

Dear friends,

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2024! We had a lovely Christmas at the hub with lots of you taking advantage of our lovely resources. Our giant Christingles were particularly popular, appearing all over the Diocese even as far as Ripon cathedral! We also had lots of schools taking part in What's the Story? and with nearly 1000 story chains sold that is a lot of children hearing the Christmas story!

The nativity costumes and resources have all been put away and our thoughts turn to Easter which is early this year. 'What's the story?' is now available to book and don't forget we have lots of other resources to help you explore and celebrate Lent and Easter—please take a look at the last page for some inspiration.

Finally, this term we are starting to get organised with the new Open the Book Programme which will start in September you can find further details on page two.

As ever, please get in touch if we can help you with your work with children and families - we are always happy to help.

Best wishes,

The staff and trustees at OCRH

Volunteers Needed

With so much going on at The Hub we are looking for some help! We'd like some regular volunteers to help with a variety of tasks: staffing the Hub to cover holidays, helping set up the new OTB programme and preparing resources for our What's the Story? project. We will also need some creative people to help create new costumes and props as well as refreshing old ones. If you can offer a couple of hours weekly, fortnightly or monthly we would love to hear from you.

Please contact Mandy@ocrh.org.uk



Dates for your Diary

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Monday 26th February 7.30pm | Godly Play Network Group |
| Monday 15th April 7.30pm | Godly Play Network Group |
| Wednesday 15th May 10—1 | Open the Book Refresher Training |

Opening Hours

The Hub is open at the following times :

Wednesday 10 till 1

(drop in without appointment)

Wednesday 1.30 till 4.30 and Thursdays 4 till 6

(appointments only)

(Keyholders can access when needed as usual)

Open the Book

Over the next few months we will be starting to put together the new programme for September. Many of the props and costumes we already have will switch over easily to the new stories, some require a bit of tweaking and some stories are completely new and need creating from scratch. To make sure we are ready for September we are already transitioning some of the stories -that are not due to be used for the rest of this academic year. Its quite a complicated job and might mean that from time to time the layout in the Resource room might change or boxes may be stacked differently.

We will do our absolute best to minimize the disruption and keep you up to date with developments.

Don't forget :

Refresher / New story training Wednesday May 15th , 10am till 1pm at St John's Church, Ben Rhydding.

If you can bake or bring a cake for this event please let Mandy know.

What's the Story about Easter?

What's the Story? is a creative way for primary schools, churches and communities to engage with the gospel stories surrounding Easter. Project books and story chains can be purchased direct from the Hub or through our website. Accompanying resources, which include everything you need to run the project, can be hired to use in your own venue.

Story chains £1.50

What's the Story Books £10

Full Project Resources (to hire) £85



**Easter is early
this year so
please book
your dates and
story chains
ASAP**

Easter Resources

We have lots of amazing resources for lent and Easter on page 3 .Please get in touch to book or make an appointment to come and have a look . We can also help you to plan events and suggest suitable resources .

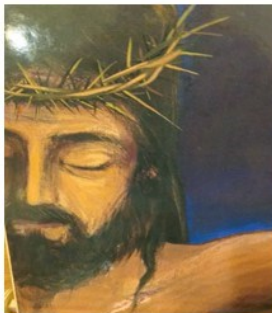
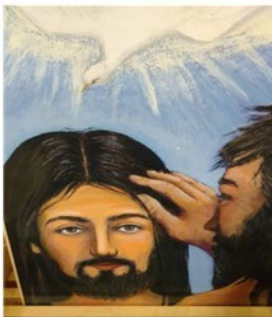
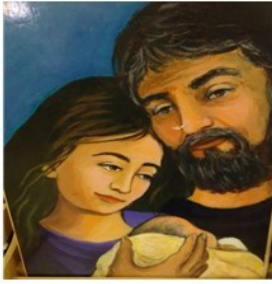


Godly Play Network

This group is for anyone interested in Godly Play. Our next meetings will be on Monday 26th Feb and Monday 15th April at 7.30pm in The Chestnuts.

(RSVP: mandy@ocrh.org.uk)

All Welcome



Lent Jigsaws



Knitted Last Supper



Jesus in the Desert



Story Chains and Large Props



Easter Story Baskets



Lent and Easter



Holy Week Eggs



Easter Storybag



Bible Labyrinth

Godly Play : Faces of Easter