

March
2024

Newsletter



Flying High
English Hub

Katy Armstrong

Flying High English
Hub Lead



As June draws ever closer, we all begin to turn our attention to the looming Phonics Screening Check. We know that passing the PSC is not the end of the Early Reading journey for our children. Most will still need further development of their phonics

knowledge and to continue to practice their fluency and expression to ensure they are able to accurately comprehend a text. However, we want as any of our children as possible to pass the PSC and the best way to approach this is by being well prepared.

As a Y1 teacher, do you know what the gaps are that each of your children have? Is this in single GPCs? Digraphs/trigraphs? What about those Y2 children who did not pass last year and are re-sitting the PSC? What gaps do they have in their phonics knowledge?

At this point in the year, we need to really drill down into what the areas are that our children are finding tricky. Using past PSCs as practice is ideal for this especially if you make good use of the 'comments' column on the mark sheet to record exactly what each child said if they were incorrect. This information allows you to carefully analyse what their specific areas of need are. Is it the split digraphs? Is it the consonant clusters at the beginning or ends of words? Have they not had any practice of pseudo words through your SSP and need time to practice these?

Using this information we can create a plan which will enable as many children as possible to be successful.

Join me for a webinar to support you in planning fully for the PSC with our 32 day count down.

Book your place at our Y1 Phonics Screening
Check countdown and preparation:



BOOK
HERE

Upcoming Events



Flying High English Hub

**Join our
Partner School
Recruitment
event**

Wed 24th April
9:30 - 12:30



**BOOK
HERE**

Are your Phonics Screening Check results below the national average? Would your school benefit from support and funding to help you get more from your chosen phonics programme?

Through our very successful Partner School Programme, Flying High English Hub can support eligible schools in increasing the numbers of children who are able to pass the Phonics Screening Check and consequently move through school as confident readers who are able to fully access the curriculum.

Working with one of our Literacy Specialists, your Reading Lead will develop their own skills in leading the teaching of Early Reading. This will include developing coaching of the Early Reading Team and developing Practice Sessions to ensure your SSP is being delivered to the highest standard as well as data analysis to make sure the right support is given to the right children at the right time. To support you in releasing your Reading Lead for a day, once per half term, we also provide £150 backfill to help cover supply costs.

Here is what current Partner Schools have to say about their experience of working with us:

"Our Literacy Specialist has always been incredibly supportive and aspirational but in an understanding and realistic way. She is a working teacher who understands the pressure of the job yet is still aspirational for all pupils to achieve and is happy to suggest lots of ideas and support staff as needed."

Author in the Spotlight



Bethan Woollvin

Hello, it's Bethan here! Here's a little bit about me.

I'm a creative soul, and even as a little girl, I knew I wanted to be some sort of artist. I'm happiest with my apron on and paint on my easel, and I'm fortunate enough to have created a career for myself in the arts.

While studying for a degree in illustration at the Cambridge School of Art, I discovered my passion for telling stories with my pictures, and even penned my very first book *Little Red* while at university! *Little Red* was my empowered retelling of the traditional tale of Little Red Riding Hood, and it won the Macmillan Children's Book Competition in 2014, launching the beginning of my career in children's books.

Encouraged to create more fractured fairytales, I continued my fairytale series with *Rapunzel* and *Hansel & Gretel* and have since been working on my very own original tales, including *I Can Catch a Monster*, *Three Little Vikings*, and *Luna & the Sky Dragon*. I also joined forces with author Caryl Hart, illustrating several non-fiction books including *Meet the Planets*, *Meet the Oceans*, and *Meet the Weather*.



We are delighted to announce that Bethan has agreed to host a virtual author event for us!

Book Here

Friday 5th July

10 am

We hope you can join us!

Events



**Flying High
English Hub**

The winners of a signed copy of one of Ian's books are...



- Glitter Boy – Horsendale Primary School
- Millie's Big Decision – High Oakham Primary School
- Nen and the Lonely Fisherman – Porchester Junior school



BookTrust talked to RNIB about how teachers can engage children with visual impairment in reading:

"Severe vision impairment (blindness) in children is very rare, so it's likely that many schools will have little to no experience of supporting a child who has very limited vision. Vision impairment alone should never be a barrier to academic success, though, and it certainly shouldn't prevent a child from developing a love of books and reading."

Get useful tips and ideas from the RNIB to help you support blind or partially sighted children in school.

**Click below to
read:**

**CLICK
HERE**

Announcements



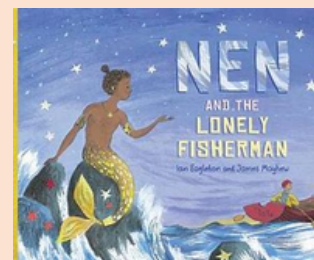
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Glitter Boy– Horsendale Primary School



A huge thank you to Ian Eagleton for his fabulous virtual event on World Book Day!



From the lovely feedback we've received, the children in the 320 classrooms that logged on enjoyed it as much as we did!

Click below to read:

**CLICK
HERE**



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