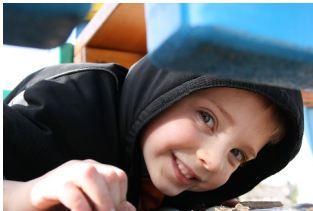


This year has been a year of challenges and development, as one would expect. The children's school, Mannafields Christian School, experienced a severe financial crisis this year and endured the prospect of closure. However, God in His mercy and grace provided sufficient funds to keep the school open and the school is now striving to rectify the issues that caused the problems to arise. Andrew and Lizzie have joined the School Board to help with that. We have welcomed the addition of Samuel to our extended family, and Willow to our immediate. We have enjoyed several holidays and trips to visit family. The children continue to grow up and mature in their faith.



Kirsty is eight and in P3 at School - now one of the oldest in her class. This year has been a year of appointments with courses of speech and occupational therapy, as well as various other specialities. Kirsty has been diagnosed with dyspraxia and irritable bowel syndrome, but she has amazed us by taking her pills with great enthusiasm. She has lost her first tooth and has several more wobbly ones. Kirsty loves her swimming lessons and is gradually increasing in confidence in the water. Her reading ability continues to develop and she devours paperbacks, especially pink ones about fairies.



Ewan is six and in P2 at school. He can get rather irritated by the P1 girls, but enjoys school none-the-less. Sadly, Ewan is now "too old" for Thomas the Tank Engine and has given away all his train stuff, to make room for space-related items. He is keen to become a "spaceman" when he grows up. Ewan has started Beavers and loves it. He learnt to cycle without stabilisers this summer and is very keen on his bike.

Rosie is four and in her pre-school year at Nursery. She is constantly drawing or colouring in and loves being creative. Although her two best friends have gone on to school, she continues to enjoy nursery, especially the song-times, and enjoys going to school with me on a Wednesday afternoon where she has her own jotters to work in. She also learnt to cycle without stabilisers and enjoys going for rides on her bike. Rosie continues to be wilful but is very kind to younger children.



Andrew has recently started a new project with a new client at work, which is much-needed relief after a difficult end to the previous project. The new client is in London, leading to several trips down south. He's started cycling to work again, after being unable due to knee problems.

Lizzie is struggling with her health at the moment, but is finding life busy and fulfilling. She has given up running Toddlers at Church to focus more on School activities (such as organising a summer fair, an information stall, DIY day and the Christmas Market after the School play). Lizzie enjoys going to Calypso Funk classes when her health permits.



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
With lots of love from the Ayletts

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