

Open the Book/ICE Torbay Newsletter

October 2015, Issue 12

It's been a great start to the new academic year, with new Open the Book teams starting, new ICE lunch clubs, and a new member of staff for ICE Torbay:



Meet ICE Torbay's New Team Member

What a privilege! God opening a door for me to join ICE Torbay was a wonderful answer to my prayers. During my Christian life I've always had a passion for sharing the love of God amongst youths and younger children - this new position creates opportunities to do this, in a variety of creative and imaginative ways.

I've spent a number of years at our church (Christ Church, Paignton), sharing the Gospel with children and youths, doing Bible teaching, games, drama, crafts and many more activities. I've been actively involved in church-based youth and children's work for over 10 years.

I'd had a desire for many years to work with children - particularly younger children, so in 2004 I undertook a PGCE course at Exeter University. Shortly after qualifying as a primary school teacher I started working at a school in Torquay. The broad range of experience that I gained will be very useful to me in my new role, and I'm really looking forward to getting back into the primary school environment - but this time in a rather different capacity!

There are some very exciting opportunities that are emerging for ICE Torbay at primary schools in and around Torbay, which will enable us to run lunch time clubs, after school clubs, Prayer Space Projects and some RE lessons. Exciting times...I'm really looking forward to seeing what God has planned for us.



Nick Pitt (Part-time Christian Schools Worker for ICE Torbay)



We had a great week on Paignton Green in August as part of Torbay Children's Week. We had lots of Bible based crafts & activities, and were able to tell interactive Bible stories on stage each day too. It was a great opportunity to speak to local families and holiday makers about our faith and the work of Open the Book & ICE. We look forward to being involved again next summer. This couldn't have

happened without the help of all the volunteers throughout the week, so a huge thank you to all who helped in various ways.



ICE Lunch Clubs

This term we have started up some ICE Lunch Clubs in St Marychurch & All Saints Babbacombe. We're starting off looking at the Fruit of the Spirit, and towards the end of term we have an exciting Christmas Lunch Club planned. The lunch clubs last for 30 minutes and include various activities such as stories, quizzes, discussion, games, video clips and drama.

Open the Book

We had another successful training day in September, with lots of new volunteer storytellers signing up to go into their local primary schools to tell Bible stories in Assembly/Act of Worship times. New teams have recently started at All Saints Babbacombe, Brixham, Stoke Gabriel and Dartmouth, with other schools still contacting us and asking for Open the Book teams. If you are interested in getting involved with Open the Book or any of the ICE activities, please contact us on the details below.



Contact: Open the Book/ICE Torbay, 98 Kings Ash Road, Paignton, TQ3 3TT
E: icetorbay@gmail.com **M:** 07890715985 **W:** ice-torbay.weebly.com

Getting involved



Back to School with God prayer, Tuesday 5th January 2016 at 7.30pm Brixham URC, New Road, Brixham TQ5 8NE

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.

Christmas Prayer Spaces in Schools

We hope to be able to offer Christmas Prayer Spaces to a number of primary schools again this year in early December.



Lunch Clubs

We are currently running 2 lunch clubs, with a third about to start. ICE Lunch Clubs offer a half hour program of activities including stories, crafts, games, quizzes, drama & video clips.

If you would like to be involved in helping with Christmas Prayer Spaces and/or Lunch Clubs, please contact us on the details below for more information.

All volunteers will need to have a current DBS & work within ICE Torbay's policies & procedures.

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 Open the Book teams & volunteers who go into schools each week to present Bible stories in fun and interactive ways.
- Thank God that we've been able to set up some ICE Lunch Clubs, pray for Gemma and Nick as they lead them and for the children as they come along to learn more about God.
- Pray for Gemma as she prepares for maternity leave at the end of the year, and for Nick as he settles in to his new post with ICE Torbay.
- Pray for volunteers to help with various activities including the Lunch Clubs and Christmas Prayer Spaces project.
- Pray that God would continue to open up opportunities in primary schools in the local area for His Word to be shared with the children & staff.



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

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