

Youth Work Report 2025 by Gary Watson (NYFC Youthworker)

Work in Thurton Primary School and Alpington with Bergh Apton Primary School continues to be very encouraging.

At Alpington, we have a strong core group of around 12 children attending Treasure Seekers lunch club every other Friday. We have also engaged with most children from Years 3-5 in small group sessions based around collective worship themes in the afternoons on these dates. The children are very enthusiastic about us being there and the level of engagement is amazing. We have tackled some very deep faith topics and I am genuinely impressed with their Bible knowledge and searching questions. I very much enjoyed being involved with the Toy Service in November for which the Treasure seekers performed a fantastic musical movement around 'letting your light shine' and sharing at the Christingle service at Christmas.

At Thurton Primary, we have been able to do so many lovely things this past year - assemblies, services, lunch clubs and prayer activities to name a few. During the summer term the Year 5 and 6s created some incredible pieces of artwork based on the life of Jesus which we still plan to display on the playground fence. The highlights of the year for me are seeing the church packed out with parents and children at our Christmas and Easter services. It is a privilege to be able to serve the school in a pastoral role as well as leading the clubs and other activities.

Explorers at Thurton on alternate Friday evenings is still going strong with a core group of around 15 attending. We have changed the age group slightly to incorporate some of those who have gone up to High School. We have explored many Bible Stories and faith themes and every session is always exciting, slightly chaotic but beautifully brilliant.

Gary Watson.

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