

Schools Library Service Newsletter

January 2004



2nd Chartermark Award For SLS!

For those who didn't know, in November 2002 SLS was awarded this prestigious award for excellence in public service for the second time. We would like to thank all our customers for their support. We will continue to strive for improved services.

Best Value Inspection

Some of you will be aware that SLS were involved in Caerphilly Library Services' Best Value Inspection. This was undertaken by Estyn and the Audit Commission. The whole service was awarded a 2** "Good" rating. The Report will soon be available on the SLS website.

SLS Staffing

We have two new members of staff at SLS. Alison Court replaces Bernadette Ryan as Schools Librarian.



Alison can be contacted on 01495 235564

We also welcome Matthew Gannon who has joined our team as a Library Assistant.



Training at SLS

We have hosted a number of very successful training events in the past few months.



Reading for Boys
for
Primary &
Secondary

level was fully booked. In fact it was so popular that Primary schools asked for it to be repeated and this was arranged for the 24th of September 2003.

Future Training Events

A Training Day with Geoff Dubber will be held at Schools Library Service on March 16th.

The course will involve 2 sessions: Training Pupil Librarians and Induction for year 7's.

This is free of charge to all staff with responsibility for Secondary school libraries

within Caerphilly County Borough and Blaenau Gwent.

If you would like to reserve a place please contact: **Chris Selby - 01495 235563**

Library Forum

The Primary & Secondary Forums meet once a term. Meetings provide an opportunity for consultation on matters such as training, author visits, and the development & improvement of services. School library staff can share good practice and keep up to date with the latest developments. Why not come along. Next meetings:

Primary Forum

February 26th at Schools Library Service - 4.00pm

Secondary Forum

March 3^d at Blackwood Comprehensive School's Learning Resource Centre. - 2.30 pm



Opening Hours Review & change of late night opening hours

SLS have in the past opened until 6.30 pm on Wednesday evenings, but very few customers use this facility. Following consultation with our customers, it has been decided that we will now close at 5.00pm. We are still prepared to open outside normal office hours on Wednesdays by prior arrangement.



SLS Statistics 2002/2003

No of items loaned to schools **221,140**

Number of projects requested by schools **2,697**

Total Number of Complaints 5

Comments on lack of stock 3
Comments on inappropriate Content in books 2

Cost of Service

Caerphilly **£145,301**



Blaenau Gwent **£60,766**

Vaynor & Penderyn High(Merthyr) **£608** (Spring Term only)

GEST (Caerphilly) **£5,000**



In association with Blaenau Gwent Mewn cysylltiad a Blaenau Gwent

ICT NEWS

- The new *Windows* version of the Primary Library database should be available in the near future.
- We are currently in the process of updating the SLS web site and this will be available soon.

Award Winning Books

The winner of the Carnegie medal 2002 (presented in 2003) was Sharon Creech for '**Ruby Holler**'.

The winner of the Kate Greenaway medal was Bob Graham for '**Jethro Byrde - Fairy Child**'

These books are available from Schools Library service.



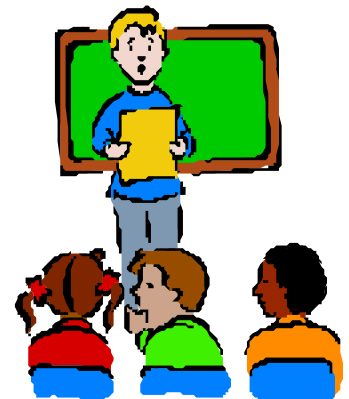
Author Visit Programme

2003/2004

Several of our schools have enjoyed visits from authors during the last year and there are more of these exciting events due in 2004.

25 th Sept	Bob Hartman
30 th Sept	Phil Carradice
15 th Oct	Colin West
3rd Nov	Phil Carradice
13 th Nov	Bernard Ashley
25 th Nov	Ronda & David Armitage
15 th Jan	George Layton
10 th Feb.	Liz Million
18 th March	Inigo Jones
23 rd April	Alan Gibbons
26 th April	Lesley Howarth
6 th May	Nick Sharratt
18 th May	Douglas Hill
8 th June	John Foster

World Book day 2004 is Thursday 4th March



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