



BOOK BOX BITES

January Newsletter: Vol 6

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I hope you had a fantastic holiday and are feeling rested and ready for the new term and new year ahead (although I know that after the Christmas break you can feel like you need another holiday to recover!!!)

In this issue, we're going to take a little look at the idea of New Year's resolutions and it's potential benefits and downfalls in relation to reading for pleasure.

There's also going to be lots of mini bookish round ups linked to themes and events you might be discussing this month and also take a look at some simple ideas to inspire storytelling.

Esther x

Useful Dates coming up

- 6/1 - 20/2 - Big School's Bird Watch
- 15/1 - World Religion Day
- 18/1 - Winnie the Pooh Day
- 22/1 - 5/2 - Lunar New Year
- 27/1 - Holocaust Memorial Day
- 28/1 - 5/2 - National Storytelling week



Research highlights the importance of providing:

- *'choice in what they read*
- *access to a diverse and attractive array of reading material, and*
- *access to knowledgeable and passionate reading role models.*

*National Library workshop findings,
Auckland, 2018*

Reading Resolutions

For many, the New Year is a time to look forward and set goals and aims. For others, it can feel like a lot of pressure! This can be the same for our children so are there ways we can encourage more reading for pleasure, without making the 'resolutions' or 'targets' seem like a chore (and thereby completely unpleasurable!)

Here's a few ideas for collaborative goal setting and to encourage R4P:

- As a class, read to the height of the bookshelf/teacher's knee in a term/year.
- Have a class collaborative book shelf colouring where students write in their reads as they finish a book.
- Complete a 'book bingo' challenge to explore new genres.
- Read a book/ (insert number of) books recommended by a friend - a great opportunity to create a well used recommended read shelf in your classroom.

Final Note: It's important to remember that R4P is **not** about number of books read or about creating competition so no goals and seeing where your reading journey takes you is also an incredible reading resolution!

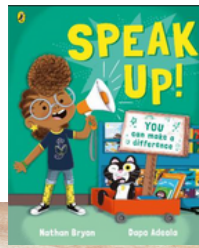


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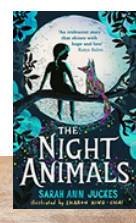
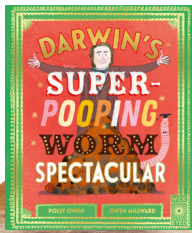
BOOKS TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN 2023

THREE NON-FICTION GEMS



PICTURE BOOKS PERFECT FOR PSHE THAT CAN BE USED ACROSS THE PRIMARY AGE

MIDDLE GRADE READS COMING THIS YEAR



There's already a review of this fab narrative non-fiction on both my Instagram page and the blog on the website. You'll also find a linked teaching resource on the website with a few planning ideas.



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A MONTH FULL OF IMPORTANT DATES AND BOOKS TO MATCH

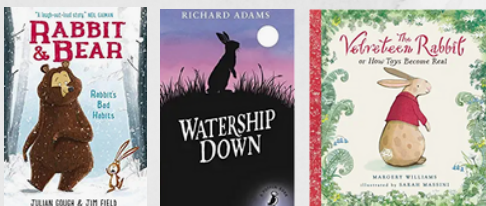
LUNAR NEW YEAR

WORLD RELIGIONS DAY



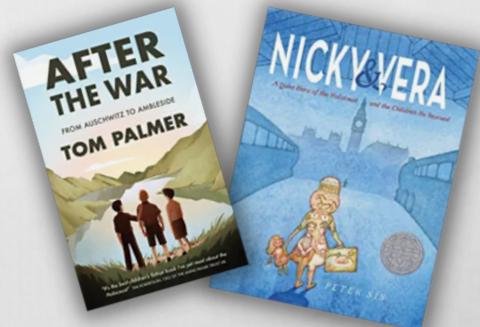
SCHOLASTIC HAVE A LIVE STORYTIME ON 18TH JAN AT 11AM

THE YEAR OF THE RABBIT IS BEING CELEBRATED IN MOST EAST ASIAN CULTURES



HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

BIG SCHOOL'S BIRDWATCH



YOU CAN HEAR TOM PALMER TALKING ABOUT THIS BOOK AT THE STEPPING INTO STORIES FESTIVAL VIRTUAL EVENT
FIND OUT MORE HERE: PROGRAMME 1 STEPPINGINTOSTORIES



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Storytelling week

Oral storytelling dates back over 30,000 years. From the earliest civilizations, groups of people would gather to listen to oral stories that passed down cultural beliefs, helped explain natural phenomena, retold common memories, created a common history, or were imaginative and fantastical creations. Historians believe that these stories were often told in circles and that maintaining eye contact and the element of human connection a story brings was important for building familial and community bonds.

We continue these traditions to this day, with family legends, bedtime stories, listening to audio books and having a good gossip with friends.

Ideas to encourage Oral Storytelling

- Listen to an audio book - as a member of your local library you can listen for free using Borrowbox.
- Tell a story in small groups, each person adding one sentence at a time. You can give sentence starters to move the story along - e.g. *Once upon a dark night... Just then... Unfortunately... All of a sudden... Luckily... In the end.* Tell the story several times and elaborate each time.
- Have a real or fake campfire and hot chocolate and read or tell a magical tale.
- Use a wordless picture book to tell a story.
- Use story dice or cards to create a narrative.

