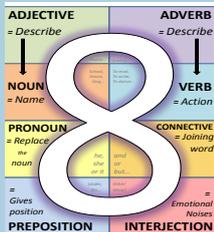


How can I ensure pupils achieve more in my subject next year?



Literacy News

SUMMER TERM, PART 2

020: 18TH JUNE 2018

Mentoring at Northern House School

By Carlton (y11)

This year year11 have had a chance to mentor the younger pupils. This is about the advantages and disadvantages of mentoring.

Helping others can help you later on in life with family and friends. It teaches you respect for other people and ways where you can help in difficult situations. You will be more patient and understanding when things go wrong and you will have the skills to put things right.

Younger pupils will feel more safe if they can talk to older pupils and staff. Young students have respect for older ones as they have been through it and have more respect. They get to build positive relationship with mentors.

Mentors can help staff when they get on well with young pupils. They can take them for a talk or a run around the field which frees up the staff that can stay in their lessons. Staff knows which students (mentors) they rely on. There are less issues for staff to deal with as Mentors can often prevent things from escalating.

One of the disadvantages are that the mentors could be busy and unable to help. Also mentors have the proper training to make sure they don't make a mistake and mess things up. Another drawback could be that they could make the situation worse.

In my opinion I think it's a good thing that there are mentors helping. It has a positive impact on the school, there is less bullying and more people are honest. Mentors feel better about themselves and are proud of what they achieve.

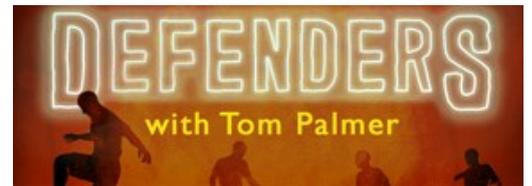
Unedited text as produced by the pupil.

The Story Behind The Story

Carlton produced this text as his final year 11 submission. During the planning phase, he worked both in the classroom with the teacher and in Access with his 1:1 tutor.

Through the staff working together, the English teacher was able to help Carlton identify his topic and key themes for each paragraph, using the time in his one to one sessions to make sure he was discussing the vocabulary and punctuation he would use.

As a consequence of all three parties working to allow the pupil time to develop his thoughts and find his own 'best words', we think he has produced a very professional piece of writing.



Pupils are currently enjoying the daily updates from popular children's writer, Tom Palmer. He is writing a chapter a day to build his mystery story around events in Russia.

The project is run in partnership between Tom and the National Literacy Trust. I'm sure we will all enjoy following events weaving together real life news and imaginary characters.

Every Lesson A Literacy Lesson

NOW ON
The Summer Challenge

Descriptive Work

It was 29th April 2017 The annual of Auto Italia car event at Brooklands museum. I worked hard to get my tired Fiat Punto (Ariana Grande) through her MOT just for this event. That's how EXCITED I was just for this one event!

She unfortunately failed her MOT on one thing. Her exhaust failed after getting stuck in the shut roads for the Reading bike race! I finally got home to change her centre exhaust giving her a full oil change and took her back a week later for her retest and she passed! So now it was just waiting for the day of the event. The day before, I cleaned Ariana with all my affection to make sure she looked her finest. I then paid tax and day insurance and it was finally time for the event. It was a pleasant drive to begin with. The sun was beaming and the scenery was breath taking. The leaves on the trees were vibrant green and the fields were scattered with beautiful flowers. Then we got onto the boring, dull and grey motorway. I couldn't bear to look out of the window and instead decided to look at something more interesting like cars on my phone. The Fiat forum group all met up in Tesco car park before conveying into Brooklands Museum. It looked like I was inside a packet of skittles with the amount of coloured cars that was there! After getting an amazing spot to park on the famous Brooklands embankment that was once loud with the sounds of race cars after waiting a little bit we could see all the yellow, green, orange, and many more colours of super cars, small cars, Alfas, Fiats, Abarths, and much more. After having a look around at all the exhibits like the old buses and old planes. It was time to watch the famous Brooklands hill club there was even a guy on bike trying to do it! Was hella fun after that it was time for photos after they was all taken it was time to pack up and get ready for heading home. It was a fantastic day, the drive home was just as nice as the drive there with all the same scenery after getting back I was knackered! But was so worth it best ive had with my dad! and cant wait for 2018 event

Connor, y11

Uncorrected text submitted by the pupil.

In this piece, I especially love the contrast created between rural roads and the motorways. There is a real sense of atmosphere flowing through this, and anyone who knows Connor will clearly hear his voice when reading it. The vocabulary has some wonderful variety and words are clearly chosen deliberately to communicate exactly the meaning the author intends. A great example of the pupil producing higher level work when enthused by the subject matter.

National Writing Day

Wednesday, 27th June

"Everyone has a story to tell..."

As stated last week, this event is coming up soon and we will be taking part in the day.

During the days leading up to it, English & literacy staff will be taking to pupils about this to help them gather ideas for their contribution.

On the day itself, we would hope that everyone—staff and students—will join together for 10 minutes of personal writing time. There will be more information over the next week, but in the meantime check out the website!

<https://www.nationalwritingday.org.uk>

More Descriptive Writing

As I leave my house in the morning it is as cold as a blizzard in the Antarctic. Sometimes it's frosty and sometimes it's not so cold depending on the temperature. The area is a bit run down as it's of age and not much has been done over the years apart from the big block of flats that were pulled down around the back of my house. Most of the houses are red brick houses the front doors are white like a sheet of snow. The grass can be overgrown for quite a while. It could do with a cut however it's November and it won't get cut until spring.

I'm on my way to the shops to buy some groceries because I'm hungry however the shop is expensive. The path is old and parts are out of line and could do with repaving at some point.

In the holidays children are playing out everyday like rodents running around.

Blake (y10)

Again this is the work the student produced as a final draft, uncorrected. You can see we had been doing some work on the use of similes and metaphors and this text was the opportunity to try to build the theory into a real context. What was also pleasing is that the previous topic (connectives) is evidenced, and although this needs further improvement, Blake has remembered to try to develop his sentence structures.