

s†stephen's ealing

January 2020 - Winter Issue

SPARKLERS

COOL STARS

XCC

Happy New Year to all our CC children, helpers and parents. Hopefully you had a fabulous Christmas and enjoyed the services over the Christmas period, particularly the packed Nativity & Christingle service on Christmas Eve. It was lovely to see so many familiar faces and some lovely costumes.

Looking back at last term:

The winter term was a busy few months for children and leaders. We held the Light Party, in October, for the 9th year with fun games, yummy food and plenty of activities to keep everyone entertained. A big thanks to all the volunteers who helped run this popular event.



In November the children performed a drama, penned by Jonathan Culling, 'Postcards from Paul'. This drama was set around seven postcards, sent by St. Paul on his travels. The postcards were projected on screen and read by the children, while other children act out the scenes silently on stage.







This year we trialled our first Contemporary Carol Service. Jo Leeds our Worship Pastor joined the Cool Stars and XCC in a combined session to teach the children a new song. They then performed the song with Jo in front of the whole congregation. We look forward to involving the children in worship more often.

Once again our Carols, Christingle and Nativity service Christmas on Eve was verv popular. With standing room only we welcomed new and familiar faces with many children dressing up as Nativity characters and joining the World, sorry, Steve and Caroline, in the telling of THE story.



This is our fabulous collection of 18 lovely books from generous Cool Christians families for the annual Christmas party gifts of Ealing Home-Start, for which they were very grateful.

Big thanks to all who donated.



Topics for the coming term

| 19 Jan | Psalms | |
|--------|--|--------------------|
| 26 Jan | Combined Worship session with Jo | |
| 2 Feb | ALL AGE SERVICE | |
| 9 Feb | Bad Fruit | Genesis 2, 3 |
| 16 Feb | Combined session with Sue Charlton for CS & XCC on Share the Love campaign | |
| 23 Feb | Flood Warning | Genesis 6:1-8, 19 |
| 1 Mar | ALL AGE SERVICE | |
| 8 Mar | Rainbow Promise | Genesis 8:20, 9:17 |
| 15 Mar | God's promises to Jacob | Genesis 28:10-22 |
| 22 Mar | ALL AGE SERVICE Mothering Sunday & Fundraising cake sale | |
| 29 Mar | Communion Teaching | |
| 5 Apr | ALL AGE SERVICE - Palm Sunday | |
| 12 Apr | ALL AGE SERVICE - Easter | |
| 19 Apr | Summer Term Starts | |

One Cool Christians leader leaving and another starting this term!

Big thanks to Jonathan Culling for his work with the children over many years, more than 15, including writing and organising many dramas and acting in all the pantomimes.! He finished as XCC leader at Christmas and James Morrow worked with him last term (see profile). We are delighted to welcome Sarah Yates, mother of 2 little Sparklers, to our Sparklers leaders' team this term.



I have attended church my whole life and have been involved with running children's church in some way shape or form for the last 7 years. Myself and my wife, Lucy, (pictured above) were married at St Stephens on the 1st September last year, St Stephens being her childhood church. I graduated from Southampton Uni earlier this year having studied physics and we moved to Ealing in March and have been attending St Stephens since then. Lucy and I both have a great love of board games and enjoy watching ice hockey together. I have recently started as a civil servant and Lucy is a special needs teacher in a secondary school.

On Saturday 8 February, 3-6pm, is our annual Children's New Year Party. All Cool Christians children are invited and encouraged to bring along friends. There will be fun, entertainment, food, games, cake, sweets and a magician. Look out for invitations coming very soon. We will be asking for food contributions.

On Sunday 22 March, Mothering Sunday, we will be fund raising with a cake sale for Hospices of Hope, the charity we chose to raise for this year. All baking efforts by children and parents would be greatly received. Home made cakes are always popular but we know you are busy so bought cakes are great too.



Cool Christians is changing its name.

Ealing Soup Kitchen sent a big thank you for our fund raising last year. CC raised £379 for the work of ESK with the homeless in Ealing. Well done to everyone who contributed.

We are sad to announce that Celia Manwaring who has been involved with Cool Christians for over 20 years and latterly co-leading, is stepping down from her role. She will be sorely missed. This means that we are looking for someone to help with the administration of our Sunday school. If you think you would be able to assist please contact Morgen Edwards, our Children's Worker,

admin@ststephens-ealing.org.

Our wonderful CC Leaders, co-led by Celia Manwaring and Morgen Edwards, are: Rebecca Wall and Sarah Yates in Creche and Sparklers (ages 0-5) Li Xiaoe and Sophie Johnson in Cool Stars (ages 5-7) James Morrow, Lucy Harding-Anderson and Teresa Morrish -Griffin XCC (ages 8-11)

If you would like to be more involved in the Cool Christians Leaders team please speak to Celia Manwaring or Morgen Edwards.