

Minutes from BPC Year Group Cluster Meeting

Year group: 3	Venue: North Walney Primary
Date: 22nd May 2018	Lead teacher: Gill Stevens

Reading – current practice in the classroom, assessment and reading comprehension.

St James – Using Headstart – tests give scaled scores – 3 tests a year – fiction and non-fiction and poetry – good for stamina – used once a half term to assess – combine with reading age scores for overall outcome. Headstart more like SAT style layout so good prep for Y6. Felt that they were more accurate than Rising Stars and less harsh. Also use ‘Picture a Day’ from Pobble 365 – visual stimulus with associated Q’s. Same pic can be used across school to show progression. Good variety of resources also available from ‘Literacy Shed’ – VIPERS focus on different comp Q types. Fiction, N-F and poetry. Subscription to Literacy Shed Plus thought to be good value with planning for writing and associated videos and resources. TWINKL – 60 second reads. Good for lower ability, builds reading speed and comes with Q’s – topic based. Use Echo reading – mixed ability pairs – HA reads first, LA then re-reads.

South Walney – Use Talk for Reading. Make up their own comprehension questions linked to class texts to focus on specific question types. Links made to wider curriculum in History and Geography.

Victoria Academy – Using Looking & Thinking pictures – good for getting children to think about evidence – good for warm ups. Also use Reading Explorers for teaching sessions – focus on specific question types to take account of children’s gaps in skills and understanding. Using NFER for reading ages – words in context. Assess termly using Rising Stars.

Yarlside – Use power of reading books as part of approach and write questions that match with SAT style layout. Qs written based on identified areas for development (Q type). Used Rising Stars for assessment but felt they were not comparable to SATs so now trialling NFER (timed tests). One round conducted, only overall results shared with staff, tests administered and marked by someone else.

Cambridge – Assess once a term. Use old level 3 SATs papers and grid analysis identifies weaker areas. Traditional guided reading sessions take place regularly with teacher prepared Qs. ORT criteria provides objectives for individual children to be assessed against and, alongside formal assessment, results submitted to scholarpak. Literacy Box also used as a teacher resource.

Actions from issues:

Unable to secure a Lead Teacher for year 2018 – 2019 as some teachers did not know which year group they would yet be teaching in, many members had sent apologies and no volunteers from other attending staff. Gill Stevens to hand over following today’s meeting. Requests for Lead Teacher from September to be sent out to Cluster Group members via BPC/Yarlside Teaching School Alliance ready for October meeting.

Did not secure a venue or subject matter for next meeting – apologies. Suggest possible venue as Ormsgill Primary as they offered last time but North Walney was selected on this occasion. Please could request be sent for October meeting via BPC/Yarlside Teaching School Alliance.

Suggestion for focus of next meeting – Spelling – current classroom strategies, schemes and resources, testing and assessment, spellings within writing. Please could this suggestion be forwarded to members for confirmation or other requests invited via BPC/Yarlside Teaching School Alliance.

CPD requirements:

None at this time.

What is working well in your year group?

Group discussions and sharing of resources.

Questions for Head Teachers:

None at this time.

Next meeting: 9th October 2018

Venue: TBC	Focus: Spelling
Date: 9 th October 2018	Lead Teacher: TBC