



## **Children's Ministry 2025 - report for AGM 2026**

Another good year. We are regularly having 30 or more across the 3 groups (Little Lights; Sparklers; Flaming Sparks). We welcome two new Leaders (welcome Sam and Jael). With the numbers growing (praise God) we really need an extra couple of new Helpers too, so if you feel that this is something that God might be calling you to, or something that you might like to be involved with then do please speak to Neil. The team do an amazing job each week, thank you to all Leaders and Helpers for everything you do.

Our Tiny Tots toddler group on a Friday remains as popular as ever. We like to give a good send off to all of our regular attenders when they move up to school, and we miss them when they have gone. However, there is always an influx of young babies and toddlers, and our average weekly attendance remains at over 40 children (plus parents/grandparents/carers). We have a fantastic team that work together on a Friday morning with so many different jobs to do. We also have a dedicated 'Set-Up' team, led by Eddie that move and clear all the chairs on a Wednesday evening or Thursday morning, and a team that puts them back again on a Friday lunchtime (again, if you can help with either of those then please speak with Eddie). We can't do it without any of you and the parents/grandparents/carers so value the time and effort that everyone puts in. Thanks to the whole team for their amazing energy, enthusiasm and continued great work. A 'thank you' breakfast was once again held for the team at Le Quesne's in the summer.

The All-Age services each month seem to be well received, and it is encouraging to see new volunteers (including many of our young people) help with prayer, Bible reading, leading, and speaking at these services. We see this as an opportunity for many (including families) to serve in different ways.

Events for our Children's ministry included a film event at Cineworld to watch 'The King of Kings', our children's celebration service, an 'end-of-year' party and our annual Families Fun BBQ with bouncy castles which was held at the home of the Spottiswoode's (thank you to Simon, Rachel, Daniel, Esther and Hannah for opening your home and helping with everything). On Good Friday we held a morning session for the children across at the Centre with various Easter themed craft activities and then of course the ever popular Nativity play in December with the Flaming Sparks group taking the lead once more. Everyone did an amazing job with their acting and narrating skills. We also hosted a team from the UK who helped run a children's group for the Church Weekend and we hope to do something similar in 2026. In November we started the 'Friday Hang-Out' at the Centre for all year 5, 6 and 7 pupils.

The 'schools work' has grown even more this year with schools visiting the church, teachers requesting professional development from us, teaching RE to children with resources such as 'Christmas-in-a-Box', 'Easter-In-A-Box', OT Mini and NT Mini (memorable and engaging overviews of the Old & New Testament).

In September we brought back the Life Exhibition to the Town Church. The feedback from pupils and teachers was excellent, and it was such great fun teaching them about the life and times of Jesus. It really is great fun working with other churches on this fantastic event and thanks go to a number of people for helping over the 3 weeks. We aim to bring it back again in 2027.

We also provided a 'It's Your Move' session to Year 6 pupils at Springfield to help with their transition to secondary school, looking at it from a Christian perspective and how God can help with that. In December we provided over 200 Christingle bags to Springfield school and we hosted the Christmas services at St Paul's for both Grands Vaux and Springfield schools.

Over the year more than 1,250 school children heard the gospel message. What a privilege. It is clear that 'schools work' is an essential outreach. Again, if that is something you would like to be involved with then speak to Neil. Please do pray for the future of the children, families and schools work across the island.

**Neil Gallaher, Children & Families Worker, March 2026**