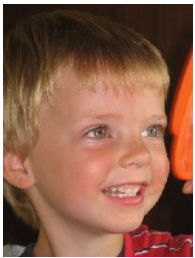


**A**nother year has passed! There has been a lot of upheaval this year for Andrew after being made redundant from his job in March, getting a new job in July but leaving that after six weeks to start a different new job in town in August. We are overjoyed at the safe arrival of Hannah Ruth to Andrew's brother and his wife in May. Our children keep insisting on growing up and church is still constantly growing and changing.



**Kirsty** is six, and has started primary one at Mannafields Christian School. We have seen big changes in her since she became a schoolgirl—she is a lot more confident and talkative. Kirsty has also started going to Girls' Brigade on a Friday and the church's 1-2-6 Club (for children in p1 to p6). She loves both of these groups, but the thing she loves most is her homework. She was very disappointed to learn on the second day of school that they don't give out homework on Fridays, and the worst punishment is still to be sent to bed without doing her homework.

At school, Kirsty took part in the Nativity play as the cup-bearer to the Egyptian estate agent(!). She was enthusiastic about it at home but had to be cajoled in rehearsal. In the event, she nervously came on stage, delivered her cup and received a round of applause as she left.



**Ewan** is four, and still taller than Kirsty. He attends nursery in the morning now and really enjoys it. He is very creative in his engineering and is always showing off fantastic contraptions he has devised. Ewan and Lizzie have been taking part in Forest Schools with the nursery, where a small group of children go out into local woods and do various activities to get to know "nature". He particularly enjoyed digging for treasure (while supposed to be digging a hole for a bumblebee nest). The best thing this year with regards to Ewan is that a few weeks ago he said sorry to God for all the bad things he'd done and asked God to forgive him and help him to live the way he should. He's very chuffed with it all and talks about God a lot.

**Rosie** is two and a half. She enjoys the toddler groups she attends and has a new friend to play with called Shane. He and his Mummy have moved into the area and Rosie and he are more-than-double trouble when they're together. They're especially sweet when they run around holding hands together. Rosie is very good at communicating, even though she doesn't have many words. We are trying hard not to be too understanding so that she develops her speech. She, however, just uses even clearer non-verbal communication! Rosie is still very keen on drawing and produces some lovely artwork.



**Andrew** has settled into his new job and takes Kirsty into school in the mornings in the trailer on the back of his bike. He also enjoys having the Alfa Romeo 156 he bought for the Livingston job but needs to sell it. Yes, he does. Even though it's a really nice car and is occasionally convenient.

**Lizzie** is still running Toddlers at church which is a challenge. She has also taken up beginners ballet and really enjoys having to concentrate without distractions of what to cook for tea. She also goes to a badminton club.



**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**



With lots of love  
from the Ayletts

More photos at <http://www.aylett.co.uk>