

Primary newsletter

Developing Library and Research Skills in Your School

An exciting new Library Skills Programme linked with the National Literacy Strategy is being introduced by Hampshire SLS. The pack has been compiled by working with local schools and HIAS. Anyone who is interested is invited to attend a day course which introduces the pack, provides guidance on its use and includes workshops to create activities linked to the curriculum. The pack (£15) is currently only available to those who attend the course at a cost of £88 for schools subscribing to the SLS. The course would be useful for all teaching staff, teaching assistants and library staff. The next date available is 20/11/03 at SLS, South Ham Library, Basingstoke. If you would like to attend this session please fill out a course booking form or contact your local SLS centre.

Useful Websites

www.quentinblake.com
a website with downloadable activities for teachers and children eg a quiz, writing paper and book plates.

www.leemac.freemove.co.uk/
a fansite for Diana Wynne Jones which also gives advice on how to start writing.

welcome...

to the autumn/winter edition of the SLS Newsletter

This issue contains reader development activities, book prizes and useful websites.

Since the last newsletter *Michael Morpurgo* has been announced as the next Children's Laureate and *Eoin Colfer* and *Terry Deary* have delighted audiences in Hampshire.

Remember to check out the SLS website www.hants.gov.uk/library/schools. Why not add it to your favourites!



Eoin Colfer on his recent visit to Hampshire

Planning to Buy New Books?

Don't forget to visit the Exhibition Collection in Winchester based at North Walls. This unique collection of 20,000 titles covering KS 1, 2 and 3, is evaluated by professional librarians and comes from a range of publishers.

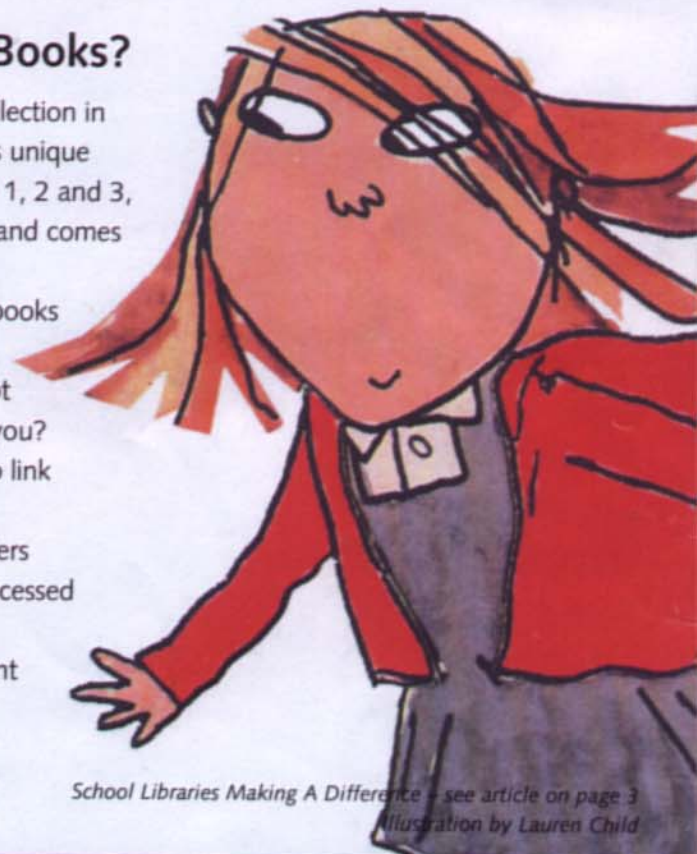
Teachers can decide which particular books will suit the children in their school.

Professional help is at hand or why not invite your ASL/AASL to accompany you?

The keywording allows for searches to link fiction with curriculum areas.

A 15% discount is available on all orders and the books arrive at the school processed and ready to put on the shelves.

It is essential to book your appointment by calling 01962 826660.



School Libraries Making A Difference - see article on page 3
Illustration by Lauren Child

Knightwood Lads 'n Dads

I never thought I'd ever have to tell him to "put that book down and go to sleep!"

As part of the grant obtained by Toynbee Secondary School for the GLR – Getting Lads Reading Project, Knightwood Primary decided to run a Lads n Dads group.

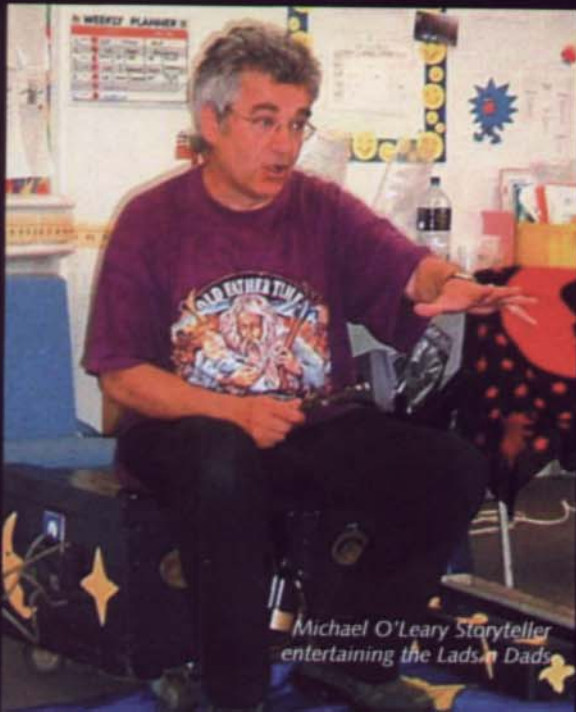
The Headteacher worked closely with the SLS to decide on the aims and objectives of the group, the format and frequency of the meetings and who to involve. It was decided to target Yrs 4 & 5 and open it to both struggling, bored, and keen readers. Six meetings were held each half term at 7pm and were supported by the Headteacher, public library staff and the SLS.

It was obvious that despite a wide range in ability, everybody was keen to take part. Ten boys each with an adult male attended the meetings and it was amazing how keen all the boys were to share their reading with the group. The adults were also encouraged to read the books to hopefully improve their knowledge of children's books.

The SLS provided the resources and spent the first meeting promoting them and listening to the boys' preferences. After that it was over to the Lads n Dads and there was never a quiet moment!

The evaluations of the group have been very successful. The group has worked on lots of different levels. Three boys raised their standardised scores by 9 points, able and less able readers mixed well in the group sharing books together, all the adults agreed it had improved their knowledge of children's books, fluent readers became committed readers, confidence about being a reader and talking about books improved, it brought fathers and sons closer together and as one dad commented: *'I never thought I'd ever have to tell him to "put that book down and go to sleep!"* It would also appear from comments from other parents who were unable to attend the meetings, that the books were shared enthusiastically between their friends.

The school is now planning to buy the books the boys enjoyed and will hopefully run the project again from September 2004.



Michael O'Leary Storyteller
entertaining the Lads n Dads

