

Open the Book/ICE Torbay Newsletter

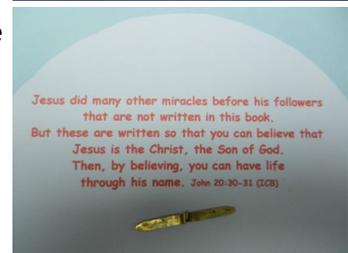
April 2017, Issue 18



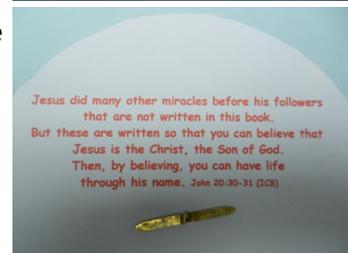
ICE Torbay has continued to enjoy very encouraging growth over the past few months! We now run lunch clubs in 9 primary schools across Torbay, assist with clubs in two more schools and plan to take on another school in May or June. We are also planning other new and exciting activities for the Summer Term; Prayer Spaces in Schools projects and a holiday club.

ICE Lunch Clubs: During January and February, the children learnt about Adam & Eve (The Fall), Jonah and the big fish and Noah. They made some wonderful crafts and as usual, had a lot of fun and games during the clubs.

During the weeks leading up to Easter, we decided to create two sessions teaching the children about 'Who Jesus is', and 'Jesus' Miracles and Promises'. These two sessions enabled the children to better understand how God exists as Father, Son and Holy Spirit (all at the same time - to the amazement of many of the children!) We also looked at the miracle of Jesus turning water into wine – which gave us the opportunity to discuss the meaning of John 20:31. They made some brilliant crafts!



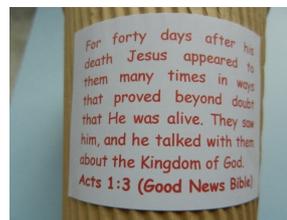
The Easter session was great fun! children also learnt more about Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection, by playing pass-the-parcel, (with pictures in each layer which helped us to explain the meaning of Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Of course, they managed to munch their way through some Cadbury mini eggs during the process! The craft for the Easter session was a silhouette picture of three crosses on a hillside, (with John 3:16 printed on the back). During the first session back (after the Easter holidays) we talked about Jesus' resurrection appearances. The children got very creative with brown paper cups!



Upcoming plans & events...

Prayer Spaces in Schools.

During July, we are planning to offer several schools the opportunity to take part in our Transition themed Prayer Spaces in Schools projects, for Year 6 children. These will enable children to take part in several different creative prayer activities, helping them to think about moving on to secondary school, and all of the different feelings and emotions which accompany that move.



Holiday Club. We are planning to run holiday clubs during the first two weeks of the school summer holidays. For more information please visit our website: (<http://ice-torbay.weebly.com>).



Open the Book - There are 25 schools in and around Torbay that now have regular 'Open the Book' assemblies with several more schools very keen to start. For more information about Open the Book, please visit their website: www.openthebook.net

Getting involved

Interested in volunteering?

The ICE lunch clubs have proved extremely popular since we started running them in October 2015. The clubs provide us with an opportunity to talk with primary school children about the Christian faith, in a fun and exciting way.

Our work within local primary schools is only possible because of the generous help from volunteers, who play an active role working alongside members of ICE Torbay in running the clubs.

If you would like to be involved in helping with our lunch clubs, please contact us on the details below for more information. If you could spare about an hour every fortnight or even every four weeks (during school term-time) we would love to hear from you. *(All volunteers will need to have a current DBS & work within ICE Torbay's policies & procedures.)*



Support

There are three main ways in which you can support the local primary schools work:

Practical: Open the Book storytellers & ICE Torbay volunteers are needed across the local area. If you would like to be involved in any way, please contact us for more information.

Financial: The work of Open the Book Torbay & ICE Torbay is funded by South Devon Evangelical Trust, and your financial support, whether as a one off donation or a regular gift is vital for the work to continue. Gift Aid forms are available.

Spiritual: Please pray for the work of Open the Book and ICE Torbay & sign up to receive the monthly prayer diary.

Prayer

- Thank God for the new opportunities He has given us to extend our work in primary schools. Pray that He will bless our existing schools' work and help us to engage with all the children we meet to make both, Open the Book and ICE lunch clubs fun and exciting ways to learn about God.
- Pray that God will encourage suitable volunteers to come forward as we develop new lunch clubs.
- Thank God for our dedicated team of volunteers who work enthusiastically and tirelessly to help ensure the success of our work in schools.
- Pray for our Prayer Spaces in Schools projects, planned for the Summer Term. Guide us as we plan the activities to present to the Year 6 children. Pray that God will open the hearts and minds of the young people that they will come to know Him and rely on His strength.
- Pray for our Holiday Club which is planned for the beginning of the school summer holidays. Pray that God will help us as we organise the event, and bring forward volunteers to help. Pray that children will be keen to participate in the club, and that God will make us mindful of all we say and do.



Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.
Colossians 4:2

Contact: Open the Book/ICE Torbay, 98 Kings Ash Road, Paignton, TQ3 3TT
E: icetorbay@gmail.com **T:** 01803 853772 **W:** ice-torbay.weebly.com