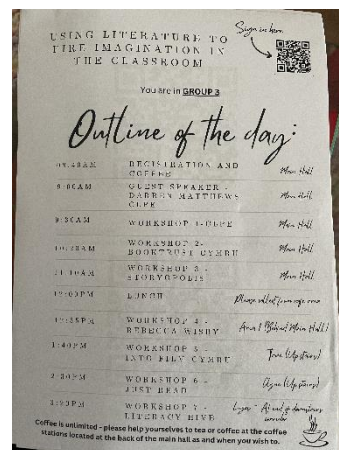


**Examples of initiatives promoted last year to encourage reading for pleasure in our schools in Swansea:**



Teaching staff in Swansea were invited to a Literature Conference organised by Rebecca Wisby, Swansea Schools' Literacy Performance Specialist. Staff had the opportunity to attend workshops delivered by many experts in

developing positive reading habits in the classroom – these included CLPE, BookTrust Cymru, IntoFilm Cymru, Storyopolis, Rebecca Wisby, Literacy Hive, Atebol and Partneriaeth.



School literacy leaders had training in the Just Read and Reading History projects last year, highlighting the importance of addressing the need to promote reading for pleasure in the classroom as a social justice issue. This initiative is a collaboratively constructed, active and engaged process where all members of the class take part in following a text read fluently by the class teacher. Many schools across Swansea are trialling this project this year to promote a culture of reading for pleasure.



Staff also had training from CLPE, Centre for Literacy in Primary Education, and learned about the power of a rich reading classroom, developing specific strategies to promote reading for pleasure.



Staff are working hard to put various initiatives into practice in the classroom this year as a result of this training.



Staff were encouraged to audit their books in schools and were pointed towards using the Open University toolkit for evaluating current practices for reading for pleasure in the classroom.

OU reading for pleasure:

<https://ourfp.org/texts-authors/>



BookTrust Cymru delivered training specifically look at the concept of reading for pleasure. They have been working hard to encourage staff to rethink reading for pleasure in the new curriculum over the past few years:

<https://educationwales.blog.gov.wales/2020/02/14/booktrust-cymru-re-thinking-reading-for-pleasure-in-the-new-curriculum/>

Read for Good initiatives have also been promoted in Swansea schools:

Read for Good's work is really about encouraging and motivating pupils to read the wonderful books available for them. Ensuring choice is vital, and also valuing what they choose to read in their spare time is important. Tools such as [Readathon](#)® and [Track My Read](#)® are designed to spark pupils into thinking about what they might read, to spark school and peer discussions about what they love and what they don't, and to provide some extrinsic motivation for those who need it.

Schools also take part in 'Celebrating Reading' assemblies as well as often selecting a 'Most improved reader' as part of the World Book Day celebrations in March.

#### CONSIDERATION:

If you wish to target current initiatives and align your award with the current literacy training in Swansea for this academic year, the predominant focus is on improving pupils' response to literature through poetry. Staff across the local authority are receiving training in this area this term – 14 cluster training events have already commenced and are due to be completed by 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023. Staff across the authority will be trialling these initiatives in class in the coming months so your award would fit perfectly with the focus for many schools and will be seen as a timely incentive.

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