

UYM News

Issue 2 – 1st Quarter 2009



www.vineyouthministry.co.uk

A Note from the Chairman

Last year it was my pleasure to welcome you to the first edition of VYM News. Since then we've enjoyed Christmas and the New Year with our families and friends. Some of us even went Carol singing in Boots at the bottom of Babylon Hill and raised £26 for VYM.

Now, however, the hard work begins as we concentrate on making the dream behind VYM a reality. We're off to a good start, working with thirteen schools in the Yeovil area and are in discussion with several others.

Unfortunately this also means considerable admin work as we seek charitable status, write the necessary policies to support our application to the Charity Commissioners and draft a constitution. In this we are being given support by South Somerset Voluntary and Community Action (SSVCA) and for that we are very grateful.

An important task is to become financially viable and again we have taken advice from SSVCA. We will be working to apply for funding from various sources but we are equally grateful for your donations, however large or however small. Please keep them coming!

Thank you for using our service, for recommending it to other people and for supporting us both financially and, most importantly, through your prayers.

Alan Rounsfell

Colin the Caterpillar

Some of you may be wondering why we chose a rather large yellow and orange caterpillar to be our mascot. Besides the fact that Colin is very cute and cuddly, there is a good reason why a caterpillar makes a great mascot.

We believe that every child has a real appetite for knowledge and is eager to discover things about the world in which we live. Every child has the potential to become an amazing adult by being given the opportunity to gain knowledge and understanding, whilst being loved and nurtured. Just as Caterpillars have an amazing appetite (we all remember the famous Hungry Caterpillar!) and eventually become beautiful Butterflies!!

Colin is about to start visiting schools with a message for children to remember, which is linked to the current Mini Mix topic. The verse which is important this term is 'Jesus grew up in both body and spirit, blessed by both God and people' Luke 2:52, reminding us that Jesus was a child and just like children today, He had similar experiences and challenges.

More about the 'Mini Mix'

Whilst all the children in the schools receiving a 'Mini Mix' know exactly what they are all about, most adults don't have the privilege of taking part in these occasions, so we thought we would take the time to let you know what goes on:

The Children are welcomed into Assembly by live Christian music which is chosen to fit with the theme of the assembly.

There is a theme to each Mini Mix which is explained at the beginning and is linked with a story from a Children's Bible. The story is told given relevance to situations in our lives today. The themes usually tie up with various PSE topics e.g.: Friendship, Sharing, Being Kind, Helping others etc. For more details on the themes you can visit www.vym.org.uk and click on the 'Mini Mix' page.

The theme running through the Mini Mix in the Spring term is 'Jesus growing up' We have looked at various stories in the Bible from Jesus being presented at the Temple, Jesus getting lost and Jesus being Baptised. We have talked about how Jesus had a very 'ordinary' childhood and did things just like we do.

The songs at a Mini Mix are always good fun, they usually have actions and the louder they are sung the better! In the past we have had whole schools doing the 'Conga' around the playground (although this was in slightly warmer weather!). Some songs are more traditional but they are always popular with the children.

There is a short prayer time included in the Mini Mix known as 'Lettuce Pray'. Prayers are led in a way the children can identify with and an up-to-date version of the Lords Prayer is used which is also available at www.vym.org.uk if you would like to find out more.

The whole assembly is interactive with the song words and pictures etc on a 'big screen'. Everywhere the Mini Mix has been it has been well received, and the children always ask when it is coming back! So we know that they must be enjoying what we do. See the back page of the newsletter to find out where the Mini Mix currently visits. If you know of a school that would like us to visit please let us know.

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VOUTH Y M INE INISTRY

Mission Statement

Working with young people to help them realise that
God loves each one of them.

The Mini Mix – ON TOUR

Birchfield Community Primary School, Yeovil.

Castle Primary School, Stoke-Sub-Hamdon.

Chilthorne Domer Church School

Fairmead School, Yeovil

Grass Royal Junior School, Yeovil.

Haselbury Plucknett C of E First School

Milford Junior School, Yeovil.

Norton-Sub-Hamdon C of E Primary School.

Parcroft Community Junior School, Yeovil

Reckleford Community Infant School, Yeovil

St. Andrews C of E VC Primary School, Yetminster.

Thornford C of E VA Primary School.

Trent Young's Endowed C of E VA Primary School.

**For more information, or for VYM to visit your school
please visit our website or call 01935 422427**