**WLD Teaching and Learning Digest – w/c 9th April 2018**

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| **COMMUNICATION FOCUSES**    Unpick the exam command words (e.g. analyse, explain, describe etc) | **DYSLEXIA-FRIENDLY STRATEGY**  Is your background a pastel shade?  Do you give thinking time? |

**This week:**

* The **thought for the week** this week is **‘Bouncebackability’ –** the idea that making mistakes is okay and, in fact, can be a good thing.  Please use the PPT with forms and an article based on Iain Dowie’s reputed word coinage.
* Promoting **Wider Reading** – Year 7s are all required, from today, to have a reading book with them at all times.  They may read this where the opportunity arises.  They have also been given a wider reading challenge for the summer term.  Most subjects have contributed so please encourage them to complete (I have attached to this email for info). Parents also have a copy. We are rewarding students who complete, rather than those who don’t. Copy will be pigeon holes on Monday.

**Teaching Approach of the Week – Try It!**

Learning requires forgetting

The work of R.A. Bjork produces insight into learning: that ***forgetting is important to long-term learning.***

Restudying material when it is fresh in your mind feels good because the material seems familiar – it feels as if you know it. However, this is misleading because the reason it seems familiar is because of its recency, not how well it has been learned. The best time to restudy something is after you have forgotten it, when it is no longer familiar.

***The key implication for teaching is that studying things in blocks (what psychologists call “massed practice”) is less effective than studying things in short bursts, interspersed with other material (“distributed practice”).***

Students generally dislike distributed practice – they would rather focus on one topic for a while – but they remember more when practice is broken up.

<https://www.tes.com/us/news/breaking-views/9-things-every-teacher-should-know>

**Recent Top Tips (abridged)… Keep using them if they worked!**

* **Show the learning in stages…think out loud**
* **Verbal Feedback**
* **Principles of Instruction**
* **Because, but, so – extend sentences and thinking**
* **PIE FACES – Features of good writing**
* **‘Prepare to Teach’ and ‘Topic Ranking’**
* **‘Just a Minute’ and ‘Exam Wrappers’**
* **Retrieval Practice – questions from last lesson, last week and last term**
* **Presentation as an indirect way of enhancing progress**
* **Unlocking key words – discussing possible meanings**
* **The ‘BIG Question’**
* **3B4ME – promoting independence**
* **WAGOLLs (what a good one looks like – use of model work)**
* **Pose, Pause, Pounce and Bounce**
* **Reading for understanding – mini-whiteboards, quick quizzes, verbal questioning, think-pair-share etc.**

**Top Tips in Two this Half-Term**

Thanks to those who willingly (and even unwillingly) volunteer. More needed! Great to see the ideas being used around school:

* Monday 9th April –A. Christian – We Are Reading
* Friday 13th April – D. Turner – Doddle Revision
* Wednesday 18th April – G. Moore – revision strategy
* Friday 27th April – A. Halsall
* Friday 4th May – D. Turner – Teams/365