



Building Personal Success



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Dear Parents and Carers,

Each half term, each class is given two PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education) inspired books to read in class. The children listen to the story, then think about all of the concepts to do with PSHE which the book relates to. They turn these concepts into philosophical questions and they then discuss the possible answers to these questions.

The children are encouraged to use their skills to define and refine questions, find meanings, justify their ideas and explain what they mean. They learn to speak with confidence, they learn to listen well to each other and they learn to build on the thoughts and ideas of each other to create a meaningful dialogue. They find polite ways to say that they agree and disagree with each other's points of view and they practise finding examples and evidence to describe and clarify their thoughts and opinions – all at a level appropriate to their age.

This activity aims to build communities of enquiry where children develop their creative, critical, caring and collaborative thinking skills.

Caring	Collaborative
Listening, concentrating, valuing and appreciating e.g. showing interest in, and sensitivity to, others' experiences and values.	Responding, communicating, supporting and conciliating e.g. building on each other's ideas, shaping common understandings and purposes.
Critical	Creative
Questioning, interrogating, reasoning and evaluating e.g. seeking meaning, evidence, reasons, distinctions and good judgements.	Connecting, relating, suggesting and speculating e.g. providing comparisons, examples, criteria, alternative explanations or conceptions.

At our recent RSHE parental consultation, parents asked for information about these books so that they could investigate the contents of the books themselves and prepare to talk to their children about the books at home.

These are the books being used, in Year 4 for PSHE Read Aloud, this academic year:

Book and Author	Themes to be explored
After the Fall by Dan Santat	A story about Humpty Dumpty after he fell off the wall, and how he gained his confidence back. The children will discuss how to bounce back after a setback.
Dear Dragon: A Pen Pal Tale by Josh Funk	George and Blaise are pen pals and find that they have lots in common. But when they meet, they find out that one of them is human and the other is a dragon. This is a story that will promote discussion about how our physical differences do not stop us from being friends.
Grandad's Island by Benji Davies	This is a story to help children understand about loss and a reminder that our loved ones live on in our memories long after they're gone.
Hans and Matilda by Yokococo	Matilda is a very good girl. She likes to sit quietly and read. Hans is very naughty – he makes too much noise and squirts people with his water pistol! When Hans lets the animals out of the zoo, a reward is offered for his capture. Matilda tells the police where he will be, but when they catch him and take off his mask, they find - Matilda! This story encourages the children to think about the concept of stereotypes and explore our expectations about the way in which boys and girls act and behave.
How to Live Forever by Colin Thompson	A story about appreciating the awe and wonder of life and making the most of the time that we have.
Interstellar Cinderella by Deborah	Once upon a planetoid, amid her tools and sprockets, a girl named Cinderella dreamed of fixing fancy rockets. With a little help from her fairy godrobot, Cinderella is going to the ball but, when the prince's ship has mechanical trouble, someone will have to zoom to his rescue!

Underwood	This retelling of the story of Cinderella shows that girls can be independent and free to choose the job of their dreams.
Parker Looks Up by Parker Curry	A visit to Washington DC's National Portrait Gallery forever alters Parker Curry's young life when she views First Lady Michelle Obama's portrait. A story that promotes discussion about aspirations and how anything is possible.
The Dark by Lemony Snicket	This is the story of how Laszlo stops being afraid of the dark – the children have an opportunity to discuss their fears and how they overcome them.
The Dot by Peter H. Reynolds	This is the story of Vashti, who thinks she cannot draw. But her teacher is sure that she can and encourages Vashti to sign the angry dot she makes in frustration on a piece of paper. This act makes Vashti look at herself a little differently, and helps her discover what she is actually capable of.
The Flower by John Light	Brigg lives in a small, grey room in a large, grey city. When he finds a book in the library labelled 'Do Not Read', he cannot resist taking it home. In it, he comes upon pictures of bright, vibrant objects called flowers. He cannot find flowers anywhere in the city, but stumbles instead on a packet of seeds. This story explores the themes of hope and optimism as well as the importance of nature.
The Librarian of Basra by Jeanette Winter	This is the story of Alia Muhammad Baker who was the city of Basra's real-life librarian. She was the keeper of cherished books and her library was a haven for community gatherings. The story explores what she did to save her books when war came. The children will discuss resilience and hope.
The Lonely Beast by Chris Judge	This story explores the concept of loneliness and acceptance – the lonely beast risks being judged by people who are scared of him in order to find company and friendship.
The Pirates Next Door by Jonny Duddle	The Jolley-Rogers - a pirate family, are moving to Dull-on-Sea, a quiet seaside town. Stopping to fix up their ship, this unusual family get the whole neighbourhood spreading rumours. Defying the grown-ups, Matilda from next door decides to become friends with the youngest pirate son and in the end, the townspeople learn that they were wrong to assume the worst of the newcomers.
The Sea Saw by Tom Percival	This is a story about Sofia, who one day loses her beloved teddy at the beach. It will facilitate a discussion about loss, being patient and about time.
The Tear Thief by Carol Ann Duffy	The Tear Thief is a story that helps children to explore why we have a range of different emotions and to value all of the feelings they have. Each night, the Tear Thief steals the tears of every child who cries and uses them to help make the moon shine.
Tiger In My Soup by Kashmiri Sheth	A story about siblings and how to get along with each other.
Who's in a Family? by Robert Skutch	Family is important, but who's in a family? This book discusses how your family are the people who love you and that it is okay if our families are sometimes different from each other's.

If you would like any further information or would like to discuss these books in more detail, please do not hesitate to speak to your class teacher, the PSHE lead – Ms Henson (Reception - Cameroon), or to me.

Kind regards,
Mrs Marie Hardie
Deputy Head Teacher

PSHE Read Aloud Books: Year 4

Term	Autumn 1		Autumn 2		Spring 1		Spring 2		Summer 1		Summer 2	
Theme	Being Me in My World		Celebrating Difference		Dreams and Goals		Healthy Me		Relationships		Changing Me	
Bangladesh	Hans and Matilda by Yokococo	Parker Looks Up by Parker Curry	Dear Dragon: A Pen Pal Tale by Josh Funk	Interstellar Cinderella by Deborah Underwood	The Flower by John Light	Sam and Dave Dig A Hole by Mac Barnett	The Dark by Lemony Snicket	After the Fall by Dan Santat	Who's in a Family? by Robert Skutch	The Tear Thief by Carol Ann Duffy	The Librarian of Basra by Jeanette Winter	How to Live Forever by Colin Thompson
China	The Dark by Lemony Snicket	Parker Looks Up by Parker Curry	Dear Dragon: A Pen Pal Tale by Josh Funk	Hans and Matilda by Yokococo	Sam and Dave Dig A Hole by Mac Barnett	How to Live Forever by Colin Thompson	The Dot by Peter H. Reynolds	Tiger In My Soup by Kashmira Sheth	The Lonely Beast by Chris Judge	Who's in a Family? by Robert Skutch	The Flower by John Light	After the Fall by Dan Santat
India	Tiger In My Soup by Kashmira Sheth	Dear Dragon: A Pen Pal Tale by Josh Funk	Parker Looks Up by Parker Curry	The Lonely Beast by Chris Judge	Interstellar Cinderella by Deborah Underwood	How to Live Forever by Colin Thompson	After the Fall by Dan Santat	The Dot by Peter H. Reynolds	The Sea Saw by Tom Percival	Who's in a Family? by Robert Skutch	The Dark by Lemony Snicket	The Flower by John Light
Tibet	Interstellar Cinderella by Deborah Underwood	Dear Dragon: A Pen Pal Tale by Josh Funk	Parker Looks Up by Parker Curry	The Pirates Next Door by Jonny Duddle	After the Fall by Dan Santat	The Flower by John Light	The Lonely Beast by Chris Judge	How to Live Forever by Colin Thompson	Who's in a Family? by Robert Skutch	Grandad's Island by Benji Davies	The Tear Thief by Carol Ann Duffy	The Dark by Lemony Snicket