

Open the Book/ICE Torbay Newsletter

July 2015, Issue 11



"On 30th June I got out of the car at Hayes Road School and a young girl ran to me smiling and greeting me. We talked about various things and then she told me that she loves our Bible stories. We talked about the Bible and then she told me that she prays every day. What an encouragement!" Elisabeth Bennetts, Hayes School Open the Book team.

We have come to the end of the second year of Open the Book in Torbay, and are looking forward to next year. Two years ago, we started with 4 Open the Book schools in Torbay, there are now 13 schools being visited on a regular basis by Open the Book teams! (As well as several teams now in the South Hams area)

God is continuing to open doors into primary schools across Torbay for Open the Book and various other Bible based activities. We thank God for all that He has done so far and look to Him for the next academic year. There are still a number of schools in Torbay who would like an Open the Book team to help with Acts of Worship/assemblies. We need to act now while the opportunity is available to us, so if you'd like to be involved in sharing the stories of the Bible further in the local area why not get in touch for more information or book on to our training day on **Thursday 10th September** at Great Parks Chapel, Paignton, 10am-3pm.



New! Open the Book clothing now available - Polo shirts are £14.95, Fleece are £24.95 or it's £39.90 for both. Available to order by logging in to the members area of the Open the Book website (openthebook.net)

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

ICE

bringing faith to life

We had a great time in various schools recently working with Year 6 children and providing Transition themed Prayer Spaces in Schools. The children took part in different creative prayer activities helping them to think about moving on to secondary school and all the different feelings and emotions that go along with that. The main thing the children worry about is leaving behind most of their friends from primary school, but the thing they are most looking forward to is making new friends. Please continue to pray for the year 6s as they prepare to move on.

ICE Torbay will be at Torbay Children's Week on Paignton Seafront, Tuesday 18th—Saturday 22nd August at 10am-5pm. We'll have storytelling (Open the Book style), crafts, creative prayer, games and more. Please pray for the work during this week and the people we'll make contact with. Why not come along to see what's going on.



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Upcoming Dates



Back to School with God prayer, Monday 7th September 2015 at 7pm Living Waters Church, Torquay Rd, Paignton, TQ3 2DQ

Join us as we pray at the start of a new term for children and young people as they go back to school after the Summer break, and for activities run by churches and organisations for children and young people locally.

Torbay Children's Week, 18th-22nd August 2015, 10am-5pm Paignton Seafront

ICE Torbay will have a gazebo for Bible based crafts and activities, and will be doing some Open the Book style storytelling throughout the week.



Open the Book training day, Thursday 10th September 2015, 10am-3pm at Great Parks Chapel, Kings Ash Road, Paignton, TQ3 3TT

For new storytellers & anyone interested in finding out more about Open the Book. Find out what OtB is, how the programme works, what's happening locally, how to get started, what's involved, and ideas on how to present OtB during Acts of Worship/assemblies. To book a place, or for more information please contact Gemma on the details below.

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 of Open the Book and ICE Torbay & sign up to receive the monthly prayer diary.

Prayer

- Thank God for all the children & staff who have heard Bible stories through Open the Book, and been involved in Prayer Spaces in Schools over the last year.
- Pray for more opportunities to reach schools through Open the Book & ICE Torbay, and for more volunteers.
- Thank God for the opportunity that ICE Torbay have to be part of Torbay Children's Week. Pray for the activities, volunteers and people that we make contact with through the week. Pray for opportunities to share our faith.
- Pray for the Open the Book training day and thank God that more Churches are getting involved, and more schools are asking for teams.
- Pray for LiNX, Youth Genesis and other organisations as well as local churches doing schools & community work with children & young people in Torbay.



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

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