

Open the Book/ICE Torbay Newsletter January 2015, Issue 9

It's been a busy few months for Open the Book & ICE Torbay, and January and February look set to be busy too with visits to various churches and events to talk about the work.

It was fantastic to be able to go into 4 different primary schools and meet over 300 children in the Prayer Spaces in Schools project just before Christmas. One head teacher said "A big thank you...for a lovely afternoon - I know the children and staff found it a valuable and rewarding experience."



Comments from the children included: "Awesome", "Peaceful", "the activities helped us reflect on Jesus". See the [ICE Torbay facebook page](#) for more comments from the children. If you would like to be involved in helping to take Prayer Spaces to more schools, please get in touch for more information.

There are now 10 Open the Book schools in Torbay plus teams in the South Hams and across Devon. Several more schools would like an Open the Book team to visit them on a regular basis. If you can spare a couple of hours a week (or a fortnight) during term time to help on a team, or to find out more please contact Gemma on the details below.

Open the Book will have a stand at the Christian Resources Exhibition at Westpoint on 10th & 11th February, & some of the storytellers from Torbay will be involved in the OtB seminars that will be running each day.

We have an information evening coming up for anyone who wants to know more about Open the Book, and we are looking forward to our first celebration evening where we can update you all with what's going on and celebrate the work that God is doing in Torbay and beyond (see below for details).



Open the Book Information Evening

Thursday 29th January, 7.30pm at Central Church, Tor Hill Rd, Torquay, TQ2 5RF

Come along and find out more about Open the Book and the various ways you can be involved in bringing Bible stories to children who might never hear them otherwise.

Enabling every child to hear the story of the Bible at school in their primary years

Open the Book/ICE Torbay Celebration Evening

Tuesday 10th February, 7pm at Great Parks Chapel, 98 Kings Ash Road, Paignton, TQ3 3TT

Join us as we celebrate what God has done through Open the Book and ICE Torbay in local primary schools over the last 2 years. Refreshments provided, so please RSVP to Gemma on the details below.

Contact: Gemma Drew, Open the Book/ICE Torbay, 98 Kings Ash Road, Paignton, TQ3 3TT
E: gdrew22@gmail.com **M:** 07890715985

Important Dates

Open the Book Awareness Week 7-14th February 2015



Back to School with God

Come and pray at the start of term for children and young people as they go back to school, and for activities run by churches and organisations that restart after the Christmas break. **Tuesday 13th January**, 7.30pm at Mount Olive, Torquay.

Celebration Evening

A time to come together and celebrate what God is doing in Torbay primary schools. **Tuesday 10th February**, 7.30pm at Great Parks Chapel, Paignton.

Christian Resources Exhibition, Westpoint, Exeter

If you are going to CRE on **10th/11th February**, come and see us on the Open the Book stand. There will be an OtB seminar where you can find out more about OtB & see a demonstration on both days at 12-1pm.



Support

There are 3 main ways 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, contact Gemma 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 & sign up to the monthly prayer diary. You can also get updates on the [Facebook page](#).

Prayer

- Thank God for open doors—that more schools are asking for input from their local churches, and that Christian schools work is increasing.
- Thank God for all the churches, trust and individuals who support Open the Book & ICE Torbay practically, spiritually & financially.
- Pray for all the children who took part in the Christmas Prayer Spaces in Schools project.
- Pray for the Open the Book teams who go regularly into schools across Torbay & the local area.
- Pray for more volunteers from local churches to join Open the Book teams (particularly in Brixham) and get involved with ICE Torbay.
- Pray for Gemma as she heads up the work.



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

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