

Revd Helen O'Sullivan

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This year, there are lots of opportunities for you and your children to explore what it means to be a Christian, making greater sense (I hope) of our status as a Church of England Aided Primary School.

Emmaus: If you have a child in Year 6 they will have just received a letter inviting them to join the Emmaus course. This course runs on Tuesdays after school, 2.45pm until 4pm from 24th February - 7th May (taking a break for Easter) at The Exchange next door to the school. We will explore together what it means to be a Christian in today's world. We expect the young people to bring their own ideas and questions to this group. Faith is something we wrestle with, and at their age the big questions are already in the air. If you have a child further down the school who would like to join that course they are welcome to do so. Please complete the attached form.

Breakfast at the Rectory: This is an open and informal group which meets from 8.30ish to 9.30ish on Wednesday mornings at the Rectory. We have coffee and croissants and talk together about the things that challenge and help us to hold onto our faith. Our discussions ranged over how we make sense of what the Bible says, evil and the Devil, Angels, death, prayer, Heaven, sin, healing, the sacraments, the Church, you name it we've talked about it. You are very welcome to dip in and out of this group as you are able to. Just come along.

School Eucharist: on the first Thursday of every month in term time we celebrate the Eucharist (Holy Communion) at St Mary's at 8.40am. Year 6 children lead us in worship, our young campanologists call us to worship ringing the church bells and the school choir sings for us. All are welcome to join us for this very happy celebration.

Collective Worship: each Thursday Steve Sutcliffe and I lead worship at the school at 9am. This mirrors our weekly celebration of BIG Worship at St Mary's (Sundays at 10.15am).

Fridays 7pm - 9pm: for those of you with children in year 7 and above there is a group of young people who meet at The Rectory in Shorwell (5 Northcourt Close) each week to discuss issues relating to faith and life. Our licensed lay minister Steve Sutcliffe leads this group. Please contact him on 741341 or [llmsutcliffe@gmail.com](mailto:llmsutcliffe@gmail.com) for more details.

Please do get in touch if you have any questions or concerns, I am here to talk to anyone about anything! You can also find a lot of information on our Youth Work through our website [www.fivechurches.org.uk](http://www.fivechurches.org.uk) or you can like our Five Churches Facebook page to be kept up to date with special events.

with love, H

## Emmaus: exploring the Christian faith

When: Tuesdays 2.45pm - 4pm from 24th February

Where: The Exchange, New Road, Brighstone.

Full name of young person:

Address:

Home telephone number:

Mobile telephone number:

Email address:

The above named child has my consent to attend the course and can make their own way to The Exchange\* and will be collected by at 4pm.

Signed:

Print name:

Date:

*Please return by 13th February to the school office or The Rectory.*

\* If your child needs accompanying from school to The Exchange or has any particular needs please let Helen know 740267