

Welcome to the second issue of our termly newsletter, brought to you via your local authority, the focus of which is on Special Educational Needs (SEN).

As you know, support staff play a crucial role in helping many children with SEN and can make a significant difference to pupils' lives in many key areas. Teachers TV has videos to support most aspects of SEN; for inspiration, tips, contacts or advice visit the SEN area of the Teachers TV website where you can find a list of resources, all available for free at www.teachers.tv/sen

For TAs: working with pupils with SEN

For many of you, your first experience working with students with special educational needs can be quite daunting. In this feature **Elaine Walker-Smith, SENCO at Edgebury Primary School in Kent** shares her tips for getting to grips with SEN.

"As a SENCO I have always been impressed by the diversity of skills, patience and dedication of classroom TAs. Support staff often have to deal with a whole range of challenges ranging, on the one hand, from children who require just a little extra encouragement and support with their literacy and maths to those children who have statements for more complex needs. It is not unusual to find a TA working with a small group of pupils whose difficulties may include ADHD, severe language disorder, autism, behavioural and emotional and moderate learning difficulties. Here are just a few tips that the support staff in our school have found helpful in enhancing the learning of all pupils within such diverse groups."

To read Elaine's tips visit www.teachers.tv/ta



If you haven't already done so, why not register for this free service at www.teachers.tv/register/ta. If you register using the above URL between 11th January and 8th February you will be entered into a prize draw to receive £30 worth of Amazon vouchers.* We have 3 vouchers to give away.

Choose your TA with Talent!

Don't forget to vote for your favourite Teaching Assistant.

Voting opens for TAs with Talent on January 27th for one week only...

Go to www.facebook.com/teacherstv and choose your favourite inspirational TA.

New Videos for the Spring Term!

Here's a taste of our brand new content this term - remember we've got lots more on our specialist TA and HLTA hubs - just go to www.teachers.tv/ta and www.teachers.tv/hlta

Bayley on Behaviour - Establishing the Ground Rules
www.teachers.tv/series/bayley-on-behaviour

Our secondary behaviour guru demonstrates how simple strategies can work to avoid chaos and confusion in the classroom.

Primary Safeguarding - Spotting Signs of Abuse and Neglect
www.teachers.tv/video/38246 (available online from January 18th)

Looks at the issues of abuse and neglect that can affect pupils in primary schools, and how teachers and TAs can spot the signs.

Gain new skills with SEN - Teachers TV can help you:

- Address a range of SEN provision
- Deal with a range of behaviours
- Learn about autism spectrum disorders and dyslexia
- Help develop the social and emotional well-being of SEN pupils
- Build up skills relating to EAL, speech and language strategies
- Understand ways of measuring attainment such as using P-Scales



What to watch on the web this term

Recommended viewing - programmes with a special needs focus.

Working as a Team www.teachers.tv/video/36830

The TA team manages and monitors a number of literacy and numeracy interventions that help target the pupils who arrive in this school with a literacy age two years below their chronological age.

Primary Special Needs - A Passion for Handwriting www.teachers.tv/video/5416

This video highlights how a head's experience of dyslexia lead to a policy based on handwriting. Pisuipils are taught to write in a cursive script in short ten-minute blocks daily, and teachers use multi-sensory and other fun techniques to embed the learning.

Secondary Special Needs - Understanding Autism www.teachers.tv/video/21820

Twenty-year-old John Simpson, who himself is on the autistic spectrum, guides you through the theory and reality of life for many ASD pupils at secondary school.

HLTAs - My Viewing Log

New on the website: **My Viewing Log** is a great tool that allows you to make records of videos you watch. These can then count towards your Continuing Professional Development (CPD). Watch videos, record your initial thoughts, return to update your notes when you've tried implementing ideas in the classroom, and download and print a record of how you have used videos as part of your CPD.

You can find a link to **My Viewing Log** next to every Teachers TV video on the website. Just click on 'Add this video' and begin!

I often use clips from your website to encourage the Learners to observe and reflect. Your new area will save me lots of time and also make sure I don't miss anything. I will also be encouraging my learners to sign up for updates as it's in a very user friendly format.

Joanne,
TA Tutor

We'd like to hear about your top tips on outdoor learning for our Summer issue. Email them to newletter@teachers.tv by 28th February 2010 and we'll enter you into a prize draw to win £50 worth of Amazon vouchers.*



Top Tips for the term

According to Elizabeth Henderson, a Dyslexia Adviser at Ewelme Church of England Primary School, there are certain things all teachers can do to help dyslexic children learn at school:

- **Keep a checklist of characteristic behaviour in mind**
- **Remember that pupils with dyslexia think and learn in a different way**
- **Multi-sensory teaching can help pupils with dyslexia**
- **Overlearning is necessary for pupils with dyslexia**
- **Anything that works for teaching pupils with dyslexia is effective for all children**

You can find a more detailed list of Elizabeth's tips at www.teachers.tv/hlta

Watch at www.teachers.tv/ta or on Freeview 88 (4-6pm), Sky 880, Virgin TV 240, or Freesat 650

*Terms and conditions apply. Please visit www.teachers.tv/prizedrawterms for more details.