-your-area

Christians Against Poverty (CAP)



If you are finding managing your finances hard just now, the Christ Church Downend CAP team can help.
You can phone confidentially on: 07483 410403
Or please email Rosie Brydon on rosiebrydon@capuk.org
For more information or to donate to people in Downend, see our website

Care For the Family

Care For the Family are now doing a quarterly newsletter email that you can subscribe to, which gives parenting tips, as well as info on courses, resources, events that may be helpful https://www.careforthefamily.org.uk/main-subscription/

Bereavement Support

If you have suffered from loss of a loved one and would like the support of either of our vicars or pastoral support team, the church is here for you in Downend.

Please contact our vicar, Dan Watts or our associate vicar, Paul Peterson via email on dan.watts@christchurchdownend.com and paul.peterson@christchurchdownend.com

Any questions please contact me, the Downend primary schools' chaplain: julie.gardner@christchurchdownend.com
I will be happy to have a chat, hear your ideas, receive feedback and discuss any ways we might support you. We look forward to the summer season with schools in Downend. Happy Easter holidays everyone!