



BOOK BOX BITES

July Newsletter: Vol 11

The one all about transition

Hi lovely bookworms ~ I wanted to get this issue out to you asap as I know that so many schools and homes are starting preparing their little ones for transition to a new class, year group or even school. It can seem daunting but as you've probably guessed, I believe that books can absolutely help - from starting school nerves, managing change, supporting emotions and creating class community - this edition of the newsletter has got you covered.

There's even a free resource attached to save you planning for a session with your new class.

I've also added some reading recommendations for the Summer Reading Challenge that could be printed for parents.

For those already on holiday, enjoy and for the rest of you I hope the end of term goes smoothly for you.

Esther x

Useful Dates coming up

1st July ~ Plastic Free July/Clean Beaches Week

July 12th ~ Malala Day

July 18th ~ Black Leaders Awareness Day

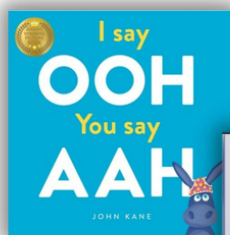
30th July ~ International day of friendship



Reading Aloud helps strengthen community in the classroom. When students are listening to literature together, they are sharing a story.

*- The Benefits of Reading Aloud to Your Students
- Walden University*

**A read aloud is a great way to build class community in both transition sessions and throughout the year ~ research proves this!
Here's some sure to get you all giggling!**



The Book With No Pictures

E.J. Novak



I am a huge advocate of reading picture books with older children but they may not be the right fit for your cohort.

With older children, nominating a class reader from a selection of 3 and starting it is a great way to begin your reading journey together.

*The research demonstrated that reading aloud creates a sense of community, building the class repertoire of 'books in common' and a shared reading history.
- Teresa Cremin Teachers as Readers*



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Transition Texts

Browse the shelves to see what best suits your needs. I hope there's something for everyone here.

THE STARTING SCHOOL SHELF



THE CELEBRATE YOURSELF SHELF



THE MAKING FRIENDS SHELF



THE CLASS COMMUNITY SHELF



THE FEELINGS SHELF



THE RESILIENCE SHELF





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Ways to prevent the summer reading slump with your students

It can be so frustrating to feel that all the progress made through the year can potentially be lost over the long summer break. here's some ideas to keep children reading.

1. Have a whole school push, encouraging the Summer Reading Challenge. Invite the local library to an assembly to launch it and include it in your transition activities.
2. Send the children away from their transition session with a list of your recommended reads for summer. A personal recommendation goes a long way.
3. Link to some you tube read alongs/read alouds for younger children or 'taster chapters' for older readers.
4. Have a book bingo summer holiday challenge. There are some examples linked [here](#) in the Reading for Pleasure Section of the Website.

Check out
'The Back to School Collection for ready to go transition resources.'



Find out more about the [summer reading challenge](#) here. there's info, assemblies and book lists for all ages linked to the sporting theme.

Did you know there is also a teachers' Reading Challenge?
Why not inspire your students by completing the summer challenge along side them.





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SUMMER READING CHALLENGE ~ INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS/GUARDIANS



Did you know that research from the the OECD has found that reading for pleasure has THE biggest impact on a child's future success.

THE CHALLENGE ~ CAN YOU READ SIX BOOKS OVER THE SUMMER AND EARN REWARDS AS YOU GO?

What to do...

1. Sign up at your local library or here <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>
2. Read six books (or more!) from the library or at home.
3. Record the books you read and add a short review.
4. Earn digital or physical rewards. (Physical rewards are available at libraries taking part but all are able to access the digital challenge.)

You can read whatever books you like, but the theme is Ready Set Read and all about sport.

Why not browse the lists and try one of the recommended reads. There's something for all ages.





THE WELLBEING BOOKBOX ~ BACK TO SCHOOL COLLECTION ~ ALL THE WAYS TO BE SMART BY DAVINA BELL ~



TITLE: ALL THE WAYS TO BE SMART
AUTHOR: DAVINA BELL
ILLUSTRATOR: ALISON COLPOYS
PUBLISHER: SCRIBBLE

EMOTIONAL LITERACY FOCUS: UNIQUE TALENTS

Synopsis: Based on Howard Gardner's nine intelligences, this book celebrates all our many and varied talents – from creativity or mathematics to empathy and kindness. A great book for the first week back at school to celebrate each other and discover more about your class community.

TALK ABOUT IT: DISCUSSION TASKS AND JOURNALING PROMPTS



- Which of the smart activities described in the book would you most like to do? Why?
- 'Smart is not just ticks and crosses.' What does this mean to you?
- Discuss the different talents shown in the book. Where do we have the opportunity to showcase these in and out of school?
- What are your talents and what makes you unique?
- Why is it important that we all have different talents?
- Describe how you feel when you are doing something you enjoy.
- Explore Howard Gardner's 9 intelligences. Which areas represent your main talents?

TEXT BASED TASKS TO BOOST CREATIVITY, EMPATHY AND WELLBEING



- 'Smart is...mixing potions up in mugs.' Have a variety of ingredients for children to create recipes and potions for a great school year or a kind class. (Be sure to include bicarbonate of soda and vinegar to add some fizz!)
- 'Smart is... asking how? What? Why?' Allow children to write questions they have on post its. This could be about a topic, you as a teacher or the world. Use them to get to know the children better and answer a couple each day.
- 'Smart is... making up new games with teams.' Play team games or using a selection of equipment, allow children to create their own team games.
- Children create their own mini 'I am Smart' books. What makes them unique? Children may wish to challenge themselves to write in verse.



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Image Credit: howard-gardner-9-types-of-multiple-intelligences.jpg (778x800) (laconteconsulting.com)



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All MY ways to be
smart by
