

Tiny Tots Report for APCM 2025

By Heather & Shell

Tiny Tots relaunched on 26 September 2024.

Tiny Tots is held every Thursday (12.30 – 2/2.30pm) in the Charnley Hall at the WCC. Tiny Tots is aimed at babies and preschool children and their parents/carers. Older children are invited to join in during school holidays and inset days. Tiny Tots is free entry with a voluntary donation box.

Tiny Tots has four parent leads, in addition to a group of fantastic helpers on rota for refreshments.

Charnley Hall is partly cleared of furniture and play equipment is set up. This consists mostly of donated items including a fairy play house, dolls' house, ball pit, tunnels, small world play, baby toys, dressing up box, small ride-ons, plus books and an arts and crafts area.

Refreshments are available; tea, coffee, hot chocolate, juice, snacks. Attendees are invited to bring their own packed lunch.

The weekly session starts with meet and greet by Derwyn and parent leads, then Derwyn shares songs, a bible story, celebrates birthdays and concludes worship with a prayer. Refreshments are then enjoyed while children play and parents/carers/Derwyn/parent leads talk (and play!).

Father Christmas visited Tiny Tots with a gift for each child in the lead up to Christmas (Nativity story book).

Attendance varies weekly and is usually between 6 – 10 children/families, however during February half term we hosted 14 children plus parents/carers (11 families). Most are families who do not attend regularly at St. Michael's Church. Feedback about the format has been positive, including children who 'don't want to go home' and those who go home happy and tired and then sleep very well.

Parent leads are currently considering the viability of including extra sessions during school holidays as outreach.

An Easter Egg hunt is being planned.

New play equipment is being researched (slide and mats). We also need to consider the replacement of some existing items that are succumbing to play (fairy house).

The rug used as a 'temporary' mud catching mat by the slope entrance to Charnley Hall needs to be replaced with a proper mud catching mat.

Unfortunately two parent leads have not been able to attend many sessions which has left the parent lead group 'thin on the ground'. Additional parent leads are needed to join Tiny Tots.

