



CENTRE FOR
PAEDIATRIC
SPIRITUAL CARE

NEWSLETTER

February 2017

Welcome to the February CPSC newsletter. This month, we tell you about some projects that we often run over during school holidays in collaboration with the Play Department. These are sets of activities based around a particular theme. Individual patients or families can take part in an activity which can be used as a contribution for the whole project.

Each of the projects have a spiritual dimension. For example, one project asked each child to think of their dream space and then create it on a blank canvas. These were then displayed together.

Another project was themed around trees. This allowed a lot of flexibility about which activities were used. Although every activity was had the same theme, some were stand alone activities while others involved contributing to a bigger piece of work. We have already featured some of these activities in our newsletters, including the [fingerprint tree](#) activity, and the [roots and leaves](#) activity.

The group activity component of this project asked children and young people to write what roots or ground them onto a ribbon, and write their hopes or dreams onto paper leaves. These could then be collected together and made into a tree that could be displayed in the hospital.

We have added one of these resources to our website, you can read more about this in the 'new resources' section of the next page.



Updates

The CPSC is based at Birmingham Children's Hospital, which has now joined with Birmingham Women's Hospital to become Birmingham Women's and Children's NHSFT. We do not expect this to affect the work that the CPSC does in the near future as our focus will remain on children and young people, however we are looking forward to working more closely with the women's hospital and seeing some new perspectives on spiritual care.



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Blog

Jodie Cotterrell, who has recently joined the Birmingham Children's Hospital Chaplaincy team as a Youth Worker on placement while she studies at the Institute for Children, Youth and Mission. This month in our blog Jodie has written about her decision to start studying with CYM, and her reflections on her first few months delivering spiritual care to sick children and young people.

New Resource

We have uploaded one of our activity sheets for the holiday projects which we run at BCH. Each participant was given a small canvas, and used this to design their 'dream space'. This could be wherever they wanted, real or imaginary, and there were a variety of materials available to use to create the design. The aim of this project was to display all the canvases together, however it would also work as an activity to do with individuals.



Featured Article

Sutton, K. R. C., (2005) *A Study of the Mater Children's Hospital Tile Project* Dissertation, Australian Catholic University, Victoria.

<http://researchbank.acu.edu.au/theses/122/>



This dissertation looks at an art project where children's drawings were turned into a display of tiles, and considers what the role of visual art in children's healthcare is more generally.

Upcoming dates

Multi-Faith and Cultural Festivals

February

LGBT History Month

14th February—Cultural
St Valentine's Day

24th February—Hindu
Mahasivratri

28th February—Christian
Shrove Tuesday

Call for Contributions

Do you have an example of a unique way of providing spiritual care to sick children? What about an activity that you have developed, or a resource that helps you in your work?

We are looking to put together a newsletter showcasing the work of our readers, and we would love to hear from you with any examples of your work! If you are interested, please contact us using the details below.



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