

Book Bites

Tasty morsels from Norfolk School Library Service

February 2015

Early Bird price freeze! SLS contracts for maintained schools

It's contract renewal time again for maintained schools! To make sure you get the service you want at our excellent value 'Early Bird' price of £70 a token, make sure your contract is agreed by 31.5.15. Just get in touch with us at the SLS base to find out more. Details of the services offered are also on the SLA Online website: s4s.norfolk.gov.uk/ This is how all schools will be purchasing services from Norfolk County Council. For 2015-16 there is an extra 'Early Bird Offer' where each school who purchases a mobile visit will receive one free SLS token.

Making the Most of your Marvellous Mobile Materials!

We hope you are all taking advantage of our lovely mobile library, with its up-to-the-minute stock, very helpful driver assistant (we know how good he is from the great evaluations that he gets!), and super displays. It's JAM PACKED with books suitable for reading for pleasure for all primary stages, as well as some curriculum and professional material for grown-ups to select from. Hopefully your pupils do take the books home to share with family, as well as enjoy in school; for example, books about hobbies and longer novels probably need to accompany a child home for the maximum pleasure and impact. We know schools get a bit **wobbly** about letting SLS books go home, but the value to children's reading is huge! Get in touch if you want to know our top tips for making sure books don't go missing!

Winner of Autumn term project evaluations draw

Congratulations to Mrs Mortimer at Parker's Primary School for winning last term's Project Evaluation Draw! She will get £50 worth of lovely new books for the school library. She requested a Pirates project, and noted *"Super range of books for KS1 ability...we would have been very limited for resources if we hadn't obtained this box"*.

And we can't resist blowing our own trumpet a bit: already our Stone Age resources are having an impact, and Rob Whalen at Wensum Junior said *"A really good range of texts that were suitable and met the needs of request. Excellent value."*

Grant funding: Foyle Foundation Schools Library Programme (UK)

State funded schools that want to improve their libraries can apply for funding through the Foyle Foundation Schools Library Programme. This programme recognises that many school libraries are in a desperate situation through underfunding and underdevelopment, and are not equipped to encourage children to read widely and read more.

The average grant is between £3,000 and £10,000. Please note that there are questions about working with the local School Library Service, and details of any audits are required. The School Library Service has an excellent audit service; just get in touch with the team to find out more. Recent projects supported by Norfolk SLS that have received Foyle Foundation funding include: All Saints Primary, Stibbard and St Martha's Primary. Applications can be submitted at any time. For more information, visit the foundation's website:

<http://www.foylefoundation.org.uk/how-to-apply/state-schools.php>



Norfolk County Council

Welcome to the team, Georgie and Zoë!

We've recently been lucky enough to recruit 2 new members to our team: welcome, Georgie and Zoë!

"Hello, my name is Georgie Brigden and I am your new SLS librarian. I have recently moved from a school in Suffolk where I was an English teacher and Key Stage 3 coordinator. I am very passionate about reading and hope that I will inspire young people throughout Norfolk to spend more time enjoying their school library. It won't surprise you to know that literature is a particular obsession of mine; however, I do take pleasure in a number of different genres and relish any opportunity to learn about different cultures and events in history."



"Hello my name is Zoë and I am the new School Library Service Library and Information Assistant. Previously I was a Primary School teacher and I have taught Reception through to Year 6 in Kent, East Sussex and Norfolk. I look forward to speaking with you when you ring up to place project box orders and make enquiries about our services. Reading is a huge passion of mine and I always have a book with me wherever I am. There are plenty of exciting books in our library that I can't wait to read when I have the time."

Norfolk's Great Big Read – class visits to the public library

Norfolk public libraries and mobile libraries are encouraging all the adults in Norfolk to pick up and enjoy a book with Norfolk's Great Big Read from March 23rd – 25th April.

Adults in care-giving roles – particularly parents and carers but also school staff - are the most important role models for children in encouraging them to see that reading is enjoyable. Supporting children to read for pleasure, as a leisure activity, is one of the most important things we can do for children's literacy and life chances.

So during February and March, if you arrange a school visit to your local library the children will receive an invitation for them to give to their parents and carers to encourage the grown ups to go to the library and pick up a book! **Your school will also be entered into a prize draw to win 2 SLS tokens!** Please just email the SLS team to let us know your school has visited the library.

Libraries may have limited capacity for school visits so please book well in advance to avoid disappointment and allow time for library joining forms to be sent home so children make the most of their library visit. Would you like to be a reading champion and get involved in promoting reading to adults during Norfolk's Great Big Read? Find out more from February onwards on the library website – <http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/libraries> - or at your local library!

Shakespeare Week 16-22nd March

An annual event coordinated by the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, 'Shakespeare Week' introduces primary aged children to Shakespeare's life, works and times in a fun and engaging way. A very useful website with over 100 FREE cross-curricular resources can be found at: <http://shakespeareweek.org.uk>

Courier dates for your diary

The delivery/collection dates for the spring and summer term are below. If you have anything to return or would like project boxes or stationery orders to be sent to your school, please make requests in good time. If you are an Academy with items to return, please call the office to arrange a collection.

24th/25th March 16th/17th April 15th/18th May 17th/18th June 16/17th July

Please get in touch so we can add you to our mailing list to receive SLS news or information by email directly.

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