

ALEX BELLOS & BEN LYTTLETON:

READY, SET, WRITE WITH FOOTBALL SCHOOL

NOTES FOR TEACHERS AND LIBRARIANS



KICK OFF

BEFORE WATCHING THE VIDEO OR READING THE EXTRACT:

Before watching the video or reading the extract... In Alex and Ben's book *Football School*, there are lots of interesting and also funny stories about footballers! Think about how football might be funny. Perhaps a player would do something weird in the middle of a game – or maybe the players would turn into animals every time they scored! Share your funny football ideas!

DISCUSS THE EXTRACT!

TAKEN FROM PAGES 16-23 OF 20 FANTASTIC FOOTBALL STORIES

- 1. What can you tell about the style of the book? Do you like it? Is it fiction or non-fiction?
- 2. What does Harry Kane describe as being 'crucial' to his career success? (page 17)
- **3.** What are Megan Rapinoe's beliefs? How did she 'speak up' for them? (page 21)

FIND INSPIRATION

AFTER WATCHING THE VIDEO, DEVELOP ALEX AND BEN'S IDEAS

INSPIRATION 1: FANTASTIC FOOTBALLERS & TOP TEAMS

Alex and Ben's book kicks off with Fantastic Footballers like Harry Kane, Megan Rapinoe and Marcus Rashford, but it also includes tales of Top Teams – some of the best and most interesting teams in the world!

- Draw an outline of a star. Think about what makes a footballer like Marcus Rashford a star. What makes him fantastic? Is it about being great on the pitch, or does behaviour off the pitch matter too? Write down your ideas inside your star template.
- Think about what makes a TOP Team. Does a Top Team always have to have the best players in it?
 Think about your favourite Top Team and use them to create a 'recipe' for a Top Team.

INSPIRATION 2: MAKING AN IMPACT - CHANGING THE WORLD FOR THE BETTER

In the video, Alex and Ben talk about how their fantastic stories about football also help us learn about the world. The book is about inspirational stories of achievement – both on and off the pitch!

- Alex and Ben talk about game-changers the footballers who have changed the world for the better. Who are these footballers? How have they changed the world for the better? Are there any footballers that have a strong impact on you? Why?
- Create a list of ideas of how you would change the world for the better!
- Every football club has a club badge and a motto that symbolises what they stand for. Create your own personal badge and motto that reflect the most important things in your life.

CREATIVE CHALLENGE FROM ALEX BELLOS & BEN LYTTLETON!

In 1983 thieves stole the World Cup trophy from an office in Brazil. Write a dramatic story from the point of view of a detective. You will need to invent: the name of detective; the names of thieves and their motives: and how the detective solves the case!



