



T&L Times

Edition 2

Welcome

Welcome to our last newsletter before the end of term and also the last newsletter before Christmas. It's even the last newsletter of 2019 so from all involved in our Teaching and Learning newsletter, a really Happy Christmas and a Wonderful 2020. With finish 2019 with a key quote about the importance of spending time with loved ones at this time of year.



“Most of us spend too much time on what is urgent and not enough time on what is important ”

Stephen Covey

Podcast Picks

With possibly five minutes to ourselves over this break, we provide you with some top podcast recommendations that you might want to have a listen to over the Christmas break.

[The Teach On, Teach Strong - Podcast](#)

About Podcast The Teach On, Teach Strong Podcast is all about providing free personal development for teachers. This podcast is a movement with it's sole aim being to support fellow teachers emotionally and mentally to help you succeed in teaching so you can fulfill your potential and keep making a difference in the lives of young children.



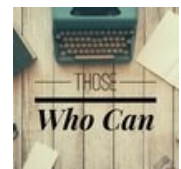
[TeacherToolkit - Podcast](#)



About Podcast Teacher Toolkit supports teachers across the world with resources and is one of the leading and unique teacher-voices within the U.K.

[Those Who Can](#)

About Podcast Those Who Can is a podcast for teachers, talking through all things educational. Each week we will be interviewing teachers and getting to know the stories behind their work in the classroom. From investigating the best and worst lessons that have been taught, through to discussion about pedagogical theories and techniques, this show is for all teachers looking to build and develop their practice.



[Teachers Anonymous](#)



About Podcast Teacher's Anonymous is a podcast that shines a light on the inner workings of a school and the secret lives of teachers. Teachers, parents or former students will laugh and cry along as the mystery hosts regale tales of and experiences always under the cloak of anonymity.

If you would like to see the full list of 25 top podcasts then

[Click Here](#)

Super CPD

Assessment within Special Educational Needs and Disability

Tuesday 4 Feb 2020—IBIS, ILEC Conference Centre, London

'These children are an asset to society, not a burden. Let's give them all the best start in life.'

- Layla Moran, TES, June 2019

Why is this conference relevant?

The current state of play for SEND assessment is both creative yet challenging in its complexity. As we await the roll-out of further statutory guidance for the new academic year, the lack of a common assessment language has left schools and local education stakeholders to their own devices. This has often resulted in a disjointed assessment provision that doesn't effectively fulfil pupils' individual needs.

What can I expect?

This one-day conference will host insightful keynotes and content-rich workshops, arming you with invaluable guidance to ensure effective, pupil-led SEND assessment within your school:

- take away need-to-know guidance on the current national expectations for SEND assessment content and practice
- gain practical, cost-effective strategies to ensure a curriculum-driven assessment that enables more meaningful and holistic tracking of SEND pupils' progress
- optimise relationships with classroom teachers and external agencies to establish a common ground for assessment approaches, ensuring small-step progress is recognised and accounted for
- learn how to manage SENCO workload efficiently and effectively.

Who should attend?

- SENCOs
- Headteachers
- Deputy Headteachers
- Assistant Headteachers

This event is relevant for both mainstream and special schools.

Game Guidance

During the holidays, many children enjoy immersing themselves in games - and some will even get new ones in their stockings. But did you know that lots of games include features such as loot boxes which can introduce children to gambling-like behaviours?

The **Gaming or Gambling resource pack** from Parent Zone and GambleAware is full of info and expert advice that **parents, carers and professionals** can use to help children be safer and have fun over the Winter months.

To access this resource then please click [HERE](#)



Top Tips

This week we look at top tips for how to work effectively with all of our fantastic Teaching Assistants across the Trust. These tips form part of the Best Practice with Teaching Assistant Award (BPTAA). For more information on this award then click [HERE](#).

Top tips for effective use of teaching assistants (TAs):

- use TAs to supplement the work of teachers rather than replace them
- prepare your TAs with lesson 'need to knows'
- deploy TAs to work with a range of pupils within the class to allow all pupils access to high-quality teaching
- provide feedback to TAs through lesson observations to promote best practice and the value of their role
- provide a clear induction for new TAs to set the scene for supporting your pupils and staff team
- have a whole-school CPD plan that includes the needs of TAs
- value and use the skills and talents of your TAs within the life of the school



Digestible Documents

The focus in our schools on providing high quality reading experiences we look at an article in this edition from the Guardian about pupils having access to books at home.

Children who own books six times more likely to read above expected level, survey finds

Hundreds of thousands of pupils in UK do not have a single book, analysis suggests

Children who own books are six times more likely to read above the expected level for their age – and yet hundreds of thousands of pupils are still missing out, a report suggests.

More than 380,000 children in the UK do not have a book of their own, an analysis from charity the National Literacy Trust calculates, which can affect their reading skills, enjoyment and wellbeing.

The survey, of more than 56,000 children, reveals that 22 per cent of children who own books read above the expected level, compared to just 3.6 per cent of pupils who do not have a book.

More than half (56.2 per cent) of young people who have books enjoy reading compared to less than a fifth (18.4 per cent) of those who do not, according to the survey of pupils aged nine to 18.

The findings come as hundreds of libraries across the country have been forced to close amid spending cuts.

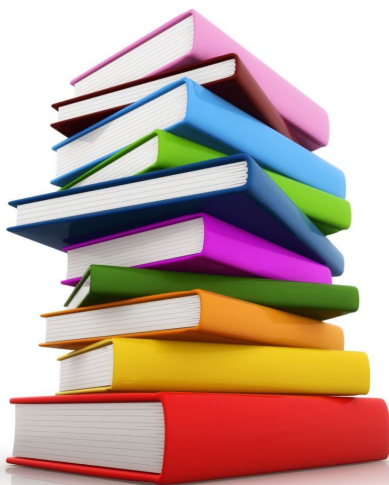
The National Literacy Trust survey shows that children who are eligible for free school meals (9.3 per cent) are more likely to not own a book than their richer peers (6 per cent).

Jonathan Douglas, chief executive of the National Literacy Trust, said: "Books have the power to transform children's reading skills, enjoyment and mental wellbeing.

"Yet far too many children are missing out on the chance to reach their full potential simply because they don't have a book of their own at home."

Overall, 6.3 per cent of children who were surveyed said they do not have one book – which the charity has estimated amounts to 383,774 children across the UK.

Mr Douglas added: "We have taken huge strides to get books into the hands of children who need them most, but we must continue to strive to close the gap once and for all."



The Final Word

As we head into the Christmas Break we wish you a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous 2020.

Spend some quality time with your family and friends and we look forward to sharing some more Teaching and Learning ideas with you during next year. In the spirit of Christmas we leave you with our gift of a Christmas recipe for a Happy Christmas:

1 large smile
2 cups of sweetness
A large helping of positivity
A good sense of humour
1 cup of self-esteem
1 spoonful of goodwill
2 pinches of easy going
And a heart full of love

Mix together and share with family and friends.