



CHILDREN AND FAMILIES @DORCHESTER ABBEY OCTOBER 2026



Dear Families,

As we move into a new month, we look back with gratitude on our September theme of Creation and all the wonderful ways we have been exploring God's amazing world together.

Our celebrations began at Forest Church, where we marked the Feast of Creation in Christ. Surrounded by nature, we thought about the impact that the warm weather has had on the earth and reflected on our responsibility to care for God's creation.

We continued our celebrations at our monthly Family Service, where we gave thanks for all of God's creatures. Families were invited to bring their pets, and what a joyful morning it was! We welcomed dogs, snails and turtles, alongside plenty of humans, as we celebrated the diversity and wonder of creation together.

At Abbey Tots, we have been discovering some of the Bible's favourite stories that help us understand God's love and care for the world. We explored the story of Creation, sailed aboard Noah's Ark, and journeyed with Jonah and the great fish, learning about God's faithfulness, protection and forgiveness.

We hope you enjoy reading about all that has been happening and finding out what is coming up next. As always, we look forward to welcoming you and your family at one of our services, groups or events soon to help us explore Harvest.

Upcoming Events

Forest Church

Forest Church is this Sunday (4th) at 3pm in the Cloister Gardens. Our theme this month is 'Celebrating the food that grows.' Join us for crafts, mud kitchen and prayer. Everyone welcome!

Family Service

Come and join us on Sunday 11th October at 10:30am for our Harvest Festival. We will be collecting food for the Wallingford Foodbank so please bring along cans and packets for our Harvest donation.

Abbey Tots

We will be continuing with the theme of Harvest in Abbey tots this month, starting with the parable of the sower. Please join us at 9:30am on a Wednesday.

Junior Choir

Don't forget Junior Choir is on a Friday at 6pm. For further information please visit <https://www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk/junior-choir/>

Monthly Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank you, God, for the food we eat, the people we love, and the beautiful world you have made. Help us to share what we have with others and to care for your creation.

Amen.



Contact

If you have any questions about Children and Families Ministry at Dorchester Abbey, then please do not hesitate to contact Sarah Gladwin at families@dorchester-abbey.org.uk

Puddie the Cat



Introducing Puddie the Cat who is Cedric's friend and lives in the Museum! Look out for him in the Abbey soon as he will be featuring in the new Abbey Trail!

Harvest Challenge

Harvest Challenge - 30 Days of Thanks
Write down one thing you're thankful for each day during October.



Harvest @ Home

Ideas to help celebrate Harvest at home:

- Create a thankfulness tree with paper leaves.
- Make a harvest collage from autumn leaves and seeds.
- Bake bread together and talk about where ingredients come from.
- Go on an autumn walk and notice signs of God's creation.

Harvest in the Bible

A short family-friendly focus on a Bible passage such as:

- The Feeding of the 5,000 (John 6)
- The Sower (Matthew 13)
- "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good" (Psalm 107:1)

Include a simple question:

What are three things your family is thankful for this week?

