

## Edenderry Brownies Report 2021

2021 arrived with much uncertainty. After 9 months of covid restrictions and lockdowns, 2021 came with the promise of vaccines and a hope of normality. This proved to be a bit of a pipe dream in the short-term and we resumed Brownies with no in-person meetings and a lot of uncertainty about what the spring term would bring.

The result was another few months of finding new ways to try and keep in touch with our brownies. At Easter we were able to distribute a parcel of goodies with obligatory egg and a little book called "Jesus died for me". As with all we do, we continued to pray that God would work in the lives of the girls and their families, despite the unusual circumstances.

In early October we were finally able to resume meeting together and we were surprised and delighted to have such a positive re-start with approximately 35 girls signing up. Our attendance numbers have been lower than usual with so many being required to isolate at different times, but we have been pleased both by the girls' enthusiasm to join with us, and by their parents encouraging them to attend. We seem to have survived through the myriad of additional covid restrictions of mask wearing and hand sanitising without too much difficulty!

Through the autumn we looked at the person of Jesus through the "I Am" statements in the book of John. The girls listened intently and engaged well in our devotional times, as well as joining in with the usual array of games and crafts. Please pray with us for the young ladies in our care as we seek to not only teach them about Jesus, but also inspire them to get to know Him for themselves.

As always, we couldn't manage without our dedicated group of leaders, who work really well together. This has been a particularly difficult and uncertain season, and at times our plans have changed at short notice. We thank God that although these changes weren't part of our plan, they were part of His. We are also thrilled to have a number of new leaders join us this year; girls who attend brownies themselves and who have grown to love and serve Jesus as their Saviour. It's a real delight to watch them engage with the next generation of young people and share the joy of their salvation as they serve week by week.

As you pray for us, remember that our young people are growing up in a very uncertain world. Pray that they will put their trust in the One who holds the future and who guides us with His hands.

Lesley Dowey & Fiona Finlay