TeenLibrarian
Monthly Newsletter
www.teenlibrarian.co.uk

Editorial

Happy 2017 to all subscribers and readers of Teen Librarian Monthly! I hope that everyone has had a great start to the year and is ready to make this year the best ever for Library Services for all ages!

2017 looks like another challenging year remember that we are stronger when we stand together and one of the ways we can help each other is by sharing the great things we have done and are doing in our libraries – so if anyone would like to share their successes with colleagues across the country on the blog and in this newsletter please do let me know!

TLM this month is full of interesting articles of all shapes and sizes! I do hope that you find it useful and please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to share display ideas, event activities or anything to do with young people (of all ages) in libraries!

Contents

Comics Club Blog

Comics Club is a site dedicated to providing ideas and resources to comics clubs around the country, and to anyone who wants to join in with our ongoing project of Helping Awesome Kids Make Awesome Comics.

On this site the creators will be posting regular monthly Comics Challenges – activities and worksheets that can be used by anyone as a spur to getting kids writing, drawing, reading and making.

www.comicsclub.blog is a project by Neill Cameron and Hannah Sackett, with technical assistance from Sam Hardacre.

The Worshipful Company of Arbitrators Reading for Pleasure Offer to London Schools

During 2017, the WCA Trust has decided to support literacy development and the encouragement of children's reading for pleasure in London schools. The WCA Trust will sponsor a number of author/ illustrator / poet / storyteller visits for disadvantaged pupils in London schools, throughout 2017. The project will be organized by Sue Bastone, Mistress Arbritrator and Authors Aloud UK.

http://teenlibrarian.co.uk/2017/01/10/the-worshipful-company-of-arbitrators-reading-for-pleasure-offer-to-london-schools/

Paper Nations: Dare to Write

Paper Nations, the creative writing hub for young people has been challenging young writers to a number of dares over the past few months. The latest dare has been inspired by David Almond: http://papernations.org/dare-to-write-with-david-almond/

Visit the Paper Nations site for more inspiration if you work with young library users who are interested in creative writing: http://papernations.org

Coram Voice launches writing competition to celebrate the voices of care-experienced children and young people

Following the success of 'Voices', its first ever national writing competition in 2016, Coram Voice is excited to open the competition for a second year on 9 January.

The charity, which provides a range of services for children and young people in and around the care system, is launching Voices 2017 as a platform for care-experienced young people to express their creative talents.

The theme of this year's competition is 'New Beginnings' and Coram Voice is asking children and young people to draw inspiration from a change in their lives or opportunities they've experienced to try something new.

The competition is grouped in three age categories: primary school, secondary school and care leavers, with a special additional award for migrant children in care or care leavers. Entries, which can be submitted online from 9 January until 21 February, can be in any written style including poems, short stories or newspaper articles, with a 500 word limit.

The entries for Voices 2017 will be judged by a panel of authors, journalists and writers including:

- Alex Wheatle, winner of the 2016 Guardian Children's Fiction Prize
- Jackie Long, Social Affairs Editor for Channel 4 News
- Jenny Molloy, author of 'Hackney Child'
- Paolo Hewitt, music journalist, writer and author of 'The Looked After Kid'
- Nikesh Shukla, writer and editor of 'The Good Immigrant'
- Keren David, author of young adult fiction including 'Salvage'
- Luke Stevenson, Children's Social Care Journalist for Community Care

Winners will be announced by the judges at an awards ceremony in London on 10 April.

One of the judges, Keren David commented: "I am delighted to be on the judging panel. Young people in care are full of talent and potential and their voices need to be heard."

Steven, winner of the Secondary School category for Voices 2016 said: "I didn't think I'd win so I was really happy when they said I had. I've since had the opportunity to read my story to my year group and at other events.

"I'd say to this year's entrants – think back to your past, and put in what you can remember. Even if you think you can't win – as I did – you never know, just try your best."

For more information about Voices 2017, how to enter and prizes, please visit coramvoice.org.uk/voices-2017.

Read the Movie / Watch the Book Display Materials

As Oscars Season is just round the corner I have put together some resources to aid library staff in schools and public libraries to put together a display of books that have been adapted into movies. An A4 colour Oscar Reading poster and five A3 pages of books for children and young people that have been adapted for the silver screen in film strips.

The resources are downloadable here:

http://teenlibrarian.co.uk/2017/01/12/read-the-movie-watch-the-book-display-materials/

Instagram's Privacy Policy in Plain English

On the Quartz media site there is an interesting article about a lawyer who has rewritten Instagram's terms of service so that users can understand the rights and privacy they are giving up by clicking on the agree button when they sign up. In an age where children and young people are the main users of social media it is a good place to start a discussion with them about the importance of reading and understanding end-user agreements.

https://qz.com/878790/a-lawyer-rewrote-instagrams-terms-of-service-for-kids-now-you-can-understand-all-of-the-private-data-you-and-your-teen-are-giving-up-to-social-media/

Free Book on Humanism for UK Schools

What is Humanism? How do you live a good life without a god? And other Big Questions for Kids, by Michael Rosen and Annemarie Young, offers young people an excellent introduction to Humanism.

The book is a fantastic resource that will enable young people, whatever their background, to learn what Humanism is, and discover how many non-religious people try to live happy, ethical, and fulfilling lives in the here and now. The book explores questions on life, death, science, nature, morality, meaning, and purpose from a humanist perspective. It features interviews with humanists, including Philip Pullman, Shappi Khorsandi, Natalie Haynes, and Jim Al-Khalili, and asks them how they approach life's biggest questions.

Understanding Humanism is making this fantastic book available for free to schools in the UK.

http://understandinghumanism.org.uk/what-is-humanism-book/

Read It Daddy! The Podcast

Phil & Charlotte @ ReadItDaddy

Last December, Charlotte and I put our heads together to come up with a few new ideas for ReadItDaddy. We love changing things around now and again and came up with the idea of putting together an audio podcast for various reasons, the primary one being that quite a few blogs are moving towards either providing video or audio content along with their written articles.

We also thought it would be a lot of fun to do, and great for helping Charlotte develop her reading skills. She's a confident reader but having something that encouraged her to read aloud seemed like a great idea.

Thus the ReadItDaddy Podcast was born. Armed with a couple of knackered old Singstar USB microphones (no expense spared here) and my trusty Mac, we sat down and talked about 5 books in our first podcast including Duncan Beedie's new picture book "The Lumberjack's Beard" (out on 12th January, published by Templar Publishing) and Marc Martin's fantastic "Lots" (again out on 12th January, this time from Big Picture Press). Charlotte also enjoyed reading a couple of snippets from her favourite chapter book reads at the moment - "Elspeth Hart's School for Show-offs" by Sarah Forbes and James Brown (published by Stripes / Little Tiger) and "The Big Book of Mr Badger" by Leigh Hobbs and Sandra Nobes (published by Allen and Unwin).

The podcast was fun to do, including many MANY takes, subtly spliced together to concoct a heady mix of silly voices, book news and read-aloud sections. Having listened to a couple of other book blogger podcasts, we wanted to make sure ours sounded fairly natural (probably very nervous as it's surprisingly quite a strange experience to commit your voice to the digital airwaves), pretty much like the discussions we have whenever we read and review books normally.

Hope everyone enjoyed it, we'll be back again in February for more.

http://readitdaddy.blogspot.co.uk/2017/01/the-readitdaddy-podcast-january-2017.html

SPEAK UP

for libraries

Conference

18 February 2017

from 10am to 4.30pm

at UNISON 130 Euston Road
London NW1 2AY

- **Key speakers, a choice of workshops and the opportunity to network**
- **Event open to all – library users, library campaigners and library workers**
- **£25 per person or just £20 for early bird bookings before 18 January**
- **Places are limited! Booking is first come first served on receipt of payment**

Booking: via Eventbrite http://SUFLconf17.eventbrite.co.uk
Website: www.speakupforlibraries.org
Twitter: @SpeakUp4Libs and the event hashtag is #SUFLconf17
Facebook: www.facebook.com/SpeakUpForLibraries
Enquiries: 020 8651 9552 or email SpeakUp4Libraries@gmail.com

Speak Up for Libraries is a coalition of organisations and campaigners working to protect libraries and library staff, now and in the future.