



PRAIZIN' HANDS PUPPET GROUP

NEWSLETTER - APRIL 2024 - ISSUE: 19

SUMMER IS COMING.....

We are now enjoying lighter evenings, warmer weather and watching new shoots grow up in the garden. When seeds are scattered in the garden, we may not know which ones will be watered and start to grow. We have to have faith. This is just like all the things we do for God, as individuals, and also the work Praizin' Hands do in the community, God sends us to places to plant seeds and we don't know which seeds will be watered, however we should have faith that God will water those seeds in His own timing and He will see the fruits, even if we do not. What an amazing God we have!

1 Corinthians 3:6-11

PLEASE CAN YOU KNIT SOME BRUSSEL SPROUTS?

Praizin' Hands are looking for lots of 'knitters' who could help them by knitting some Brussel Sprouts for them to be given away at Christmas time, with a message, at some of their Christmas performances. If you are able to knit some Brussel Sprouts by the end of August 2024, please email beverly@praizinhands.org.uk and we will send you the knitting pattern and instructions. Thank you very much!



PRAYER FOCUS

Please pray for our Little Hands team and the services they have coming up. (See elsewhere in newsletter)

Give thanks for our very committed Big Hands puppeteers and pray they will enjoy a rest over the summer ready, to start back in September, feeling refreshed.

Please pray for our PSHE Schools Project team as they begin their new 'Wellbeing and Mental Health' presentation in Infant Schools. Pray for the children and staff who watch and provide opportunities for them to talk if they need to. (Dates and schools elsewhere in newsletter)

Please pray that Praizin' Hands can find a new suitable building, for people to be willing to actively look out for local buildings, as well as people to commit to praying for an urgent solution. Pray that finances will also be provided for this, as we step out in faith, trusting God.

Please pray for the Praizin' Hands AGM on 2nd July and for the Trustees who lead the charity forward.

Please pray that new puppeteers will come along to the Big Hands Taster Day on 24th July.

PUPPET WORKSHOPS

Praizin' Hands were invited to Wildground Infant School in February to run workshops for their Year 2 children. The children showed us their fantastic puppets they had made and told us about the characters they had created for their stories.

The children were able to compare their puppets to our puppets and finished off by performing a song behind our puppet stage with their own hand puppets and then performing another song using one of the Praizin' Hands Puppets.



BIG HANDS TEAM UPDATE

Our Big Hands Team have all worked very hard in the lead up to Easter 2024, taking the story of the very first Easter into a variety of places, for both adults and children. We have a wonderful Puppet team who all 'muck in' and are so helpful and work so well as a team. A BIG thank you to each one of them. Big Hands are having a well-deserved rest over the summer and will meet



back again on 11th September to start rehearsing for the Christmas programme.

It has also been great to have our 'Up Front' people working alongside us representing different churches. They do the difficult part of talking to the audience out the front and linking it all together. It has been great to have Joy, Serena, Liz and Ian as part of the team and a BIG thank you to them, too.



LOOKING FOR A NEW AND WORTHWHILE CHALLENGE? COME TO OUR BIG HANDS TASTER SESSION!

How about being part of sharing the Christmas story with many schools, this Christmas? Would you like to be part of a very friendly ladies team and do something worthwhile and exciting, in the lead up to Christmas? Maybe you are newly retired and looking for a new challenge?

We will be running a Taster Day for our Big Hands Team on **Wednesday 24th July** from **10am to 12 noon**. This is a time to learn some basic puppetry skills, have 'a go' with a puppet, learn about the work Praizin' Hands do and see if this is something you would like to be part of. Please email beverly@praizinhands.org.uk for more information.

THANK YOU

Our heartfelt thanks goes to Lyndhurst Baptist Church and Blackfield Baptist Church for allowing Praizin' Hands to meet on their premises, each week. We are so grateful for their ongoing support.

LITTLE HANDS PUPPET TEAM UPDATE

An afternoon at the 'Putt Club' was enjoyed by all our young people and leaders in February Half Term, competing against each other, at the crazy golf course.



Our Youth Puppet Team have been busy learning a new routine on the Biblical story 'Daniel in the Lion's Den' and 'Prayer'. They have also been playing lots of games, sports, doing a craft and other activities on their fortnightly meetings. Our Devotional times have been spent on looking at how God can help us in certain situations, such as peer pressure, self-esteem, motivation, exam pressure etc.

Serena kindly came down to Little Hands, one evening, to discuss a few of their 'Big Questions' with our young people and we are looking forward to Joy coming down on 2 evenings over the summer to discuss more of these questions. Thank you to them both for giving up their time to do this.

Little Hands will be performing at :

Messy Church at Marchwood Village Hall on Saturday 18th May – 2pm to 4pm

and will be leading the service for The Church of Landford at Landford Village Hall on Sunday 21st July – 10.30am service. Why not come along and bring your family and friends?

Our last Little Hands before the summer will be on Thursday 18th July and we hope to meet at Ferny Crofts for Aeroball.

Thank you to all the Little Hands puppeteers and their parents for their commitment.

The Taster Session for Little Hands will be in September so please look out for more info in our July newsletter.



PSHE SCHOOLS PROJECT TEAM UPDATE

It was great to launch our NEW 'Wellbeing and Mental Health' presentation for KS2 (Junior schools) in a number of schools in February. The Project team worked hard in learning this brand-new topic and it was well received.

The PSHE Schools Project Team are now learning a brand NEW 'Wellbeing' Presentation, but this time it is for KS1 children (Infant schools) and the team will be out 'on the road' during May and June.

Friday 17 th May	– Blackfield Primary
Monday 20 th May	– Orchard Infants
Wednesday 22 nd May	– St. Monica's Primary
Thursday 23 rd May	– Manor CE Infants
Friday 24 th May	– Marchwood CE Infants
Monday 3 rd June	– Stoke Park Infants
Wednesday 5 th June	– Shirley Warren Primary
Monday 10 th June	– Kanes Hill Primary
Wednesday 12 th June	– Lydlynch Infants
Monday 17 th June	– St. Michael's Infants, Lyndhurst
Wednesday 19 th June	– Netley Marsh Infants
Thursday 20 th June	– Copythorne Infants
Friday 21 st June	– Wildground Infants



The Schools Project Team will then be doing a few 'All Change' presentations for Year 2 children who will be moving to a new school in September, to help them with the transition:

Wednesday 3 rd July	– St. Michael's Infants, Lyndhurst
Thursday 4 th July	– Fawley Infants
Friday 5 th July	– Marchwood Infants
Wednesday 17 th July AM	– Netley Marsh Infants
Wednesday 17 th July PM	– Copythorne Infants
Thursday 18 th July	– Manor Infants
Friday 19 th July	– Calmore Infants

A Big thank you to the Project team Puppeteers for all they do all year round. We value each one of them very much.



CHANGE OF BANK

We are in the process of changing our bank account from HSBC to The Co-operative Bank. The new account will be set up during the next few weeks.

We will be contacting the people who kindly give a monthly donation to the puppet group with the new account details so they can transfer their payment to the new account. Unfortunately this is having to be done manually as we could not use the switch service.

Our current HSBC account will be closing in a few months time.

ST ANDREWS DONATION

We would like to thank St Andrews Church for their donation of £985 which is part of their annual giving out.

We will be using the money to purchase puppets for our new Easter presentation for next year and in 2026.

PRAYING HANDS

Thank you to Maz and all the Prayer team who so faithfully pray for Praizin' Hands on a regular basis. We are so thankful for all your prayers, whether you are in the Praying Hands group who meet together or if you are part of the WhatsApp Prayer group – Thank you!

PUPPET GROUP AGM

A date for your diary. Our Puppet Group AGM, which is open to all, will be held on **Tuesday 2 July at 7:00pm**, venue Blackfield Baptist Church. (6:30pm – Refreshments will be served)

If you are planning to attend please can you let us know, please email nigel@praizinhands.org.uk.

All the puppet group membership will be sent an invitation, with an agenda and annual report nearer to this date.
