

SLS High-Lights

January 2016

Kids Lit Quiz 2015

Norfolk SLS once again organised the Regional Heat of the Kids' Lit Quiz in November, this time kindly hosted by Thetford Academy. Twenty six teams participated in the fast-moving quiz, displaying fantastic knowledge about fiction, authors, films and literature.



We were very excited to have an author/librarian team with Julie Glasel, librarian from Taverham High, joining authors Alex Scarrow, Alexander Gordon Smith and Helen Moss. For the second year running the winners were Litcham School (who went on to the national final in Oxford but were pipped to the post!). In second place were Thorpe St Andrew and in third place Thetford Grammar.



Helen Moss wrote a wonderful account of her time accompanying Litcham to the National final, which can be read here: <http://www.helenmoss.org.uk/2015/12/kids-lit-quiz.html>

Reading Hack

Reading Hack is a library based initiative led by The Reading Agency, which is all about young people developing new and exciting ways to get other young people reading. The website has just been launched www.readinghack.org.uk.

It's a fun, social and creative opportunity that is also great to put on CVs or university applications, and a chance to gain new skills and inspire others. The project is mainly running in public libraries but has also been piloted in a small number of school libraries.

As Norfolk is a big rural county, as well as projects in local libraries there was an opportunity for a county wide project to be developed, engaging young people who don't live close to a library. The Norfolk School Library Service team work hard to promote public library use through their partnerships with schools, as the team know that 'the more we read, the more we succeed', and this is an example of what can be achieved by working together.

Litcham High School are the school that Norfolk SLS are currently supporting, building on the legacy of working with the Old Buckenham High School Librarian and students, who are just about to hand over to Litcham High School the hosting of the public libraries Norfolk Shelf Talk blog, which is by young people for young people: norfolkshelftalk.edublogs.org. Norfolk SLS train school staff on blogging in school and have developed expertise over the last couple of years, including with The Book Trolley blog norfolksls.wordpress.com/ Supporting one school each academic year to develop blogging expertise to host the public libraries blog for young people by young people, (with no charge to the school) strengthening even further the links between schools, the School Library Service and public libraries in Norfolk. It is anticipated that this project will continue with other schools hosting the blog in the future, giving more young people the chance to be public library volunteers, using social media platforms in a safe and supervised way from school and even from home, to share and encourage a love of reading.

If you are interested in Reading Hack in your school, have a look at The Reading Agency website: <http://readingagency.org.uk/young-people/get-started-reading-hack-in-schools.html>.



Norfolk County Council

Takeover Day 2015 – young people's views on school libraries

Young people who took over Norfolk Library Service and Norfolk School Library Service for the day at the end of last term had lots to say about school libraries, and overcoming barriers to using them, and suggested that all High Schools review practices.

In their own words:

- Please don't patronise us by saying that a book is too grown up. If the subject matter is really inappropriate, should it be in the school library? If a book is aimed at 6th Form students, please discuss sensitively, suggest an alternative and leave the decision with us. *"It can make you feel really small and stupid and put you off going back"*
- Please let us choose books and if we don't like them – let us just bring them back and borrow another without having to say why. *"there should be more support, help and recommendations for finding books in a genre we aren't familiar with – and we shouldn't be forced to take away a book we really aren't interested in"*
- Please don't tell us a book is not long enough or too easy, *"We sometimes want to read something simple and relax with a book, or read something we have read before... it's comfortable and we get different things out of it when we re-read books"*
- Student librarians need to be trained and supported to understand their role and good customer service – it shouldn't be heavy handed 'policing'. Older pupil librarians can be helpful but can also be negative, unfriendly and unwelcoming to younger students, acting like the library is their common room. *"When they are rude when you go in to look for a book it makes you feel like not going in again and you tell your friends. That's why not so many of us go in to the school library"*

When did you last ask younger students about how things should be run? If you want some suggestions about how to go about it – get in touch with the SLS team.

Carnegie/Kate Greenaway awards shadowing

We are eagerly anticipating the longlists for the 2016 CKG awards, which will be announced on Tuesday 16th Feb. That is half term, but get onto social media and spread the word! ([@CILIPCKG](#)).

There is a longlist of [fiction nominations](#) for the Carnegie Medal, awarded to the author of an outstanding book for children and young people; and there are some lovely [picture books nominated](#) for the Kate Greenaway Medal, awarded for an outstanding illustrated book for children and young people, from 0 - 90!

The shortlist is announced on Tuesday 15th March, and the winners on either 17th or 20th June. We will hold our very own Norfolk celebration at **Wymondham High School**, thanks to librarian Emily Davison Cripps' offer to host. All are welcome and if you would like to join the celebration, just get in touch. Your book groups can begin reading from the nominations, sharing views and opinions about those via the CKG shadowing site [here](#).

We now have some enthusiastic Chatterbooks groups in primary schools and we're sure you will get some really eager readers joining high school in the autumn, hoping to continue that love and fun of reading.

New Amnesty CILIP Honour

A new human rights partnership will span both the Carnegie Medal and Kate Greenaway Medal. Beginning with the 2016 awards, a title from each of the prestigious shortlists will receive the Amnesty CILIP Honour, a commendation for the books that most distinctively illuminate, uphold or celebrate freedoms. The books receiving the commendation will be able to carry an Amnesty CILIP Honour logo.

The inaugural Amnesty CILIP honour judging panel will include last year's Carnegie medal winner, Tanya Landman whose book *Buffalo Soldier* dealt with issues including racism, slavery, and gender discrimination, and who will be at our very own **SLS Conference on 10th March**. The winners will be announced at the Medals ceremony in June 2016.

INSET– Spring 2016

Full course details are available on our SLS website and you can also book a place on any session by getting in touch with the SLS team, or booking via SLA Online.

To see more, visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/sls or s4s.norfolk.gov.uk/

<p>Creating a supportive environment for vulnerable groups in your school library Tuesday 26th January 2016 9.30am– 12.30pm SLS training room, County Hall, Norwich, NR1 2UA</p>	<p>A half-day course for secondary school librarians and assistant librarians looking at how to provide an effective and supportive environment for vulnerable groups within your library, including support for SEN, G&T and EAL pupils</p> <p>Cost: 1 SLS Token</p>
<p>Language is Power: Norfolk School Library Service Conference 2016 Tuesday 10th March 2016 9.15am– 3.30pm The Space, Roundtree Way, Norwich, NR7 8SQ</p>	<p>This conference explores the importance of language across the curriculum, as well as Reading for Pleasure. The day will feature talks and workshops delivered by author Tanya Landman, poet Paul Cookson, Senior Lecturer in English Education Martin Illingworth and teacher and performer Dr Patrick Ryan.</p> <p>A must for KS2, 3 and 4 teachers, literacy coordinators, TAs, librarians, advisers and home educators.</p> <p>Cost: 2 SLS Tokens (lunch provided)</p>

Language is Power conference: spotlight on...

Martin Illingsworth is Lead Lecturer in English Education at Sheffield Hallam University, Consultant teacher with NATE (National Association for the teaching of English) and author of the newly published 'Creative Approaches to Teaching Grammar: Developing your students as writers and readers'. We are so excited to have him at our Language is Power conference on March 10th 2016 – get in touch to book your place!

Creative ideas explored will include being silly with grammar, exploding sentences, writing for real audiences, new punctuation marks and emoticons, sorting out confusing words, broadening active vocabulary, flexing your vocabulary brain and redundancy in language.

Peters Book of the Year 2016 Shortlists – Teen

The teen shortlist for Peters Book of the Year 2016 was compiled by Peters team of librarians who read and review every book that they take into stock.

Schools and libraries across the UK can shadow the award over the spring term 2016, with the help of teaching resources, posters, bookmarks and certificates available to download [here](#).



Voting is now open, and closes at 4pm on the 11th March 2016. Votes can also be placed online [here](#).

The winners will be announced at a special ceremony at their Birmingham premises on the 15th March.

You can find out more about the awards [here](#).

Churchill Archive – now free for schools

The Churchill Archive is now available to schools to use for FREE, allowing pupils online access to over 800,000 original documents from Churchill's personal correspondence with family and friends, as well as official exchanges, photographs, newspaper reports and speeches in various drafts. This access opens up exciting new opportunities for the teaching and learning of History at secondary level.

Winston Churchill's letters and speeches were recently added to the UNESCO [International Memory of the World Register](#) which highlights the importance of the world's most historic documents.

To ensure your school has access, visit The Churchill Archive [here](#).

FREE Booktrust school library pack

Booktrust's school library pack is available for **free** to any secondary school or educational setting with year 7 students.

The packs, featuring carefully selected books and supporting resources, are designed to help staff create a reading culture which reaches all students, encouraging them to talk about reading and join in with activities such as reading groups. Packs include future classics, books for reluctant readers and short story collections, and there are also packs designed to suit special schools.

To sign your school up to receive this brilliant range of **free** books and resources, visit the [booktrust page](#).

National Literacy Trust say 'using eBooks increases boys' reading progress; makes them keener, more confident readers'

The NLT recently published a report evaluating the impact eBooks have on the reading motivation and reading skills of children and young people. The research found that "during the project, which lasted for an average of 4.2 months, boys' reading levels increased by an average of 8.4 months, compared to 7.2 months progress made by girls. At the same time, the percentage of boys that felt reading was difficult almost halved from 28.0% to 15.9%, suggesting that confidence in their own reading ability also increased as a result of this project. Twice as many boys also thought reading was cool at the end of the project, increasing from 34.4% before to 66.5% afterwards."

We were very happy to hear this and we are getting good feedback about our own eBook platform (see below)! You can read the full report online [here](#).

Penguin eBooks now available on the SLS eBook platform

We were delighted that publishing house Penguin has decided to release their titles and we now have some of these on our specialist schools SLS eBook platform for you and your pupils to borrow.

Newly available titles include books by John Green, Patrick Ness, Cathy Cassidy, Zoella and Kevin Brooks.

Our eBook platform can be found at: <http://norfolksls.wheelers.co>—if you're interested in a FREE trial for a term, contact our office who will be able to set this up for you.

Norfolk School Library Service: 01603 222265

school.library.service@norfolk.gov.uk

www.norfolk.gov.uk/sls

www.twitter.com/norfolksls

www.norfolksls.wordpress.com

www.facebook.com/norfolkschoollibraryservice