

BOOK BITES Spring 2022

Tasty morsels from your Education Library Service

Resources and help for Schools

The ELS team is very sad to announce that this is the final newsletter that the service will issue prior to our closure on 31st March 2022.

We have enjoyed working with so many of you over the years and are proud of the difference we have made to so many school libraries in the county and the help that our resource collections have given to so many lessons. I'm sure lots of school staff will have gained skills through the training courses we have held that will help them for many years to come.

This newsletter is rather different from previous ones in that we have collated information that will help you to create or maintain fantastic libraries, to support your topics and most importantly the places to go for additional help.

Thank you to those of you that have supported us, particularly in recent years when budgets have been tight.

Best wishes, the ELS team

Norfolk Library and Information Service working with Schools

Norfolk Libraries would like to continue support schools and to encourage children to access books and other services in their libraries.

It's free for anyone in Norfolk to join a library and for children under 16 there are no overdue charges. Children can take home up to 15 books and use the online eCatalogue to borrow digital eBook and eAudio titles too.

If they can't find something on the shelves, children can request and reserve any book free of charge to collect from their local branch. Borrowers can search the library catalogue directly themselves or ask a member of staff to help, particularly if they're unable to locate what they need. The library homework collection includes curriculum texts covering a wide range of topics all to support young readers with their after school studies.

For those who home school their children, there's a Home Educators card which entitles the borrower to take home 20 items including up to 12 junior non-fiction titles.

Library branches are also once again able to facilitate class visits and are currently getting ready to launch this year's Summer Reading Challenge so do get in touch with your local library if you would like more information about either of these.

There are also plans to send a newsletter for schools to help send updates about upcoming programmes and offers including events and activities taking place in branch, plus any additional information about support available for school libraries. For further details about this or anything else public library related, please email libraries@norfolk.gov.uk



SLS UK

SLS UK is a collective of school library services across the UK who have partnered to promote and showcase the wide range of subscription, consultancy and services they can offer to school settings. They offer a tailored response to fit your needs, working directly with schools to find the best fit nationally.

We have made contact with them and there are authorities that are happy to work in Norfolk, so for more information visit <https://sls-uk.org/>

BookTrust

BookTrust is the UK's biggest reading charity; they provide books, resources and support to children to help develop their love of reading. They also offer support to teachers, educators and librarians and lead on nationwide programmes such as Bookstart.

For further information and access to resources, visit: www.booktrust.org.uk and to read an interesting piece they published about how to create the perfect school library space (complete with lots of tips and advice), visit: www.booktrust.org.uk/news-and-features/features/2021/may/creating-the-perfect-school-library-space/

Centre for Literacy in Primary Education (CLPE)

The Centre for Literacy in Primary Education is a UK based children's literacy charity working with primary schools. Their objective is to work with schools to teach literacy creatively and effectively, with a view to raising achievement of children's reading and writing. They offer courses at their literacy library in central London, deliver online training and provide a wide range of free teaching resources for Primary teachers.

They also produce the annual Reflecting Realities report, the first UK study into the diversity in children's literature. For info, visit: <https://clpe.org.uk/>

Books for Topics

BooksForTopics is a website full of useful booklists which collate together quality texts themed around particular topics for EYFS, KS1 and KS2. As well signposting to titles to compliment your curriculum teaching, they also have a strong Reading for Pleasure arm and all lists can be viewed by age range or subject topic. Visit: www.booksfortopics.com/

Letterbox Library

Letterbox Library specialise in providing access to a wide range of diverse and inclusive children's books. Their expert team read and review all titles they offer to ensure that they are representative of the diverse communities across the world, so all children have the opportunity to see themselves represented on the page.

Find them at: www.letterboxlibrary.com/

Books for Keeps

Books for Keeps is an independent children's book magazine which reviews annually hundreds of new children's books alongside news, articles on publishing trends and interviews with writers and illustrators. They have a vast archive online with past and present issues of the magazine, including all of their written book reviews. Find them here: www.booksforkeeps.co.uk/

The National Literacy Trust

The National Literacy Trust are an independent charity dedicated to raising literacy levels across the UK, particularly those from disadvantage backgrounds. Their blog is a brilliant resource full of articles covering a wide range of literacy issues: literacytrust.org.uk/blog/

School Library Association (SLA)

The School Library Association works towards ensuring that all schools in the UK have their own dedicated library space. They provide training and access to resources to support the running of school libraries as well as the continued professional development of those running them.

Membership to the SLA is priced at £95 a year with the potential of multi-access use for staff from the same school, making it a worthwhile investment. For info, visit: www.sla.org.uk/

EmpathyLab

Founded in 2014, EmpathyLab strives to build on scientific evidence which proves that the power of reading has the potential to build and encourage real-life empathy skills in young people. As well as establishing Empathy Day (June 10th), they also work with schools to further their research and produce a range of resources to help and guide school staff toward significantly important books; their annual Read for Empathy Guides are a must-see.

For more information on how you could get involved: www.empathylab.uk

Primary School Library Guidelines

A helpful website which takes you through the steps of how best to create your own inspiring and welcoming library space, signposting to other organisations who may be able to help you along the way. To see more: primaryschoollibraryguidelines.org.uk

AND: don't forget our blog www.norfolkels.wordpress.com

For the last nine(!) years, we've packed our Book Trolley blog full of news and book reviews of titles for all ages. Whether you're after picture books to read with your early years class or in need of inspiration for fiction (or non-fiction) to share with your primary readers, our blog has it all.

Though updates will cease as of 31st March 2022, the archive will remain accessible so do feel free to bookmark it and use it in the future: www.norfolkels.wordpress.com