

PLEASE! NO MORE BUTS



Ok.
Tell me about
Funday Club?

The *Funday Club* is the name for the Sunday School because it is FUN!!

The children meet in two age groups on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays in the month during term time in the Leighs. Each of the leaders (many are teachers) have been cleared by the CRB.

The age groups are roughly KS1 & KS2. Younger children are also catered for.

The activities are linked to the days readings and usually involve a story, art & craft.

The children enjoy and benefit from belonging to a caring and supporting Christian community.

We all meet in church and after the 1st hymn the children and their leaders leave for their activities.

On their return they go with you and the communicants to the Communion Rail to receive a blessing.

After the service the children are invited to share and show to the congregation what they have done. This is both beneficial to the children and congregation alike as it ensures we all feel part of the same church family.

At the Family Service on the 1st Sunday in the month at Little Leighs, the children participate by reading, leading the prayers or singing. Percussion instruments are often used. The children and young people play a major part at the festivals such as Easter, Harvest and of course Christmas.

So, remind me please..

Well -

We want you to be comfortable in church with your children.

Sit near the end of a row and explain what is going on and encourage your child to join in.

Help older children to read from the books.

Bring (or borrow) suitable toys or books to keep your child occupied during quiet times.

Have a drink ready.

Feel free to come and go in the service if you need to settle your child. We are always happy to help in anyway we can.

Don't worry about seeming to spend more time with them than the service—it gets better as time goes on—we promise you!

Don't be put off!

Children go through difficult phases so keep coming.

You are always welcome.



I couldn't bring
my children to
church.
Could I?



Yes! Please do.

Rector
Rev. Steve Holmes
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<http://www.churchesattheleighsandlittlewaltham.co.nr/>

We love coming to church because.....



I like church because of the songs!

I like church because I like God's prayers

I like Sunday school because we do crazy things.

Because Sunday school is fun and there are usually lots of choices.

Because it gives me time to think about God & the wonderful world we live in



Where we are

St Mary's Boreham Rd Great Leighs CM3 1PL
St John's Church Lane Little Leighs CM3 1PQ
St Martin's Brook Hill Little Waltham CM3 3LJ

But is church really the place for children?



Yes! It really is. Lots of people already do bring their children to church as this is an act of worship in itself.

Children are an important part of God's family and the Church would be incomplete without them.

So we want you and your children to feel comfortable and at ease during the service.



But what if they want to run about?

Don't panic!

We don't expect young children to sit still for any length of time. Sit at the end of the row so the child can see what is happening. If they want to go and explore let them to the point you feel comfortable. Walk around later and show them that the church is a lovely place.

Encourage them to take part- when everyone sits, they sit, when everyone stands and sings, they do so too.



But what if they make a noise especially during the quiet times

Please don't be embarrassed.

If they are screaming and won't be placated then take them to the vestry or even outside. Often a change of environment stops crying and when calm again come back in.

We provide 'happy bags' for use in the pews or in the vestry or why not bring a suitable quiet toy with you.

A drink or biscuit often calms a child so feel free to give one.



But will they understand anything?

Children learn by watching, listening and joining in.

They take in the sounds, the songs and the feel of worship.

Children, like adults, need time to think; time to pray; time to sing; and time to praise God with others.

