

School Library Service

Newsletter

Summer 2012

Latest News: School Library Service Conference - Burn Hall

The message from the conference was that there are **big** challenges ahead for school and public libraries but there were really inspirational people at the conference passionate about helping us all. There'll be more from the conference in the next newsletter.

Keynote speaker Annie Mauger, the chief executive of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals, who spends much of her time advocating for libraries, consoled and girded us up for the future as she spoke about the key role libraries play in the lives of pupils. She said libraries are essential to encourage reading for pleasure and she quoted the schools' minister Nick Gibb who said: "Almost 40% of pupils in England never read for enjoyment. The difference in reading ability between these pupils and those who read for just half an hour a day is equivalent to a year's schooling at age 15."

Teaching information literacy she argued is absolutely crucial because young people need to be challenged about believing everything they see on the internet and Google. Finally she urged us all to look out for the 'Shout About School Libraries' website which will be up and running from September.

The news that there is a dichotomy in Ofsted between the back to basics camp and those who take a very broad definition of literacy came from Graham Parker, lead advisor for literacy for NYCC. Ofsted published a report in March this year entitled: 'Moving English Forward' Ref: 110118, which stresses the need for literacy to be taught across the curriculum and reading for pleasure. He urged school librarians to be 'terrier like' with heads providing those who like statistics with 'stats' that show the impact the library has and also provide evidence to show how the library helps to achieve the school's targets. One quote he'd love to be remembered for: "The library is the physical embodiment of the school's commitment to literacy."

Offer of DVD - Helen Craig illustrator of 'This is the Bear' etc.

Helen Craig is the illustrator of the "Angelina Ballerina" books and the series called "This Is The Bear" and many others. She has made this DVD available as she no longer visits schools due to lack of time and difficulties with travelling. The DVD shows her talking about her methods of working and a bit about her life. She also reads three stories that she has illustrated and these can be accessed independently. Running time is 32 minutes.

There will be no charge but please send with your request, a self-addressed label with a £1.09 worth of stamps for 1st class postage to Helen Craig:
21 Church Street,
Great Shelford,
Cambridge, CB22 5EL

Bookstart Rhyme Challenge

The aim of the Rhyme Challenge is to encourage a love of rhymes and early poetry in children aged 0–5 and to promote the benefits of learning together to families, both in an Early Years setting and at home. Schools are well able to facilitate this challenge and a number in Yorkshire have already done so.

We celebrate and support parents as first teachers so that every home can be a place where books, stories and rhymes are valued and learning is fun.

What are the benefits of The Rhyme Challenge?

- Contribute towards EYFS early learning goals and positive outcomes for children
- Support early language acquisition and emergent reader skills
- Support and value the role of parents/carers as their child's first and most enduring teacher
- Help practitioners develop further confidence and skills around books, stories and rhymes
- Improve communication between the child's home and setting
- Improve children's vocabulary and language skills

The Rhyme Challenge is an informal way of encouraging family participation and readily makes the transition from a setting into the home environment with support from practitioners.

If you would like to get involved with running the Bookstart rhyme Challenge, please contact the Bookstart Development Officers: Jane Parker (Selby, Ryedale and the Coast) jane.parker@northyorks.gov.uk or Alana Miles (Harrogate, Craven, Hambleton & Richmondshire, Northallerton) alana.miles@northyorks.gov.uk.

Book Review

Alison Ritchie and Hannah George

Duck says don't! Little Tiger Press, 2012. 978 1 84895 297 3 £10.99 hdbk

Goose gives Duck the important job of looking after the pond. Power goes to Duck's head and he starts erecting lots of 'Don't' signs all over and alienating his friends. However, a pond with no jumping, swimming etc and no friends is very lonely so Duck puts up just one more sign and with that his friends return. A book with a message (may be a prompt to children apt to get a bit bossy) but a great story and lively, very colourful illustrations.

Deliveries, Collection and Project Requests

We will be collecting in all collections with the exception of Reader Development (green boxes) during the last week of term - 16 to 20 July. We will deliver collections for next term 3 to 7 September.

Please send in (e-mail or phone) requests for projects before the end of term, if possible. Do remember you are welcome to call in to either the base in Northallerton or Starbeck, Harrogate to select your own projects and then have them delivered to your school.

A-Z of reader development websites

The www.barringtonstoke.co.uk website publishes books particularly for those suffering from dyslexia. The paper is creamy and they use a typeface that is easy to read. Many of their books are also suitable for reluctant readers. Tel/fax: 0131 225 4113/4140 or e-mail info@barringtonstoke.co.uk.

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