

Dear friends,

Welcome to our Autumn newsletter. We hope you had some time to rest, relax and enjoy the sunshine over the Summer break.

Last term many of our OTB teams returned to school and received a warm welcome from staff and children excited to have them back. This September more of our teams are hoping to return in person and it will be great to have a busy diary with story boxes going in and out. If you are part of an OTB team or a team leader please have a look at page 2 for some useful reminders for starting the new term.

With in person schools work increasing we are looking forward to more teams running our “What’s the Story about Christmas?”. There’s more information about how to book this project as well as details of training sessions at the bottom of this page.

Finally, if you are looking for inspiration for the upcoming term don’t forget that we have lots of wonderful resources to support you in all areas of your work with children and families—there are a few recommendations on page 2 as well as an invitation to a taster evening to come and experience some **new story** resources. As ever—please do get in touch if you’d like to book, borrow or try any of our resources and feel free to contact Mandy if you’d like any help or ideas.

The staff and trustees at OCRH



What’s the Story about Christmas?

Bookings are now being taken for our Christmas project. “What’s the story?” is an ideal way to engage with schools, families and community groups at

Christmas. If you would like to know more about running “**What’s the Story ?**” in your setting please book on one of our training sessions on October 5th

In Person Training @ 10:30 am

Zoom training @ 1.30 pm.

Or contact Mandy to arrange an alternative session (mandy@ocrh.org.uk).

If you are planning to run the project you can order Story Chains and the project book directly through Mandy or via our website shop (www.ocrh.org.uk).



Story telling Taster Session

Come and discover the range of storytelling resources available to borrow from the Hub.

The evening will offer opportunity to experience some stories, ask questions and reflect on which resources might suit your context. We will also be sharing a brand new resource “Out of the Box”

Monday 17th of October , 7.30pm at The Chestnuts

Please contact mandy@ocrh.org.uk to book your place.

[Godly Play](#) [Story bags](#) [Story baskets](#) [Early Church Stories](#) [Out of the Box](#) [Bible Labyrinth](#)



Open the Book—A few reminders:

Bookings Now that we have a number of teams back in school please book your story resources with Mandy so that we can resolve any clashes. If you make any changes during the term please let Mandy know so that she can update the diary.

Collecting Resources Keyholders can collect resources at a time that suits you but please remember to note in the diary that you have collected or returned your resources. If you are concerned about lifting resources into cars etc you can collect at a time when the Hub is staffed. We are really happy to help so please ring to arrange a suitable collection time.

Team Changes If you have new team members or team members leaving please remember to fill in a team change form, contact Mandy if you need help with this.

Training If you are returning to school after a break and would like to update your skills there are lots of zoom sessions available at <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/open-the-book/>. If you want to update your safeguarding training please speak to the safeguarding lead at your church.

Leeds and Bradford Godly Play Network

This group is for anyone interested in, or running, Godly Play. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 21st September at 7.30pm at the Chestnuts in Otley. We are hoping this will be an in person meeting but we have the option to switch to Zoom should the need arise.

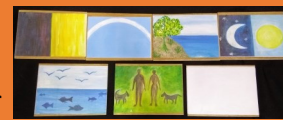
Please email mandy@ocrh.org.uk for details

Ideas for the Autumn Term

Many of you will be exploring themes of creation and harvest during the Autumn term and we have lots of engaging resources to help you learn and reflect together.



You could borrow one of our large creation stories from Open the Book for use in a service or explore the creation story using the Bible labyrinth or Godly play.



We also have story resources for the Sower, The Mustard Seed and the Leaven parables.

If you are thinking of getting outside to experience and reflect on creation the following books are full of ideas: "Outdoor Church" by Sally Welch, "Worship in the Woods" by Engage Worship and "Messy Church Goes Wild".



Call in to the Hub to find out more

Opening Hours

The hub is staffed on Wednesday and Friday from 10 till 3.

Wednesday is our open morning and you can call in between 10 and 1 without an appointment.

If you are calling at other times please make an appointment or call to check that Mandy is available.