



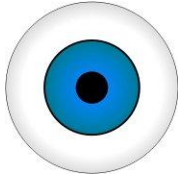




TAL Newsletter- 12th July 2010



If you have anything to contribute to the newsletter, please email me.

‘The true teacher defends his pupils against his own personal influence. He inspires self-distrust. He guides their eyes from himself to the spirit that quickens him. He will have no disciple.’

Amos Bronson Alcott

<p>To Watch</p> 	<p>Developing the right mindset.</p> <p><i>‘Mindsets are beliefs—beliefs about yourself and your most basic qualities. Think about your intelligence, your talents, your personality. Are these qualities simply fixed traits, carved in stone and that’s that? Or are they things you can cultivate throughout your life?’</i></p> <p>I’ve been profoundly influenced this year by the work of Carol Dweck about mindsets, this useful video summarises her thinking. How do we ensure that our students have growth mindsets?</p>
<p>To Try</p> 	<p>The Exit Ticket.</p> <p>Continuing my reading about American practice, Exit Ticket is a strategy used by the teacher to both reinforce and evaluate the learning that has taken place. Students are asked to state a fact, or answer a question/problem, before exiting the classroom. Alternatively students could write their answers onto pieces of paper; these can be used to inform the next lesson.</p>
<p>To Read</p> 	<p>Punished by rewards?</p> <p><i>‘There are at least 70 studies showing that extrinsic motivators- including A’s, sometimes praise, and other rewards—are not merely ineffective over the long haul but counterproductive with respect to the things that concern us most: desire to learn, commitment to good values...’</i></p> <p>Alfie Kohn’s book ‘<i>Punished by Rewards</i>’ is highly recommended, read a conversation with him that summarises many of his ideas.</p>
<p>To Manage</p> 	<p>Covering all bases.</p> <p>A useful NLP language technique. This pattern is useful when building rapport with any group. It works by making sure that all people are included.</p> <p><i>‘I know that some of you have already done some work on this with your last teacher, others are coming to this new and some of you have already developed your own interest in this area.’</i></p>
<p>To reflect</p> 	<p>When is risk acceptable?</p> <p><i>‘We can only give kids the independence they need if we have faith in other people to look out for them.’</i></p> <p>A challenging article from the Spiked, particularly after spending a week constantly looking out for risk. Spiked is the online daughter publication of the now defunct <i>Living Marxism</i>, as such it might not reflect your own personal perspective!</p>