

# Easter Journey 2016

Andrew Povey-Richards

For the third year running, All Saints, in partnership with Bridge Builders Christian Trust, will be hosting The Easter Journey, for all the schools in our Parish and Millmead. Year 5 and 6 children will come into church and hear the story of Easter.

From what we have seen in last two years this is a very exciting project which stimulates these 10 and 11 year olds to know more about Jesus, his death and Resurrection.

## **So this is how it works.**

Can you imagine the Lord's Supper taking place right up the centre aisle – well, that's exactly where it will be in late March !!



As the children arrive at church they will be welcomed and asked to gather round the empty tomb. It is here that their Easter Journey will start. The children will be invited to become

detectives; with the challenge of piecing together evidence not only from the empty tomb but from five key characters.

**The disciple John**

**The disciple Judas Iscariot**

**The disciple Peter**

**A Centurion**

**Nicodemus, a member of the Sanhedrin**

Each child will have a Detective Note Book and as they split into small groups of 5 or 6 and visit each character they will be given a piece of evidence to stick into their book to help remind them of all they have seen, heard and learnt about Jesus and the events that took place.

The children's journey will draw to a close as they all return to the empty tomb and share what evidence they have gathered. It is here that they will meet Mary Magdalene and receive their final piece of evidence, The enthusiasm with which the children involve themselves in the story is both exciting and inspiring and by the time they leave, their understanding of Jesus and what Easter means to us is far greater than when they walked in.

I'm hoping that, like me, you will all get caught up in the excitement of reaching out to so many young people.

However, it means a week that needs substantial planning and it will not run smoothly **without your help.**

It needs the congregation of All Saints to sit with the children and tell the story. Anyone who enjoys telling a story and interacting with young people can be part of this project, age or disability is no barrier and the time you commit can be as little as 2 hours.

Although this project is aimed at young people, it actually needs people of all ages and from all walks of life to succeed. Last year, more than a dozen volunteers bravely stepped forward – each one of them not only thoroughly enjoyed engaging with the children, but came away feeling hugely blessed by being able to share their faith with so many eager and interested children. On top of that, they got to know people they barely knew before.

So don't be shy!!! If you would like to know more or to get involved, please come and talk to me after the Sunday service, or email me at [andrew@p-richards.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:andrew@p-richards.freeserve.co.uk) or phone 01279 304791 and most importantly

**Please pray for the Easter Journey and all those who will experience it, both children and adults.**