

2026 Easter Holiday Club

'Jesus Welcomes All' was this year's Easter Holiday Club message. What a marvellous week of fun, games, fantastic facts and, most importantly, fabulous children who made the week shine!



We welcomed 20 children aged between 3 and 12 years old to North Connel Hall where they explored stories all about Jesus - Healing the paralysed man, Talking to the Samaritan woman, Welcoming the children, and Appearing to Thomas. We were guided by a brilliant resource from URFC (United Reformed Free Church) called 'The Clubhouse', and, as usual, we added in the Ardchattan Holiday Club favourite games and activities- Unihoc, The clock on the tower, Dodgeball and we tried a new game with the older children called Skittle ball that was a huge success. The children love Fun Facts Time and we found out about everybody's bodies- both humans and animals- When discussing tummies and digestion we seemed to spend the entire time talking about poo!! The next day two of the young people explained how elephant poo can be used to make paper- extra fascinating!!

Our new song, 'Everybody's Welcome', challenged our coordination skills, but by Friday even the grownups managed to remember the actions in the right order! 'Shine' and 'Our God is a Great Big God' remain our all-time favourites, and the children sang them with gusto. We watched a video every morning that told the bible story for the day and then later all the children joined in with a quiz to help remember and reinforce the story. There are two large posters made by the children and these are now hung up in the church for the congregation to enjoy. We were delighted that there were new families, as well as returning families that have attended previously. Huge thanks is extended to the whole team of volunteers who brought their enthusiasm and energy, everyone playing their part in creating a welcoming and exciting faith experience. Please log onto the Ardchattan Church Facebook page where you can see photos and hear the children singing- it will make you smile!



Messy Church

April's Messy Church followed hot on the heels of the Easter holiday club. We discovered the story of Jesus walking the road to Emmaus by following a footprint trail that guided us to the stained-glass window of Jesus in the church. We also iced biscuits that looked a wee bit like Jesus - they 'disappeared' very quickly - just like Jesus - when the followers realised they had been walking with the risen Lord.

In March the theme was New Life at Easter. The children planted cress and created the mini Easter gardens that have been on the window ledges in the church. Other activities included planting sunflower seeds, decorating giant Easter eggs and making palm branches, followed by a Palm branch waving procession. The children all enjoyed taking turns at riding the (hobby horse) donkey down the aisle.

(H.M.)