

Open the Book/ICE Torbay Newsletter

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Children across Torbay primary schools have continued to enjoy our ICE Lunch Clubs during the Summer Term! The clubs remain as popular as ever and the children have a great time learning about the Christian faith, and making some amazing crafts. From September, working in cooperation with St Matthias and St Mary Magdalene churches, we plan to run our lunch clubs in two more schools - bringing us up to 11 schools across Torbay! We offer the clubs to every year group within the primary school, (children aged between 5 and 11).

ICE Lunch Clubs: Children started the Summer Term learning about Prayer, (where we made a very colourful craft), which was followed by a session on Pentecost. We then ran a mini series of three sessions on 'The journey of Paul' and ended the term with a 'fun & games' session.

During the session on **Prayer**, the children learnt about the importance of praying, and how God listens and answers when Christians pray. We related this session to Philippians 4:6-7, where God tells us not to be anxious, but rather, to present our requests to Him. During the session on **Pentecost** the children made an amazing 'flame' headband with the Bible verse, 'Acts 2:3-4' printed on the back of the flame. They learnt about how the apostles were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to talk in other tongues (languages).



The journey of Paul: During this series we talked about Saul's conversion, (where we decorated a pair of glasses). We also talked about how Christian's were (and still are) persecuted and we showed the children how and why the 'fish' symbol came to be used by Christian's to recognise other believers. Finally we talked about Paul and Silas in prison, (Acts 16:30-31).



Keyrings given out at the end of term:

We thought it would be a great idea at the end of the Summer Term to give each child a small keyring with laminated pictures of the crafts they'd made since January along with the associated Bible verses printed on the back.

(These were very well received!)

Other bits:

- During the first week of Summer Term we were invited to talk with 60 Year 3 children at **Curledge Street Academy**, about being Christians. (This was part of their RE syllabus where they were required to interview a Christian). This was a wonderful experience and we were delighted to attend.
- Towards the end of Summer Term we ran lessons for the Year 6 children at **Ellacombe Academy**, where we were able to discuss with them the changes, challenges & choices they are likely to face when they start secondary school in September. We were also able to talk with them about the work of **LiNX and Schools Pastors**.

Getting involved

Interested in volunteering?

The work of ICE Torbay has grown considerably over the last couple of years. The Lord has blessed us with many opportunities within a growing number of primary schools, and has provided us with a wonderful, talented and dedicated team of volunteers.

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 many and varied opportunities that he has provided for us, to go into primary schools and talk with children about Christianity. Thank God also that the schools have always been so welcoming towards us, and appreciative of the work that we do. This is very encouraging!
- Thank God for providing a wonderful team of dedicated and talented volunteers, who work enthusiastically and tirelessly to ensure the success of our schools work.
- Pray for the children with whom we've come into contact — that they will reflect on what they've learnt from ICE over the year. Pray also for the Year 6 children who have just left primary school and will be starting secondary education in September.
- Pray that God will continue to encourage suitable volunteers to come forward, in accordance with our needs, as our work in primary schools continues to grow.
- Pray for the two new schools, (Ilsham and Warberry Academies) which we will be working with from September, (in cooperation with St Matthias & St Mary Magdalene churches).



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