

*Giving every young person the opportunity to explore and understand the Christian faith*

## Update from the Trustee Board - Graham Massey - Chairperson



We are delighted to share the fantastic news that ICE-Torbay became an independent charity in January 2025. Previously we had been a project of South Devon Evangelical Trust and we thank the trustees for their support over the years.

This significant milestone formally recognises the value, integrity, and impact of the work we carry out across the Torbay educational community.

Becoming an independent charity strengthens our foundations and enables us to continue our work with increased confidence, accountability, and opportunity. It also allows us to broaden our reach through new partnerships and funding opportunities, ensuring our support can benefit even more children, young people, and families.

As an independent charity, ICE-Torbay can continue and develop its work in line with our charitable objectives, which include:

- Advancing the Christian faith through support for local educational services, including religious education, lunch clubs, and workshops
- The advancement and provision of safe spaces within educational environments to promote mental health and wellbeing, supporting physical, psychological, and emotional needs in small group settings
- Providing relief for children and families experiencing hardship, particularly those we encounter through our work in educational environments.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all who have supported ICE-Torbay on this journey. Your encouragement, commitment, and collaboration have helped make this achievement possible, and we look forward to continuing this important work together.

Graham Massey Chairperson ICE Torbay



### WE NEED NEW TRUSTEES

- Our Trustee Board is looking for people to join them.
- We are looking for people with time and ability to give help, to share the load with the other Trustees and drive the charity forward.
- We would especially appreciate trustees with experience in HR, charity governance, and fundraising
- Please email [office@icetorbay.org.uk](mailto:office@icetorbay.org.uk) to express interest in this opportunity

## Schools Work Update from Nick

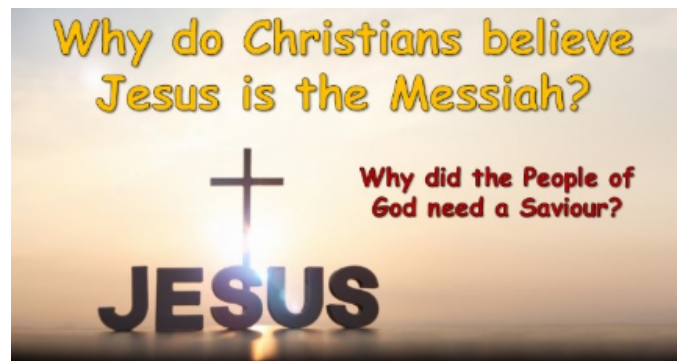
### RE Lessons



During the first half of Spring Term, I spent Monday to Wednesday afternoons working with the three Year 5 classes at Sherwell Valley Primary School. This enabled around 90 children to explore the question, 'Why do Christians believe Jesus is the Messiah?'. They considered why the Jewish people needed a saviour, and what kind of saviour they were expecting. Realizing He didn't fit the stereotype of a warrior king we discussed the reason for the Jewish scepticism, and by reflecting on the compelling evidence of fulfilled Old Testament messianic prophecies, the children were able to gain an understanding of the Christian belief in Jesus as the promised Messiah. The children created some amazing coursework for their RE books during the five weeks.

Looking ahead to Summer Term, I am scheduled to run a series of RE lessons for the three Year 1 classes at Sherwell Valley Primary School, on the topic of, 'Who do Christians say made the world?'. Children will learn about the creation story – discussing what God created on each day. We'll also consider what they think the God who created all things might be like, and ways in which they believe Christians might like to say 'thank you' to God.

During the second half of Summer Term, we plan to offer schools a three-week series of lessons from the 'Thematic' element of the RE syllabus. 'How and why do people try to make the world a better place?', looks at this question from the perspective of all beliefs. However, using examples from the life of the well-known rapper and songwriter, 'Stormzy', and considering the lyrics from his song, 'Blinded by your Grace', we will consider this question from a Christian perspective. The Year 3 children really enjoyed this lesson when they did it last year.



## Give...

Please consider supporting us financially so we can increase our work within primary schools. You can scan the QR code, [go to our website www.icetorbay.org.uk](http://www.icetorbay.org.uk)



## Pray with us?

Join our new monthly online prayer group and sign up to receive updated prayer points via WhatsApp and e-mail.

Contact us via the website contact page or e-mail [debbie@icetorbay.org.uk](mailto:debbie@icetorbay.org.uk)



## Lunch Clubs Update from Nick

During Spring Term I continued my weekly lunchtime clubs at Collaton St Mary C of E Primary School in Paignton, and St Michael's C of E Primary School in Kingsteignton. At both schools, Year 2 children really enjoyed learning about characters from the Old Testament of the Bible and making weekly crafts. The characters included, Adam & Eve (sin/disobedience), Noah (obedience), Abraham (salvation by faith alone), and Jonah and the big fish.

They also learnt about two of Jesus' miracles along with a session on Palm Sunday and Easter.

After the Easter holidays, I plan to do a reflection on Easter followed by Jesus' resurrection appearances. Children will then learn about the Trinity, followed by Pentecost, and then we'll spend several weeks learning more about Jesus' miracles. We will hopefully end Summer Term by looking at the parables of the Lost Son, the Lost Coin, and the Lost Sheep.



## Schools Work Update from Debbie



It has been exciting to deepen our relationship with some of the Primary schools that we started to support last academic year and to be able to offer RE lessons across all year groups.

Many of the schools are now combining Year 1&2 groups which has allowed us to spend more time with children as we teach different modules.

This academic year I have been able to share God's Big Story through RE in 6 schools - Warberry CofE Primary; Upton St James CofE Primary; Curledge Street Academy; Hayes Primary; St Michaels CofE Primary, Kingsleignton and Shiphay Primary school. .

Topics taught to Years 1&2 have involved 'Why does Christmas matter to Christians?' and 'Why does Easter matter to Christians?' . This half term I am exploring our Creation topic ' Who do Christians say made the world?' with two Year 1 classes at St Michaels CofE Primary, Kingsteignton.

Older children have covered Creation in more detail exploring the topic 'What do Christians learn from the Creation story?' and 'Why do Christians believe Jesus is the Messiah?'. In the run-up to Easter I worked with a group of Year 3&4 pupils at Upton St James thinking about ' Why do Christians call the day Jesus died "Good Friday"?' - a new topic for me and an opportunity for the boys and girls to explore Holy week from the point of view of Mary, Jesus' mother through Journalling and use of an emotions graph.

## SERVE

Could you volunteer to work alongside our Schools Team?

Or could you support with the publicity or governance side of our work by volunteering within our office team for a season?



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## Update from the Trustee Board - Debbie Onslow

My work at ICE Torbay means I wear two hats - schools worker and Trustee. I have the opportunity to act as a bridge between the Board of Trustees and ICE Torbay Schools Staff and Support staff which is a great privilege.

I have been working closely with Karen, our Finance Officer who more recently has an admin support role to update Policies and have recently completed Designated Safeguarding Lead Training.

From a ministry point of view, I network with other Torbay Baptist Ministers via Cluster Meetings and have been visiting churches across the Bay on a monthly basis. It has been a great encouragement to receive a warm welcome on Sunday mornings. This has allowed opportunities to talk about our work and now that we have the promotional video we can offer talks for churches and other Christian Organisations.

I had the opportunity to attend South West Baptists Association (SWBA) Ministers Gathering in Newquay in February.

This is a three day conference involving our Regional Team; Baptist Ministers; Chaplains; Spiritual Directors and Pastoral Counsellors; Leadership Teams and students in the South West. Each year there is a different topic focus and teaching linked to it alongside opportunities to worship and pray together, decompress and network with brothers and sisters.

Our Focus for workshops this year was chosen and led by Lynn Green (General Secretary of the Baptist Union) "One in Christ - fulfilling the Great Commandment and Great Commission."

We immersed ourselves in Scripture from 1 Corinthians 12 & 13, exploring the gifts we have as individuals and within our communities of faith, and appreciating their value and impact to better fulfil the Great Commission. We also spent time thinking about the 'unique missional fingerprint': location, context, opportunities, challenges that we work in, and how we can build up and resource each other so that we are better able to fulfil the Great Commission. I would like to thank the Trustees for funding my place and look forward to sharing some of the thoughts when we meet together with ICE Torbay Staff Teams for an Away Day at the beginning of the next Academic Year.

[www.icetorbay.org.uk](http://www.icetorbay.org.uk)



**Would your church, school or organisation like to know more about the work of ICE Torbay?**

**Please contact us through our website or email Debbie Onslow**

**[debbie@icetorbay.org.uk](mailto:debbie@icetorbay.org.uk)**