

## Secret Message Secret No More

### News Headlines

#### Meet the Leaders



Elizabeth

The Rainbow Tent is being led all this week by Elizabeth Hicks. She retired 3 years ago after teaching in local schools for the last 30 years. During term-time she also helps run the Baptist Church's Live Wires group on Thursday evenings for school years 3, 4 & 5.

#### Postcards from Egypt

Today the older children made postcards! They drew pictures of Egypt for their postcards using sandpaper and crayons. The older ones wrote messages on their postcards from Joseph to his Dad (Jacob) encouraging him to join him in Egypt where, with God's help, Joseph had prospered. You can read about how Jacob joined Joseph in Egypt in Genesis 46-47.

#### Rainbow Tent Craft

Today's craft in The Rainbow Tent was to decorate biscuits baked in the shape of Joseph's goblet (wine cup). You can see a cup like that in the display at the front entrance to The BIG Top. The story of the cup is that Joseph had his own wine cup hidden in Benjamin's sack of grain. He did this to test his brothers and see if they had changed. He found they would not abandon Benjamin like they had abandoned him so he forgave his brothers.

#### The BIG Top Website

The BIG Top website has photos and newsletters from all 10 years of The BIG Top – and this newsletter will be there by the end of the day.  
[www.TeddingtonBigTop.org.uk](http://www.TeddingtonBigTop.org.uk)

#### Acts 88 ([www.acts88.org.uk](http://www.acts88.org.uk))

The BIG Top is supported by Acts 88 which provides Richmond schools with a free resource and support for teaching Christianity. Josie Kirby of Acts 88 is helping to run this year's The BIG Top.

Today in The BIG Top drama Dr Potty and Denise finally solved the "Secret of the Secret Message". They found the onion shaped piece which has been missing from the Ancient Relic. Finally they could read the secret message which said:

***"You tried to harm me but God made it turn out for the best".***

Dr Potty and Denise realised that this was what Joseph said to his brothers after he had forgiven them. You can read about this in Genesis 43-45.

**The BIG Top says:** "God is amazing. He always wants the best for us and he can even use bad things to make good things happen."

#### Memory Verse

***"Joseph's brothers were jealous of him and sold him as a slave to be taken to Egypt. But God was with him and rescued him from all his troubles."*** (Acts 7:9-10)

#### Ancient Joke of the Day

All week we have had lots of ancient jokes in the mouth of the Sphinx. The best ones have been read out to all the Tribes when they have been gathered in front of the giant pyramids and the Sphinx.

Today's Ancient Joke of the Day is:

**Q:** "Why won't you starve in the desert?"

**A:** "Because of all the sand which is there!"

#### Thanks to all our Leaders and Helpers

Nearly 150 children have attended The BIG Top this year. It is only made possible by dozens of willing volunteers. Some help with preparations (e.g. craft or scenery). Others help each day with registration, refreshments, music, puppets, drama or the Tribes. Many thanks to everyone.

### Don't Forget



Tonight is the last night of our Rock Café for young people age 11-16 at Teddington Baptist Church. It starts at 7.30pm each night and finishes at 9.00pm. Entry £2.

#### Come to our Celebration Day

There will be a Celebration Day on Sunday from 10.30am until about 3.00pm with songs, a giant inflatable, games, etc and a BBQ. Those without children in The BIG Top can buy tickets for the BBQ from Reception: £5 for a Family ticket (£3 for an Individual ticket).

#### Pyramid Rock

The theme of this year's The BIG Top is "Pyramid Rock – the Bible story of Joseph".

All week we have been following the story of Joseph who is famous as the dreamer with the multi-coloured coat. We began with the time his father (Jacob) gave him the multi-coloured coat. We then followed him through the time he was sold as a slave by his brothers. Things looked black when he was thrown into prison for something he had not done.

But we saw how God used all this because after Joseph met Pharaoh and explained Pharaoh's dream, Joseph became Prime Minister of Egypt. Joseph saved everyone from dying of starvation in the seven year famine. Then when his brothers came to Egypt he forgave them and he welcomed his father and all his brothers to come and live with him in Egypt.

#### Children and Youth Activities

Over the page you will find information about the activities for children and young people provided throughout the year by the three Teddington churches which help to run The BIG Top.