



WatsEducation Newsletter

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Useful Links:

watseducation.com/
 Consultancy, CPD, Projects,
 Resources and more.

watseducationideas.weebly.com/
 Inspirational videos and stories for
 class discussions and assemblies.

pledgeabook.com/
 Bringing the joy of reading to
 children who need it most

beyondbehaviour.co.uk/
 Consultancy, coaching and
 professional development in all
 aspects of behaviour, wellbeing
 and leadership

Contact Us:

www.watseducation.com
wats.ed.consultancy@gmail.com
 Twitter: @WatsEd

Welcome:

Welcome back to the new academic year. I hope you are all rested and ready for the new term. I am excited to be starting a new teaching role myself and am looking forward to the new challenges. Good news for WatsEducation too as I embark on some new projects with Lincolnshire Tourist Attractions. Exciting times indeed.
 Mike

Hull Collaborative Academy Trust Conference 2016:

I am very excited to share this opportunity with you all. The Hull Collaborative Academy Trust (HCAT) are holding their 1st conference on the 11th February 2016 at The Royal York Hotel, York.

Prices are £150 per delegate (inc. Lunch and refreshments)

The 1st Keynote Speakers published are:

Dr Paul Howard Jones (Neuro-Scientist) and Jonathan Lear – The Guerrilla Teacher (@GuerrillaEd)



World renowned expert in neuroscience and education
 Co author of neuromyths in education
 Secret lives of 4 year olds - Channel 4



"The next time you hear yourself moaning that you want to be creative in your classroom but "they" won't let you remember these four words - Jonathan Lear, Guerilla Teacher" Independent Thinking, 2015

Many workshops will also be available to delegates including:

Available workshops

What works for white working class boys?

Are your children really learning skills for the future?

How do you ensure every member of staff apply your learning principles?

Can we really be creative within the new ofsted framework?

Is your continuous EYFS provision working for you?

How do we "lead" our leaders?

To book places either:

Contact - conferences@hcat.org.uk

Visit - www.watseducation.com/cpd-events

Outdoor Idea of the Month – August/September:

Chocolate Mints:

My daughter wanted to grow some herbs, so we planted up the tyres on the patio with a selection. Happily they all took off and have thrived. I now have far more herbs than I can use.

The mint is especially fragrant, so how about picking, washing and drying the leaves, melting some dark chocolate and coating the leaves in chocolate?

Once the chocolate has cooled and hardened, peel off the leaves and you'll have some lovely homemade mint chocolate!

You can freeze them or keep them in the fridge if you need to stock up!

Tasty!



“Children must be taught how to think, not what to think.”

Margaret Mead

Pledge a Book:

“Bringing the love of reading to children, one book at a time.”



Meet Percy Pledge:

Pledge-a-Book is a new UK charity who would like to distribute books to those children who live in households with few or no books in the home.

The charity has been set up by a group of teachers, Rob Smith (Literacy Shed), Graham Andre (Mathematics Shed), Gaz Needle, Russ Brown, Beth Bennett and myself.

We know this is a real and wide spread problem, so we would like to do something about it and to do this we need your help!

There are 3 ways you can donate:

- 1) Send us a Book
- 2) Donate through PayPal
- 3) Purchase a book from our wish list

Anyone who donates will be featured on our 'Reading Heroes' page.

Your school could become a "Pigeon Post Partner", like **Holcombe Brook Primary School, Bury** It is really simple, just make a donation on behalf of your school.

All Pigeon Post Partner schools would be featured on our website, social media and newsletter.

For more information, please visit www.pledgeabook.com or email: pledgeabook@gmail.com

5 Outdoor Ideas for the 1st week back:

The weather is usually reasonable in early September and hopefully your pupils will be all still full of having spent the Summer, damming rivers, climbing trees, digging for treasure and sword fighting with sticks (even if it was only on MineCraft!)

Here are 5 ways you might take children outside to find out a little more about them and what they can do, as always not trying to be clever. Find your limits if you aren't a regular goer outside, but what children do and how they behave when you take away the walls will tell you a lot about them.

1. Playlets

Give them some sticks, leaves, litter, stones and stumps (perhaps a few puppets if you are inclined) and give them a scene or story title to improvise. writingexercises.co.uk/story-t... It's fun and can be challenging. Getting children to collaborate. Tell them they can include any props they can find.

2. Read stories and poems

Just take it out of the classroom, perhaps most common thing done outside. Reading poems about nature under trees and sitting on a tree stump can help generate powerful language. Obvious really. Write a poem, line or verse in the soil perhaps - will it be there tomorrow? Hang them on the fence or over the wall, passers-by might read them.

3. Alphabets

A great one for EYFS/KS1 especially, but I've found that KS2 enjoy the challenge too. Make the alphabet from what they can find. Size doesn't matter but creative thought does. Take photographs and print a fabulous natural alphabet for the classroom. Looks good and it is theirs.

4. Place Value and Numbers

Draw boxes on the playground and use as PV grids. Use any small manipulatives, shells, stones, beads etc to fill the boxes, making numbers. Children can see the quantity in the box and how it has a position, then you can add another above or below and create moving calculations. Children will have that physical connection and see how the number combine and begin to deal with the principles of exchange when there is more than 10(0) - now what?

5. Go and plant something

On the first day. Go and plant something. Suggestions could be Garlic, Lamb's Lettuce, or if you want a year's project, Delphiniums will flower in Summer. What a lovely way to close the year, with the flowers planted on Day 1. Dependent on your green fingeredness! The masses of learning potential from growing flowers, fruit and veg is enormous.

But you knew that!

Beyond Behaviour CPD:

I am not affiliated with Steve Russell (@BeyondBehaviour), but I have first-hand experience of his consultancy, coaching and professional development in all aspects of behaviour, wellbeing and leadership. If this is an area of interest, he has a number of CPD courses available and I recommend you have a look.

[Beyond Behaviour - Courses](#)

See you next month!

Mike (@WatsEd)