

# Open the Book/ICE Torbay Newsletter

## April 2015, Issue 10



**bringing faith to life**

We had a great time in Torbay primary schools just before the Easter break running Easter themed **Prayer Spaces in Schools**. The children were able to explore prayer and the Easter story and pray creatively through different parts of Jesus' death & resurrection. What the children learnt:  
"Sometimes you've got to let it go" (forgiveness)  
"I learnt that Jesus didn't die twice"  
"Prayer is a lot more awesome than I thought".

Lots of children said they would pray more as a result of taking part in the Prayer Space. Children were encouraged to think about what makes them happy—the most popular answer was spending time with family. Some of the most commonly asked questions included:

Why did You have to die? Who made You? How did You make the world?

The children said sorry for things like being mean to siblings, not doing as asked by parents, and hurting their friends.

The things they prayed for in the world included war, starvation & poverty, illness & disease, and the recent plane crash on the Alps. For more comments from the children, and to see some photos, visit the [ICE Torbay facebook page](#).



### Torbay Children's Week, Paignton Seafront 17-22 August

ICE Torbay will be at Torbay Children's Week on Paignton Seafront, Tuesday 17th—Saturday 22nd August at 10am-5pm. We'll have storytelling (Open the Book style), puppets, crafts, and more. Lots of volunteers are needed to allow the week

to run smoothly, so if you've got a couple of hours to spare on any of the days, we'd love you to get in touch. Whether you're young or old, crafty or sporty, if you're good at listening, talking, puppetry, telling stories, drama, or have any other talent, as long as you have a heart for children and communicating God's love to them you'd be welcome to join the team. (DBS required)



There are now **13 Open the Book schools in Torbay** plus teams in the South Hams and across Devon. **Brixham Primary, All Saints Babbacombe** and **Abbey Private School** would like Open the Book teams to help in their Act of Worship/assemblies on a regular basis. If you can spare a couple of hours a week (or a fortnight) during term time to help on one of these teams, or if you would like to find out more please contact Gemma on the details below. There is local training available for anyone joining an Open the Book team.

There are also a further 15 schools in Torbay that we haven't yet contacted about having an Open the Book team, so there are still plenty of opportunities for you to get involved with telling Bible stories in your local primary school.

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

### ICE Torbay website

Check out the new ICE Torbay website: <http://ice-torbay.weebly.com>

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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 crafts and activities, and will be doing some Open the Book style storytelling as well as puppets.



### **Transition Prayer Spaces in Schools, July 2015**

ICE Torbay will be running some transition themed Prayer Spaces in some of the primary schools in Torbay for the year 6 children—to help them as they prepare to move on to secondary school.

## 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 work that's happening with children and young people in and around Torbay
- Pray for more opportunities to engage with children and young people, and for more volunteers
- Thank God for the opportunity that ICE Torbay have to be part of Torbay Children's Week. Pray for the planning and preparation, and for volunteers
- Thank God for Open the Book and that more and more churches and schools are getting involved in the local area as well as across England and Wales
- Pray for Exeter ICE, and ICE partnerships in Ilfracombe, Dawlish & Wales
- Pray for the Transition Prayer Spaces in Schools project coming up in July for Year 6 children, helping them to prepare for moving on to secondary school



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

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