

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITY

CARE HOME VISIT

This activity is designed specifically for our senior boys, providing them with a meaningful opportunity to engage with the community by visiting and spending time with residents in local care homes. As part of the church's ministry, it's essential to extend our support to the local community, and since BBNI is an extension of this ministry, we want to encourage the boys to actively participate in community outreach. This engagement reinforces the values of compassion, empathy, and service during their regular BBNI nights.

How to Organize the Activity:

1. **Choose a Local Care Home:** Begin by selecting a local care home and contacting them to arrange a visit. Ensure you have all necessary permissions and are aware of any specific guidelines or restrictions the care home may have.
2. **Plan the Visit:** Coordinate a suitable evening for the visit. The plan is for the boys to walk to the care home and spend about an hour with the residents. The purpose of the visit is simple yet profound: to engage in meaningful conversations, read to the residents, and offer prayers for them during what can be a challenging and lonely time of the year.
3. **Preparation Before the Visit:**
 - **Create Christmas Cards:** Encourage the boys to create handmade Christmas cards to give to the residents. Before doing this, check with the care home to find out the number of residents to ensure there are enough cards for everyone.
 - **Conversation Preparation:** Sit down with the boys beforehand to prepare them for potential conversations they might have. For instance, discuss how to handle questions about why they are visiting or about their faith journey. This preparation can help alleviate any anxiety and ensure they feel confident and ready to engage warmly and respectfully.
4. **During the Visit:** Encourage the boys to be attentive listeners, show kindness, and offer companionship. Remind them that their presence and willingness to share their time can make a significant difference to the residents.
5. **After the Visit:** Take some time for reflection. Gather the boys to share their experiences and discuss what they learned from the visit. This debriefing can help them process their feelings and understand the impact of their actions on others.

By organising this activity, we aim to foster a sense of responsibility and compassion among our boys, helping them recognise the importance of serving their community and providing comfort and joy to those who may feel isolated or lonely. It is an opportunity to put faith into action, make meaningful connections, and brighten someone's day through simple acts of kindness and presence.