

# PRAIZIN' HANDS PUPPET PROJECT

September 2016 to July 2017

Beverly Eyres



The Praizin' Hands Schools Project has been running for ten years now and over the years we have built up good relationships with all the schools we visit. We put on puppet presentations on a range of topics which support the PSHE School curriculum and through music and drama the puppets help the children to make good choices in their lives. We are working towards making the majority of our

presentations interactive in some way as we have found this enhances the children's learning.

It has been a difficult year for this small team as unfortunately one of the puppeteers broke her leg, one puppeteer has recently broken her arm and some members of our stage crew have been experiencing health issues. This means we have had to call on Wendy and Liz at times to help us cope with some of the presentations.



Sadly, we had to cancel the 11 bookings we had for our new 'Road Safety' presentations in May. This presentation had taken a lot of work and rehearsals to get to the stage that we were ready to take it into schools but just as we were going to start our puppeteer broke her arm and so as it is a 'full on' presentation (requiring puppets on both hands) we had no choice but to cancel them. The schools were very understanding and have all booked new dates in September and October.

On a positive note, this has allowed us extra time to work on various presentations we have coming up, some of which are new to some of the puppeteers and it has allowed me extra time to make some props and update these older presentations.

I would like to say a BIG thank you to the team of very committed puppeteers who give so much time to the puppet project week by week not only in rehearsal time but by also learning scripts and practising at home to make these presentations the best we can. Thank you to Maz, Karen and Cary. Thank you, also to Wendy and Liz who helped us out on occasions throughout the year.

Thank you, also to Norman, Adrian, David and Gordon who support this team as our stage, sound and lighting crew. David has been struggling with his health recently and hasn't been able to come out with us since November. Gordon has moved away and so is only able to help out at the odd booking. This means we are struggling to keep going with the lack of man power.



Our main objective for this coming year is to find more people to join this team so that we can continue serving the schools in this way.

I would like to thank the Church and Families Matter for their continuing support of this work. It is much appreciated.