

Book Bites

Tasty morsels from Norfolk School Library Service

Please pin this up in your staff room!

Feb/Mar 2016

New contracts – Early Bird period for maintained schools

“I would definitely recommend the SLS to any school who needs help with their library and will be using their services a lot more in the future.”

- Karen Pearce, All Saints CE VA Primary, Winfarthing

It's contract renewal time again for maintained schools and we've frozen our excellent value 'Early Bird' token price of £70 for another year. Think of your budget- to make sure you get the service you want at this price, ensure your contract is agreed on SLA Online by 31.5.16. Outside of this period tokens will be full price, which is £80.

New subscription services available include our specialist eBook platform for schools and our Chatterbooks reading group boxes (see below!). We have our usual annual guided reading and catch-up collection subscriptions, and tokens can of course be used toward all of our services including project boxes, INSET places, professional time and author visits.

You can contact us directly for more information or alternatively, details of the services offered are also on the SLA Online website: s4s.norfolk.gov.uk

Academy schools: tokens can be purchased at any point throughout the year but your early bird period begins in September, in line with your financial year.

New subscription – Chatterbooks Reading Groups

If you're thinking of setting up a Chatterbooks Reading Group we can loan boxes of 24 themed books. You can find information about Chatterbooks and the free activity packs (with session ideas) here:

www.readingagency.org.uk/children/quick-guides/chatterbooks

Chatterbooks is a fun way to promote Reading for Pleasure in your school and help children to build a lifelong reading habit. All abilities are catered for and each session comprises creative activities around a theme, with children choosing a book to read which interests them.

Themed project boxes are bespoke and will normally include fiction, non-fiction, puzzle, picture books and more. Norfolk SLS is supporting nine Norfolk and one Cambridgeshire primary school as part of a nationwide Chatterbooks project organised by the Reading Agency with funding from the Department for Education. Favourite Chatterbooks themes borrowed from SLS have included: Superheroes and Graphic novels; Pirates; Funny Fiction and Fantastical Creatures.

The Chatterbooks subscription costs **4 tokens** a year for 6 boxes, meaning you can change the box every half term. This is a saving of two tokens and the subscription can start at any time of year. You will receive information and telephone support to help you set up your groups. We can also provide starter packs from Chatterbooks for one token, to save you the trouble of sending away to the website. The starter pack comprises a teacher's handbook and book bags for ten children each including a Roald Dahl reading diary (with quiz and activity pages), a Chatterbooks pen, a bookmark and a Chatterbooks wristband.

If you'd like to set up a blog to encourage writing we can offer one to one training. Our author visits are also a great way to get children excited about reading. Get in touch with us for a list of authors who can visit your school.



Our marvellous SLS mobile!



'In the current economic climate we are not able to purchase as much as we would like; the mobile library allows us to double the size of our library, providing the children with a brilliant choice of books which they otherwise would not have.'

- Sally Pewton, Tunstead Primary School

We think our mobile library is great and feedback we receive shows schools do too; **100%** of those who completed evaluation forms in the Autumn term rated their experience of the mobile visit as excellent or good, with many commenting on how invaluable the service is and how knowledgeable our staff are at recommending books to pupils of all ages and abilities.

In 2015 alone we visited 119 schools, across which we saw over 9000 children, who borrowed just under 49,000 books worth £309,146.78! On board we carry a wide range of stock, from fiction to leisure non-fiction, picture book and easy-read titles, dual language and early years books plus a small range of curriculum and teaching resources for staff.

If you're planning for the year ahead and considering your contract for the new financial year, consider the impact a visit from the SLS mobile and a long-term loan of up to 850 books could have.

For the second year, we're continuing our offer of giving a **FREE** token with any mobile library visit purchased. This can be used against any of the services we offer – just get in touch and we can advise you further!

'The library van is like a tardis; once inside, open a book and you can be transported anywhere!'

- Lynn Aldridge, Harleston Primary School



Story Boxes make Literacy fun!

Katie Leightell, English Adviser, has borrowed our Story Boxes to use in training teachers to encourage reluctant writers, and tells us that 10 out of 15 delegates thought using them was the 'best part of the day'! She says:

"...a big thank you for the use of the Story Boxes; they went down an absolute storm... in our reluctant writers training. We used them before coffee as an exploratory task and then again after coffee to use the contents to make an i-movie trailer out of"

You too can make use of our Story Boxes. Just **one token** will get you a themed box for the term, in the same way as for any of our project loans. Based on broad themes from legends and traditional tales, we include books, but principally the boxes contain objects: soft toys, puppets, wands, hats and so on to inspire and motivate children to create their own stories. There are also resources in the form of plot and character suggestions, tools to aid story telling and a guide for teachers.

The different topics include Magic and Mystery, Around the World, Sea & Shore and Animal Fun (pictured above). If you would like to borrow one of these, contact our office for more details.



Language is Power Conference – places still available!

Date: **Thursday 10th March 2016**

Venue: The Space, Roundtree Way, Norwich, NR7 8SQ

Time: 9.15am - 3.30pm

Cost: **2 SLS Tokens (£140)** including lunch and other refreshments



We have a few places available on our **Language is Power** Conference, in Norwich next month. The day will explore the importance of language across the curriculum, as well as Reading for Pleasure, and is a must for KS2/3/4 teachers, literacy coordinators, TAs, librarians, advisers and home educators.

Workshops and inspiring sessions are to be delivered by: **Tanya Landman** - winner of the 2015 Carnegie Medal for 'Buffalo Soldier' and author of junior fiction; **Martin Illingworth** - Senior Lecturer in English Education at Sheffield Hallam University, UK and author of 'Creative Approaches to Teaching Grammar: Developing your students as writers and readers', **Paul Cookson** - poet and performer offering practical guidelines about writing, performing and understanding poetry and **Dr Patrick Ryan** - Teacher and performer specialising in storytelling skills including how to effectively teach Shakespeare.

We'll also have exhibition stalls from Norfolk Public Library and Information Service, Norwich Writers Centre, Children's University, Norwich Museums, CSI Right Angle Events, NIEAS Network, UEA Festival of Literature for Young People, and a bookshop from Jarrolds!

Don't miss out! Get in touch now or book a place via s4s.norfolk.gov.uk

Here be dragons!

At last – the Dragons have arrived!

Joining Norwich's own Snap in the Castle Museum, Cressida Cowell's dragons will be on display until 30th May. This national



exhibition, created by Seven Stories in Newcastle, is a wonderful opportunity to really bring literacy alive through Cowell's popular How to Train Your Dragon series, look at real Viking history seriously (well, a bit!) and introduce children to one of our great Norfolk museums. You can arrange a school visit, (but hurry, this is very popular), and encourage families to visit at weekends too.

By happy coincidence, the twelfth – and last in the series – title, How to Fight a Dragon's Fury, is also on Peters Junior Book Award shortlist, because it is as exciting and funny as all the others, so you and your pupils can get fully immersed in Hiccup's adventures. We will miss him, and the dragons.

New Edith Cavell storybook

'One Step Ahead Jack' is an illustrated storybook based on Edith Cavell's life, as seen through the eyes of her trusty dog Jack. The author, Janet Marshall (Head of Schools at Norwich Cathedral), researched the life of Edith Cavell (whose grave is at the Cathedral) and found that Jack was a stray that Edith took in while working at the hospital and nurses' training school she ran in Brussels. Jack is mentioned in Edith's letters from prison and the dog is now preserved and on display at the Florence Nightingale museum in London.

The story would be a great addition to resources for studying Edith Cavell, now on the new History NC. A copy has kindly been donated to all Norfolk schools by the Cathedral, and SLS will be delivering these via the schools post, so look out for these.

Summer Term INSET

Below is our programme of primary INSET for the 2016 summer term. All of our INSET is designed to support the requirements of the new National Curriculum and is flexible enough to suit any curriculum. Full INSET details can be found at: <http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/sls>

<p>A “Hungry Eye”: Visual Literacy at KS2</p> <p>Tuesday 3rd May 9am–3.30pm</p> <p>SLS Training Room County Hall, Norwich</p>	<p>A full-day course for KS2 teachers and Teaching Assistants on how to use picture books to promote literacy. Includes a FREE half-project loan of 12 books, self-selected by delegates.</p> <p>Course leader: Mandy Steel, SLS Librarian, with Clare Jarrett, Author and illustrator</p> <p>Cost: 2 SLS Tokens</p>
<p>Libraries and their Impact on School Improvement</p> <p>Monday 16th May 4.45pm– 6.45pm</p> <p>SLS Training Room County Hall, Norwich</p>	<p>A FREE twilight session for Governors, looking at good practice in schools in Norfolk, giving a range of ideas for governors when looking at making the most of their school library. Participants will get hands on experience of books and explore what makes a good school library in the stimulating environment of the School Library Service base.</p> <p>Nb. Places for this course must be booked via the Governors services website: http://www.schools.norfolk.gov.uk/School-management/Governors/</p>
<p>Motivating Readers</p> <p>Wednesday 25th May 9.30am– 12.30pm</p> <p>SLS Training Room, County Hall, Norwich</p>	<p>A half day course for Literacy coordinators, librarians, higher Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 teachers to develop strategies for engaging with reluctant readers</p> <p>Course leaders: Mandy Steel and Georgie Brigden, SLS Librarians</p> <p>Cost: 1 SLS Token</p>
<p>Promoting SMSC Through Books</p> <p>Tuesday 7th June 9am- 12pm</p> <p>SLS Training Room, County Hall, Norwich</p>	<p>A half day course for Primary teachers/TA’s exploring activities to promote spiritual, moral, social and cultural development based on a wide range of fiction and non-fiction books and developing valuable strategies to enhance global learning.</p> <p>Course leader: Gail Arnold, SLS Librarian</p> <p>Cost: 1 SLS Token</p>
<p>Making the Most of Junior Librarian</p> <p>Thursday 16th June 9am-12pm</p> <p>SLS Training Room County Hall, Norwich</p>	<p>A half-day course to help your school to get maximum value from the full range of features of this library management software. This course is suitable for users of the Junior3 version of the system. If you are using the .net version please call to discuss training.</p> <p>Course leader: Caroline Barker, Senior Library Assistant</p> <p>Cost: 1 SLS Token</p>

**For additional information or to book a place on any of the INSET courses, please get in touch.
We will email you a booking form to complete and return to us via email, fax, or post.**

You can also now book onto courses via SLA Online – visit www.s4s.norfolk.gov.uk for details.

Norfolk School Library Service: 01603 222265
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