

## **June report for the Xplorers**

**Georgina writes:** The Xplorers took on the theme of cooking and sharing this Sunday based on the incident of Jesus appearance to the disciples after his resurrection whilst they were fishing on the Lake Tiberius. Jesus prepared them a breakfast on their return from fishing. The story tells us how their nets were continually hauled up empty until he spoke from the shore telling them to cast once more which resulted in a huge catch of fish and plenty to cook on the fire Jesus had made on the shore. The success of the afternoon was due in no small part to Hester Ross who kindly put the oven at the Manse at our disposal and who with the help of Lucy and Sheila, our "runners", baked our offerings.

Enthusiasm echoed round the balcony group as eggs were carefully cracked into a well stirred cake mixture then spooned into paper cases. Sheila headed off to the manse and the table was cleared for half the group to roll out biscuits whilst the others decorated pre-cooked biscuits. Sheila returned for the biscuit tray for the oven and decorating continues along with pleas to take some home.

The taking home of crafts, word searches, models and on this day baking is very much part of the Xplorers "ethos" as we feel it carries the message and activities into the children's homes: we hope this acts as a reminder of the happy and productive Sunday afternoons spent together.

**Rachel writes:** We had a lovely time with the youngest group at Explorers. Sharing, in particular, sharing food and the story of Jesus and the fishermen sharing their food over the fire on the beach was the theme. So we started off making some biscuits out of dough which were sent off to be baked. The dough made a terrible sloppy mess because it was shortbread dough rather than biscuit dough. But they baked up ok! Fortunately we had some pre-made biscuits and the kids decorated those with edible coloured icing, making smiley faces. They finished off making a portable fire in a box with twigs and fake flames and popped some of their biscuits on top to take home. The rest were shared at the front of church with their friends.

**Jenny writes:** The Middle group had Isobel as a helper today and she had prepared a cake batter for the children to spoon into bun cases to which they added chocolate drops, which were later described by our adults as delicious. Lucy took these to be cooked and came back for the chocolate biscuits which meanwhile had been rolled out and cut into various shapes. Pre-baked biscuits were then decorated with butter icing and a variety of decorative shapes. Unfortunately we ran out of time and were unable to make our small "fires".

A selection of the afternoons baking waiting to be shared.

The Prayz time was brought forward and the lively responses to Ken's prayers and the enthusiastic actions accompanying "Wide, wide as the ocean" had everyone joining in. We kept our tea break till the end so that everyone could share our meal and enjoy fellowship like Jesus and the disciples, this being the last Xplorers before breaking up for the summer.



Our very colourful fire made by the balcony group.  
We closed with everyone joining in the "Messy Grace"

Our sincere thanks to goes to everyone who has helped us throughout the year.

The Parish Picnic is planned for Barnacarry, if fine, on Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup> June, meeting at the Village Hall, 1330.

Inside if wet.

Looking forward to seeing you all on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.  
Please bring your own food.

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**We wish you all a safe and very happy holiday.**