



St Ambrose High School

Literacy Newsletter November 2014



Authors' Visit in October

Three authors Gill Arbuthnott, Lari Don and Roy Gill visited the school on the 21st of October to talk to S1,2 and 3 pupils about reading and writing. They talked about their books and the ways in which they write and encouraged the pupils to become involved in this. The Q&A session was very lively and the pupils were able to buy the books and have them signed. It was a really enjoyable experience for all!

Information Literacy-a Library Initiative

It is planned that there will be a whole school strategic approach to the use of the PLUS model (led by our librarian) and that all pupils will be able to build and consolidate their information literacy skills. The mnemonic is simple to remember and covers all the basics of information literacy when being taught alongside purposeful research.

PLUS
P=Purpose/Planning
L=Locating (information)
U=Using (appropriately and within copyright parameters)
S=Self evaluation



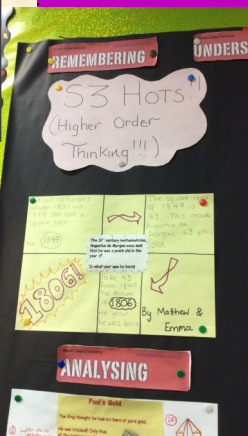
Lest We Forget

The beautiful display of remembrance arranged by 3S2 pupils and Alison Smith promote the value of human life through poignant poetry (In Flanders Fields), thought provoking images and prayers.

Dyslexia Awareness Week takes place in November with pupils being made aware through Tutor Time about the impact on Literacy and learning for everyone who has this condition.

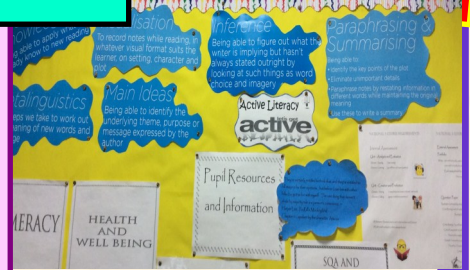
HOTS FOR MATHS!

Higher Order Thinking and the language of skills has been a focus in Maths. Pupils have been learning about how they apply these skills in Maths problems.



Active Literacy In English

The English dept. is developing Active Literacy Skills in the Junior Phase and encouraging pupils to think about the skills they are using and how these can be transferable in other subject areas. The 6 skills (*Prior Knowledge, Inference, Visualisation, Main Ideas, Metalinguistics and Paraphrasing and Summarising*) help to promote literacy across Listening, Talking, Reading and Writing in all subject areas.



To follow... **CPD Monday 17/11/14 Active Literacy Training** for all teachers will take place in the Assembly Hall 1.30pm to 2.30pm and further training in the form of TLC will be on offer for teachers to develop Literacy within their subjects.

Literacy Assessment in Junior Phase

25 S1 pupils took part in literacy assessments organised by NLC Literacy Hub during the first week of November. Pupils were chosen randomly in S1 and are now part of the process wherein they are tracked in Literacy development throughout their school career. This allows NLC to be able to identify levels of Literacy, how well our pupils are developing and supports which may need to be put in place for teacher Inset and training.

Spotlight on Writing

Pupils in Modern Languages have

been involved in "Spotlight on Writing" tasks to help promote Literacy within the department. Excellent examples of writing have been on display in the department in all classes

and used as writing models for all pupils.

There has also been a focus on grammar in Modern Languages and definitions of grammatical terms have been put on display to help support all pupils.

Food for thought....

(thanks to Angela for this.)

Children Learn What They Live

If children live with criticism, they learn to condemn.
 If children live with hostility, they learn to fight.
 If children live with ridicule, they learn to be shy.
 If children live with shame, they learn to feel guilty.
 If children live with tolerance, they learn to be patient.
 If children live with encouragement, they learn confidence.
 If children live with praise, they learn to appreciate.
 If children live with fairness, they learn justice.
 If children live with security, they learn to have faith.
 If children live with approval, they learn to like themselves.
 If children live with acceptance and friendship, they learn to find love in the world.

Helping you keep learners motivated and on target

