

School Library Service

Newsletter 2010



- Headteacher Literacy coordinator
 Librarian Governors Staffroom

School to school - making the move



For children and young people, the transition from one school to another can be momentous. New places, new faces, lots to learn, and the need to move up a gear.

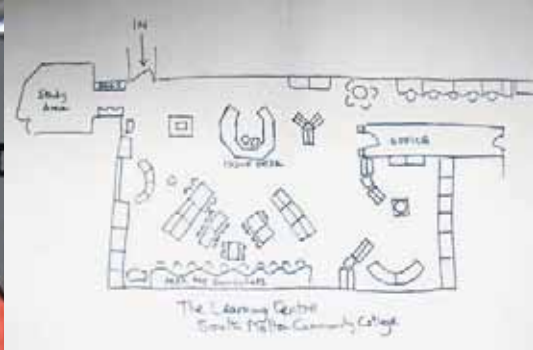
School Library Service works closely with librarians and teachers to help schools provide the launchpad to a smoother transition for pupils and as a result can contribute to their attainment in their new school.

SLS have run a series of half-day workshops across Devon on transition for librarians in primary and secondary schools and Year 6 staff, to provide an opportunity for them to work together on projects to introduce pupils to their new library and librarians to their new pupils. Feedback was very positive: 'Brilliant to share ideas and establish links'. The outcome was to be a media presentation; a newsletter or brochure about the library; a reader profile for Year 6 or a reading log, postcards or poster. A number of projects resulted from the workshops are featured in this newsletter.

Paignton Community & Sports College sent postcards to all feeder primaries. Comments from the current Yr 7 students about their impact: **Kieran Bowden 7G2:** *"It was nice and colourful and showed lots of books that I thought could help me with my homework when I started there."* **Tia Bench 7P2:** *"I love reading books and the postcard attracted me to the library."*

Bideford College worked with Appledore Primary School on a variation of a theme. Debbie took Yr 6 pupils to visit Bideford College to choose a book to read and review, linking in with Margaret's 'Big up a Book' Yr 7 initiative.





South Molton Community College

South Molton librarian, Pam Symons gave the new students to the school a plan of the library and a series of numbered photos of the library features and objects.

She wanted them to notice particular items in the library and asked students to write down the number of the photo in the correct place on the library plan.

Dartmouth CC / Dartmouth Primary Book Week Event 7th October 2009

Words and pictures

The event was planned a month in advance. I knew I wanted to do something big involving Year 6 and 7 students, but wasn't sure what, until I discussed it with a few people.

Dartmouth Learning Campus is a federation between Dartmouth Community College and Dartmouth Primary School. We now share a brand new small auditorium, which is the perfect venue for such an event. The theme "Words and Pictures" was all I had to go on; Maria Granata, from Schools Library Service, suggested I contact our well known artist in Dartmouth, Simon Drew, who specialises in word play and homonyms with his graphic style illustrations. He proved to be a very confident and entertaining speaker and, having been a science teacher in the past, he knew how to work the crowd!

After his talk, involving everyone guessing his prepared football quiz, the Year 7 children left us and the year 6's had a short break where refreshments were served. Jo Hyde from SLS steered The Reading Game Activity, then read a story and the children took part in a feedback session where they discussed their favourite books. It was altogether a fabulous event. We all enjoyed the pleasure of being introduced to a famous artist and to spend time looking at beautifully illustrated children's books. We also displayed the Kate Greenaway Award finalists' books from 2009.

I felt the whole experience was enjoyable and could be an annual event. The trick is in the planning!

Vicki Patterson, Librarian Dartmouth Community College

Items produced by: **South Molton CC, Chumleigh CC, Park Community School, Westlands School**





Newton Abbot College / Decoy Primary

Little boat event

The event was held over 2 periods in July.

We had the following objectives:

1. To introduce the Year 5 pupils from Decoy Primary School to Newton Abbot College Library and its staff through a fun, interactive, non-intimidating activity. 2. To enable the primary school pupils to experience a team based activity similar to ones which they will experience in Y7. 3. To give students and staff of both schools the chance to interact both formally and informally.

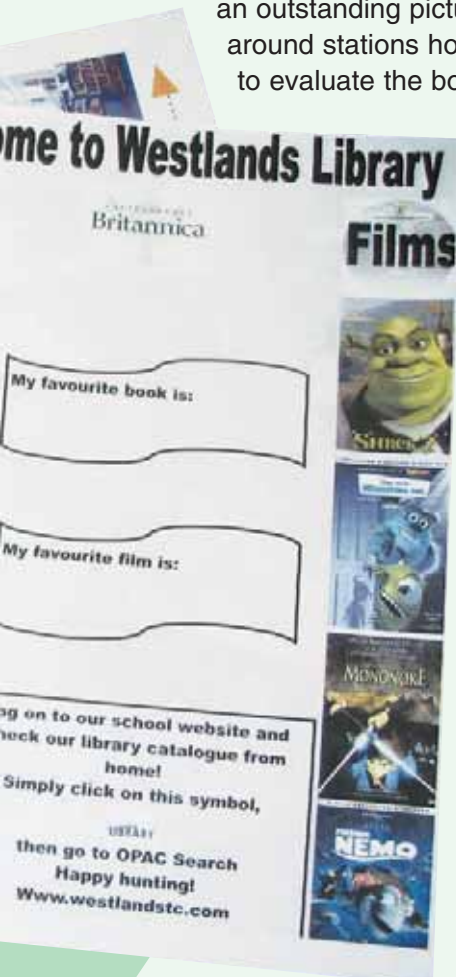
There were around 25 Year 5 pupils plus six Year 7 students to help with the event. In teams of 5/6, each team pretended to be a team of judges on the Kate Greenaway Medal (for an outstanding picture book). The teams rotated around stations housing the picture books and had to evaluate the books using a purpose built form.

They needed to look at the illustrations, the text and artistic merit of the books. Teamwork was essential.

At the end, the team nominated their best book and then votes were counted to decide on our overall winner. We then announced which book actually won the Kate Greenaway. Prizes were given to the team which worked together the best. We worked with Tamsin Kennedy at Decoy school. The event went really well and we all thoroughly enjoyed it.

Jo Slade

Library Assistant
Newton Abbot College



St. Luke's Science & Sports College / Pinhoe Primary

Following the transition workshop run by Kiki and Nicola from Devon School Library Service, Brigid Tarrel and I felt we could contribute to the transition process for students leaving Pinhoe Primary School and coming to St. Luke's Science & Sports College.

We arranged two dates for the Pinhoe students to visit and I collected them in the minibus and brought them over to St. Luke's. On average each group spent about an hour and a half in St. Luke's Library. They explored and read books and magazines and seemed impressed with the size of the space and the amount of resources of offer.

Brigid then asked some questions about where resources could be found and the students competed in two teams to answer. They enjoyed this activity and then we all ate lunch together in the Library. After lunch the students logged onto computers and then logged onto St. Luke's VLE I had arranged logons for them all and written an autobiography exercise for them to complete.

Back at Pinhoe School following these visits, Brigid was able to log the students onto St Luke's VLE to look at their work, complete it if necessary and talk about their visit. The students felt privileged to visit their new Library ahead of all the other new students.

In September during Library induction lessons, the students from Pinhoe were very confident in the Library and were able to guide their fellow students from other schools around St. Luke's Library. I had made the mistake of forgetting that the Pinhoe students had already completed the autobiography exercise and hadn't arranged a different VLE exercise for them – lesson learnt!!

Aileen Hamer

St Luke's Science & Sports College

What can SLS do for you?

SLS has experienced and friendly specialist staff who can provide support for all aspects of school library provision and development:

We can help you make a difference to the experiences of children and young people in school by:

- encouraging children of all abilities to develop a love for books and broaden their reading horizons
- helping children to develop an independent way of learning
- enabling children who have few books at home or can't easily get to a public library to enjoy their chance to browse and choose
- make an impact on school improvement through our specialist advice and sharing good practice
- ensuring their teachers have access to high quality resources, including long term loans, regular exchanges of books, topic collections and specialist resources to support inclusion.

Visit the SLS website via the LDP webpages for much more or go direct to www.devonsls.org.uk

Help us to help you – making the best of SLS bookstock

A major benefit for schools with the cataloguing and computerisation of SLS bookstock is that we are able to supply you with lists of the books issued in each topic box. This has dramatically reduced the number of books that are not returned each term, as teachers know exactly what they have received and what they need to send back. This is a positive outcome for all schools, and makes the most of your subscription to the School Library Service. By returning your books promptly there will more books in circulation, it helps us to ensure our topic collections are what you need, and makes best use of our resources for everyone's benefit by increasing the number of loans per item.

Professional advice and practical help

- booklists to support teachers including SEAL lists
- book sharing talks to children, teachers, teaching assistants, parents
- health checks for school libraries/classroom book corners
- information skills work
- INSET events
- library design and planning
- library organisation and use
- library use of IT (computerised library management systems)
- multicultural books and sessions
- reading for pleasure sessions
- stock audits.

Resources to support curriculum work and for leisure reading

- curriculum topic collections to boost the school's resources on a termly basis. You can make your own selection or ask us to do it for you
- regular exchanges of new or different titles, to keep stock in schools fresh, interesting and useful. Rural primary schools (and some town schools) have visits from SLS mobile libraries, so pupils can choose their own exchange books
- Bookshop Exhibition Collection for Key Stages 1 & 2 for purchasing.

SLS is part of Devon Learning and Development Partnership (LDP)

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