

Open the Book / ICE Torbay Newsletter

Autumn Term 2017, Issue 20



The new school year got off to a great start! Primary school children across Torbay have continued to enjoy the activities we offer. Our lunchtime clubs, RE lessons and 'Prayer Spaces in Schools' projects all continue to enable primary school children to learn about the Christian faith in a fun and exciting way! Our activities remain in high demand, and we hope to start working with another three schools very shortly.

ICE Lunch Clubs: We started the Autumn Term looking at the topic of, 'Overview of Christianity'. The first of the three sessions in this mini-series enabled us to look at and discuss the meaning of 'John 3:16'. The children made and decorated a small cube craft, which they took away with them. During the following session we considered 'John 14:6' (Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father



except through me.) During this session the children enjoyed making a 'traffic light' craft.



The final session of this mini-series enabled us to talk about, 'God's greatest commandment'. The children made and coloured-in a 'Love Is' wheel, with some of the words from '1 Corinthians 13:4-7', being displayed as the wheel is turned around. As always, our lunch clubs were very exciting with plenty of fun and games and were greatly enjoyed by the children.

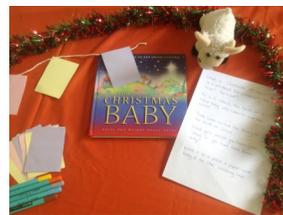
We've just made a start on our next topic, 'Fruit of the Spirit', where the children did a great job of making and decorating some brilliant fans! We'll continue with this topic well into the Spring Term, with some great crafts to be made for each of the Fruit!



Prayer Spaces in Schools:



During the first two weeks of December we're planning to run Christmas themed 'Prayer Spaces in Schools' projects at some of the primary schools. (We've run these in previous years, and they've always been particularly well received - by both the children and staff!) From January, we plan to start offering regular 'Prayer Spaces' across most of the primary schools,



focussing on themes such as; Forgiving others, Saying Sorry, Friendships, Big Questions etc., or any other particular theme which a school may request.

Open the Book:



OtB Coordinator: Although we do not currently have an 'Open the Book Coordinator' for Torbay, we are considering ways in which this matter can be addressed. We are aware that a few of the (now 23), 'Open the Book' teams working at primary schools in and around Torbay are starting to struggle with reduced team sizes.

General Information: 'Open the Book' teams run regular assemblies at primary schools in and around Torbay, 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 activities offered by ICE Torbay have continued to prove extremely popular within local primary schools. Both our **ICE Lunch Club** and our **Prayer Spaces in Schools** projects 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 our activities.

If you would like to be involved in helping with any of our activities, 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) 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 wonderful ways in which He has continued to richly bless the work of ICE Torbay. Thank Him also for bringing forward several more talented and committed volunteers to help with our work.
- Pray that God will guide us as we seek to expand the work of ICE Torbay. We plan to offer our activities to several more schools, and we're mindful that such expansion plans are rarely without difficulties.
- Thank God for the continued help and support provided by our dedicated team of volunteers, without whom the work of ICE Torbay simply wouldn't continue.
- Pray that God will help us as we make plans for our Christmas Prayer Spaces in Schools projects, which are planned for the 1st, 4th, 8th & 11th of December. Pray that He will bless these projects and that the 250 children who have been invited to come along will enjoy learning about the true meaning of Christmas.
- Pray for the Open the Book teams working within schools in and around Torbay.



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

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