

SEN Rights

Issue 3 Spring 2014

The SENCO and Special Schools Newsletter from Norfolk School Library Service

INSET– Anne Harding to return

Following a successful and fully-booked INSET last November, Anne Harding will be returning on **12th June** to run 'Making Reading attractive to pupils with SEN'. This is a practical, full day course to explore ways to make reading accessible to pupils with learning and reading difficulties. The course is for SENCOs, literacy coordinators, special school staff, special needs teachers and teaching assistants and librarians and covers KS2 and 3.

Previous delegates said "Anne was **inspirational** and well **informed**"

"Gave me lots of ideas for **reading promotion** which could be used for the whole school"

Venue – Annexe, County Hall. Cost – 2 tokens

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Make your Library inclusive!

If you'd like to make your library better reflect our diverse society you might like to have a **Diversity Audit**. An SLS librarian will audit your library's bookstock to ensure the books cover areas such as disability, gender, multicultural communities and self esteem. We will leave you with an audit document which also makes suggestions of authors/titles you might like to buy.

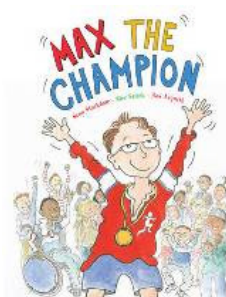
www.letterboxlibrary.com is a source of diverse children's books. This is an excellent website which can be easily navigated with sections on Book Types, Books by Ages, Book Themes etc.

www.inclusiveminds.com 'is a collaboration of consultants and campaigners with a passion for inclusion, diversity, equality and accessibility in children's literature.'

Inclusive minds is organising an inclusive day of events for children as part of the Imagine Festival in London on 21st Feb 2014. For more details, see

www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whatson/festivals-series/imagine-childrens-festival .

The group also works with writers to create inclusive books, including Max the Champion by Alex Strick – a story about school sports day which includes 'positive images of disability, in a natural and unobtrusive way.'



New Hi-Lo (high interest, low reading age) book series and free resources

Barrington Stoke are specialists in Hi-Lo **fiction** especially for children with dyslexia. They have recently brought out a new series called Acorns, with authors such as Charlie Higson and Michael Rosen. Reading Age 6-8, Interest level 8-12.

Barrington Stoke have teamed up with Chatterbooks to produce a free activity pack for running reading groups using Barrington Stoke books. It can be downloaded for free here: <http://readingagency.org.uk/children/003-tips/barrington-stoke-chatterbooks-activity-pack.html>

Slipstream by Watts is a new **non-fiction** Hi-Lo series with similar reading and interest levels, with exciting titles such as Crazy Food and Bizarre Buildings.

Projects and bag books

Do you have a Nurture Group? SLS can provide a box of 24 age-appropriate story books and non-fiction on most subjects eg making friends, emotions, behaviour, family members, illness and new experiences. All projects are bespoke so just let us know the age-range/abilities of your children and the subjects you'd like covered.

If buying books for your school, try <http://www.littleparachutes.com> for a list of titles that address situations and issues that young children experience.

New price! 4 Bag Books for one token!

We have a collection of Bag Books to loan. These are fantastic 'multi-sensory stories for people with learning disabilities'. They work well in a small group where the teacher can involve every child in a tactile/visual/sensory experience as the story is told.

<http://www.bagbooks.org>

Cluster reading groups

SLS runs a termly cluster reading group in the Methwold area which aids transition to the high school. See our blog: www.methwoldreadinggroup.wordpress.com where we regularly post reviews and work produced by those pupils who attend.

If any schools or clusters are interested in running a **cluster nurture reading group** please get in touch to find out more. Sessions could be based on picture books and would help Y5/6 pupils get to know each other in a supportive atmosphere. Pupil premium or cluster fund money could be used and cost will depend on requirements and numbers of children involved.

The Foyle Foundation grant scheme

The Foyle Schools Library Programme is an initiative designed to provide grants to schools which will assist with the progression of their school libraries. Awarded money is used to fund library and reading books and consideration is made toward contributions for new library software, ICT equipment and other items which will enhance a library space.

State and SEN schools are eligible for grants and more information on how to apply can be found at <http://www.foylefoundation.org.uk/how-to-apply/state-schools.php>

There are also details of previous grantees and how their funds were used as well as more information on the Foyle Foundation's history.

Book reviews

Snowflakes by Cerrie Burnell
(Scholastic, £6.99, ISBN 9781407135038)

A gentle reassuring story about belonging. A little girl goes to live with a grandma she hardly knows and takes the first steps to making new friends and settling in to her new strange home.



My Daddy's Going Away by Christopher MacGregor
(Doubleday, £12.99 hard-back, ISBN 9780857532114)

A fun story to help support children whose dads have to spend time working away from home. The colourful pictures and ideas may help promote discussion on coping strategies. (Sold in support of Combat Stress although the story is based on an explorer-type character).



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