

- Have your connectives mat in use.
- Seek opportunities to encourage pupils to join simple sentences.
- Try to model sequencing connectives.

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Literacy News

AUTUMN TERM, PART 2

13TH NOVEMBER 2017

Literacy in the news...

On Saturday, the story ‘Do we need to teach children joined-up handwriting?’ appeared on the [BBC News](#) website.

Written by David Malloy, the story made the news as a result of Illinois passing a state law requiring all pupils to learn cursive script, thereby overruling the governor’s veto. While this may be surprising, many of us would not have known that Indiana has abandoned cursive, and other countries, including the much lauded Finland, are phasing it out.

The argument appears to be that it is a now redundant skill and that learning to type is far more valuable in today’s world.

The story cites a 2012 survey of UK adults, which

found that on average it had been 41 days since writing, and that 2/3 of adults only ever write short notes and lists.

Before you, like me, go ‘Huzzah, no more need for handwriting exercises!’ we need to remember the other research mentioned in the article.

Researchers have found that writing by hand helps recall skills, and subsequent investigations have shown that the area of the brain used in reading activated in children that write, whereas it does not in those who type. It has also been demonstrated that writing out notes begins deeper processing of information than does typing, leading to greater embedding.

For most children therefore,

handwriting is a beneficial part of the learning process, but we still need to remember that research has proved legibility impacts on marks. We must also remember that children with issues like dyslexia and dyspraxia are able to achieve higher grades when touch typing and not focusing on pushing the pen.

As ever, there are no easy answers and a plethora of contradictory research. All we at Northern House can do is continue to ask the questions on behalf of each of our students, seeking always the best path forward for them.

COMING SOON

The Bookbuzz Book Week Details in our next edition

Tips for lessons including literacy

Every lesson should be a literacy lesson.

So each week we will share some of the excellent ideas that are occurring around Northern House.

- 1) Give the opportunity in each lesson for each pupil to speak, to listen, to read and to write.
- 2) Reading should include a range of texts, but could simply be the pupil reading aloud one sentence or several words.
- 3) Keywords help build confidence and accuracy. This is so important with technical language that it stays on the list!
- 4) If you are giving the pupils difficult text to process, before reading it:
 - i. Identify & explain key-words.
 - ii. Outline the content.
 - iii. Identify the purpose.

Accelerated Reader Updates

A 2013 study found that reading books - especially fiction - increases empathy, social skills and emotional intelligence. Reading news does the reverse.

-Science, October 2013

Reading for 30 minutes a day has also been found to increase life expectancy by as much as 23%.

11 November 2017					
Accelerated Reader Quiz League					
		Quizzes	100.00%	Accuracy average	Points earned
1 st	Tristan	16	11	87.50%	10.3
2 nd	Jay	3	1	90.00%	10.5
3 rd	Theo	5	0	72.00%	7.7
	George	2	1	85.00%	6.7
	Alex	5	2	86.00%	3.6
	Tyler H	3	0	80.00%	2.4
	Jack	5	3	88.00%	2.2
	Antonio	1	1	100.00%	2.0
	Phoenix	2	0	70.00%	1.4
	Callum	2	1	90.00%	1.3
	Denham	1	1	100.00%	1.0
	Jacob Q	2	1	95.00%	1.0
	Bradley	2	1	83.40%	0.8
	Reece	3	1	64.40%	0.8
	Josh P-T	1	1	100.00%	0.5
	Armani	1	1	100.00%	0.5
	Harvey R	1	1	100.00%	0.5
	Isaac	1	0	80.00%	0.4
	Josh C	1	0	40.00%	0.0
	Dhruv	1	0	20.00%	0.0
		58	27	81.57%	53.6
			46.55%		
2017-18 School Pass Rate = 89.6% (No change)					

ACCELERATED READER				
11 November 2017				
	Quizzes		Word Count	
	Passed	Taken	2017-18	This week
Jay	3	3	78,064	18,271
Tristan	14	16	52,939	39,576
Theo	4	5	51,859	50,038
George	2	2	49,068	30,644
Alex	5	5	31,042	
Tyler H	3	3	19,022	
Phoenix	2	2	12,918	
Antonio	1	1	12,651	
Jack P	5	5	9,220	
Callum	2	2	8,913	
Denham	1	1	6,489	
Jacob Q	2	2	5,786	
Harvey R	1	1	1,190	
Joshua PT	1	1	908	
Reece	2	3	589	421
Armani	1	1	554	
Bradley	2	2	290	
Isaac	1	1	160	
Totals	52	56	341,662	138,950
Northern House: Words Read				
341,662				

CPD: Sequencing Connectives

What are sequencing connectives?

Firstly, sequencing connectives are those words we use to relate time, order and, ahem, sequences. Secondly, we can use them in a sentence, then also link sentences with them. Lastly, we can also link paragraphs by careful use of these words.

To begin, think about how we might apply these words in your subject. Do you have instructions, as in a recipe or practical task? Are pupils relating a sequence of events in a story or an evaluation?

Method

Before you start, heat the oven to 220C/425F/Gas 7. **Then** lightly grease a baking sheet.

First, mix together the flour and salt. **Next** rub in the butter.

When mixed, stir in the sugar and **then** the milk.

Shortly you will have a soft dough. **At that point** turn on to a floured work surface and knead very lightly.

Once done, pat out to a round 2cm/¾in thick **and then** use a 5cm/2in cutter to stamp out rounds and place on a baking sheet. **Finally**, lightly knead together the rest of the dough and stamp out more scones to use it all up.

Now brush the tops of the scones with the beaten egg, **then** bake for 12-15 minutes **until** well risen and golden.

Once that time has passed, cool on a wire rack so that you can **ultimately** serve them with butter and good jam and maybe even some clotted cream.

As you can see, this recipe uses connectives to ensure the cook moves through the instructions in the correct order.

What we must always consider though is this: does our use of connectives over clutter the text? Words must be used to most effectively impact on the reader. Here, a simple numbered list might be more appropriate. I leave it for you to consider...

KEYWORDS

Adverbial phrase/clause

One which starts with an adverb. *Quickly looking around, is an example.*

Adjectival phrase/clause

A phrase including an adjective. *The delicious smelling, fresh baked scones...*

Literacy

"The ability to use language, numbers, images, computers, and other basic means to understand, communicate, gain useful knowledge and use the dominant symbol systems of a culture." UNESCO

EVENTS

Monday 9am
AR Pupil Portal
Bring your laptop!

Thursday 3:10—3:30pm
Literacy Drop In for teachers.
(English room)

If you have any queries about literacy, AR or other issues, drop by.

Friday options

Pilot library opening in options time.

Coming Soon

December
Book Week & author visit.

Our Library

The Library in the access area is already very well organized. The shelves there are classified by book band and the colours are indicated on each section.

Those pupils who visit Andrea and Sophie already use this resource, but now we are beginning to take other pupils, like the year 7 group, over there during English lessons.

The library will now also be opening for book swaps and reading on a Friday, during options.

If you would like to open it during your break or lunchtime, please feel free. If you do this, please lock the internal door to prevent disruption to the other rooms.

Fundraising

On the back this week you will find an advert for our account at TheBook-People.

On their website, you can browse thousands of titles.

If you are buying books, please consider using this site as the school is paid a percentage of your spend for us to reinvest in books.

Recommended Reads

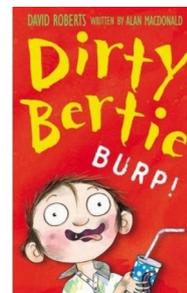
At present there are a few titles and series which are proving extremely popular with our pupils, thus we are buying books to expand choice in these areas.

For the primary pupils, it would appear the Jeremy Strong series are hottest, whereas in secondary, a number of the younger boys are loving the Dirty Bertie adventures with disgustingness.

Bertie opens up some good links

to other subjects. If you search him up, you'll discover his music composition website and also a great video from the illustrator on how to draw him.

Linking reading to activities outside reading time is a really effective way to promote and reinforce engagement, so please reflect on how you might use this in future planning.



Recommended by: Pupil popularity

Recommend a favourite book by mailing me the author & title and a sentence or two about it.

"One day I will find the right words, and they will be simple."
— Jack Kerouac

If you are buying books or stationery,
please check out...

If you plan to use the discount, enter this at the school fundraising page.

Northern
House
School



BookPeople
Inspiring a love of learning for over 25 years **.co.uk**

Northern House School School Fundraising Scheme

What is Book People's School Fundraising Scheme?

We understand that fundraising plays an important part in raising the money needed by schools for books for their classrooms and libraries. Book People's School Fundraising Scheme is our way of helping you raise these valuable funds without it costing you a penny, by giving your school 10% of the value of every order you place to spend on books. And there's more - you'll also be rewarded with exclusive offers that you won't find anywhere else, as a thank you for helping your school.

It's as simple as A, B, C...

- A** Visit www.thebookpeople.co.uk/school-fundraising and enter your school's unique Fundraising Code.
- B** Shop our extensive range of books, gifts, toys and stationery. Your school earns 10% of your order in School Savings.
- C** Your school spends their School Savings on new books for their classrooms and library.

Your exclusive offer:

£10 off when you spend £40. Offer
expires midnight 15 January 2018

£10 off when you spend £40

School: **Northern House School**

Link: www.thebookpeople.co.uk/school-fundraising

Starts: **Wednesday, 19 April 2017**

Expires: **Monday, 15 January 2018**

Fundraising Code:
Py8FrdK

www.thebookpeople.co.uk/school-fundraising

**You do not need to spend £40 to contribute to our school. Visit the link, paste in the code and shop. The discount will apply if you spend £40+. Free postage applies to orders over £25.