



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
DIOCESE OF RIPON & LEEDS

Kidswork

A NEWSLETTER FOR CHURCH CHILDREN'S WORKERS IN THE ARCHDEACONRY OF LEEDS.

Issue 22

December – January 2008



Hello, and welcome to "Kidswork" – a newsletter for those working with children in the Anglican churches of Leeds.

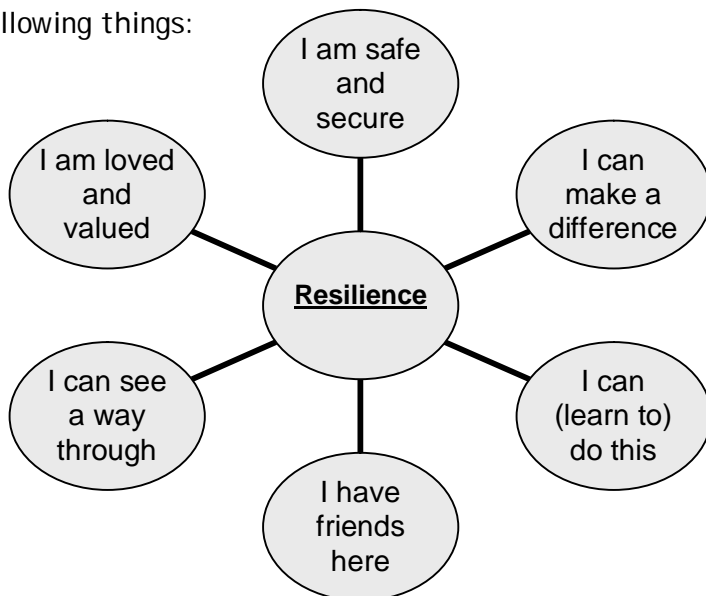
My name is Clare MacLaren, and I work half-time as Children's Work Advisor to the Leeds Archdeaconry. This is a post funded by the 4 Leeds deaneries – Armley, Allerton, Headingley and Whitkirk.

I am also half-time parish priest of Whinmoor in the Seacroft Team Ministry - where we worship in St. Paul's C of E Primary School – and mother of teenage twins.

Well, it's been "all go" since September, so I am drawing careful lines through some of the remaining gaps in my diary, to protect some "thinking space" for me and God to spend a little time together in the run-up to Christmas. One thing about this job - it gives you a lot to think about!

Both the excellent "Strong Towers" training event which explored how we can use well-known bible stories to help children express and work through key issues in their lives – family breakdown, bullying, feeling lonely, angry or scared, for example – and "Wise before the Event" about supporting children through bereavement referred to a concept that was quite new to me – that of a child's "resilience".

Resilience is what helps children to cope with the ups and downs of life. How resilient they are is affected by many things. Research from Barnardos suggests that a resilient child will know the following things:



I wonder how your children's activities help to foster resilience? The research highlights that membership of a faith community, and having a strong relationship with an older person (mentor) from outside the family are really important things which build resilience in children... THAT COULD BE YOU!!! So never underestimate the impact you have on the kids in your care - and do keep up the good work! Love'n'prayers,

Clare

Pentecost Treasure

An ecumenical opportunity to explore our work with children, and learn from the riches of different traditions...



Mon 25 th Feb	Headingley, Leeds
Tues 26 th Feb	Ossett, Wakefield
Mon 3 rd March	Roundhay, Leeds
Weds 5 th March	Holy Trinity, Ripon

This latest in our popular series of resourcing evenings will send you home bursting with practical ideas for how to celebrate the Holy Spirit with children – and there will be time for your own spiritual refreshment too!

You will find a booking leaflet in with this mailing – or you can download one from the Kidswork website – or contact the training administrator, Kath Hinchcliffe on 0113 200 0547, weekdays 2-5pm.



a "Praise Party"
for children
(7 - 11)

from 6-8pm at
St. George's Church, Leeds
on Saturday 19th January
(and then next on 15th March.)

Children and adults can find out more by
visiting www.xsite.uk.net

Cost: £3 per child

Why not bring a group of children to the
next X:site?

You can stay and watch from the balcony if
you wish.

If you want to get involved, we are keen to
recruit more team members both behind
the scenes and working in small groups with
the children.

(CRB check required)

Please contact Jo Bailey on 259 0160

Are you after a bit of Sparkle in the run-up to Christmas?

then pop in to "Re-Play" for a huge array of
craft materials – many surplus from local
businesses – at ridiculously cheap prices!!

Units 2-4 Enterprise Way off Middleton Road,
Belle Isle. LEEDS LS10 3DZ

Open: Tues/Weds/Thurs 9.30am to 4pm



This is just one of the
great images from two
DVD resources which I
have acquired for the
new Resource Centre
at the Ripon & Leeds
Diocesan Offices.

Blackburn Diocese has recently produced them for
Advent/Christmas/Epiphany and for Lent/Holy
Week/Easter – with comic strips, powerpoint displays
and craft ideas from the Christian artist Si Smith.
There is a visual Advent Calendar with images,
reflections and activities for each day – and a Lenten
meditation called "40", along with a host of other
resources suitable for use in churches and schools.

The packs cost over £50, but you can borrow one
from the Resource Centre in person, by phone (0113
200 0547) or email: [kath@riponleeds-
diocese.org.uk](mailto:kath@riponleeds-diocese.org.uk) for free – or the cost of postage!!



The next "Create"
event
for 11-15's is on

Saturday 8th December
3-6pm
at St Richard's Church, Seacroft

CHRISTMAS CRAFTS

"Create" is an ideal event to bring a
small group of young people to!

Planned, organized and run by young
people, the "Create" team aims to
model their participation alongside
adults, in the creative life of our
churches...

Inspiring - Challenging - Fun!

2008 Training Events in the Pipeline

...for your diaries

- April 16th Children with Special Needs
- May 20th Developing work with Under-5's
- Early June Games for Groups (big & small!)
- June 30th Challenging Behaviour

Details in the New Year – and check the
Kidsworld website for more info & resources.

KEEPING IN TOUCH:

You are receiving this newsletter because you are
on my contact list.

Please let me know if there are other folk I should send it to !

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