



NEWSLETTER

Jan/Feb
2023

For parents: offering a different and valuable perspective on children's growth

WELCOME

Can I begin by extending a very warm welcome to you all in this, our third bi-monthly newsletter from Approach Education.

We hope that you find this both helpful and enjoyable to read. Our aim is to offer something to families that is of interest but, at the same time, of practical help.

If you would like to learn more about Approach or if you feel that we can help you in any area of education, be it in helping to choose a school for your children or offering academic or mentoring support then please contact us at info@approacheducation.co.uk and we will look forward to speaking to you.

If you would like to receive future bi-monthly newsletters then please subscribe to these on our website: approacheducation.co.uk/newsletter

2023: What is the **solution**?

Christmas is a time of celebration: for children it is categorised often by the giving and receiving of presents and for others by travelling abroad or spending time with loved ones. Soon after Christmas comes the ceremonial ending of the year and an ushering in of a new year.

The New Year brings its own traditions and one of these is the New Year Resolution. It would be helpful to talk to children about the meaning and context of a **resolution** in their lives.

We understand the word 'resolution' now to mean 'determined, decided, absolute or final' but this is not the original meaning of the word. The word instead used to mean a 'breaking

into smaller parts, or a dissolving' (from the Latin word '**resolutionem**'). The word resolve in one sense meant therefore a **clearer understanding**.

If we are to propose a resolution this year it should be done with a clear and authentic understanding of ourselves and why this resolution is important. For children to understand the reason for and goal of their own resolution is essential.

There is often the temptation to fix our children's problems for them. When we resist this temptation and replace it with insightful, patient questions, we can encourage them to better understand their own environment and make meaningful resolutions themselves.



DID YOU KNOW

x25,000

Trees are cut down every year

x4

A fish has 4 nostrils.

x350

Fleas can jump 350 times their body length

BOOK OF THE MONTH



For children who think 'what might have been?' or who have an interest in the 2 World Wars, this novel by Michael Morpurgo is a wonderful story.

It is based on a true story of a soldier in World War I who had the chance to kill a young Adolf Hitler, but instead, let him go. The book is a highly immersive read and a useful introduction for more reluctant readers with accessible language and illustrations by Michael Foreman.



27

NASA and SpaceX Launch.

Keep your eyes open for the planned Falcon 9 rocket launch, scheduled to take place at the end of February. This is a joint project between NASA and Elon Musk's SpaceX company and will carry 2 US astronauts, a Russian Cosmonaut and a UAE astronaut on the 25 hour journey to the International space Station. They will remain there for 6 months.



THE ROYAL SOCIETY

Royal Society Lectures...

If your child displays a natural curiosity, then why not visit the website of the Royal Society. The RS have since 1936 hosted a series of 'Christmas Lectures' specially designed to spark curiosity and a love of science in children. The website can be found at <https://www.rigb.org/christmas-lectures>.

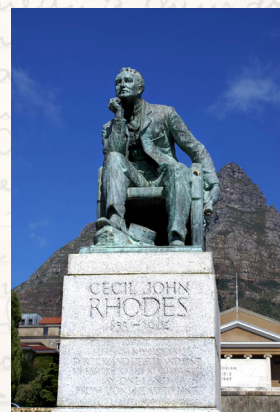
SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT OVER SUPPER...?

IS IT RIGHT TO WHITEWASH HISTORY?

There has been talk in recent months about the life of Cecil Rhodes. Rhodes was a mining magnate and South African politician who, it is claimed, played a very significant role in the establishment of what became **apartheid** in South Africa by altering laws on voting and land ownership which benefitted white people. He is viewed by many historians as a racist.

However, Rhodes donated large sums of money to Oxford University and Cape Town University and this money had been used to provide education to hundreds of people in the years since his death.

Students in both Cape Town and Oxford have called for respective statues of Rhodes to be torn down in protest. Do you agree?



Supper Time....?

Why not invite each family member to create part of the evening dinner.

You can share out the roles in any way you wish: by food types (e.g. carbohydrates, vitamins, protein) or by colours or courses for example.

Give everyone the space (and budget?) to be innovative. You may be very pleasantly surprised by your family's ingenuity and creativity.

Why not also give the evening a theme...murder mystery, 80's pop or even Hollywood perhaps?

Leftover pasta?...try this!

This is a wonderful game for families with younger children as well as older.

Give each individual (or team) a set number of dried spaghetti strips (**don't** cook it first! :)), 8 large marshmallows and a length of sellotape.

The aim of the game is to be the team that makes the highest free-standing structure in the set time (you choose).

For younger children, you can help them by looking at photographs of buildings beforehand to understand which shapes are stronger...

APPROACH — EDUCATION —

Approach Education offers consultancy to families on a range of educational matters, including;

*School Choices and Application,
Immigration
Interview Preparation
Mentoring and Wellbeing
Critical Thinking
Academic Support*

We can be contacted at info@approachededucation.co.uk or by visiting our website at www.approachededucation.co.uk.