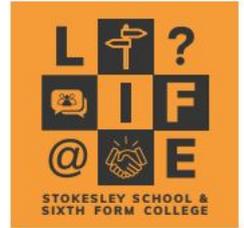


# Larger than LIFE

Stokesley school's weekly LIFE bulletin



Stokesley School  
& Sixth Form College  
Being the best we can be



Week beginning 30th November 2020

Edition Ten

## Half Term 2: Thankful

I don't know about you, but last week we were **THANKFUL** for an extra day off school when we didn't have to set an alarm! As well as being thankful, here at Team **LIFE** we are also excited that December is here and we can finally crack out the christmas decorations, the christmas music and get those christmas films on TV so that we can start to get into the festive spirit! Do you have a favourite christmas song? What are your family christmas traditions? What's your favourite christmas film? We suggest that you make it your mission this week to start talking about the things that you love (and, of course, are **THANKFUL** for!) about this time of year. Why not start [here](#), with a christmas playlist to get you in the mood!

Have a great week!  
Team **LIFE**

### Word of the week

**Gracious** - courteous, kind and pleasant.

*Although disappointed, she was **gracious** in defeat, praising her opponent, who had won.*

### Oracy challenge

One of the best feelings as a teacher is when someone says 'thank you' to you at the end of a lesson. How about you set yourself the challenge this week of thanking your teachers for what they've taught you at the end of the lesson. We can promise you that you'll put a massive smile on their face!

Go on, give it a go!

### Fact of the week

It is physically impossible for pigs to look up into the sky.



### Good news story

We think [these dancing bin men](#) from Wolverhampton are brilliant! Will their festive track 'Boogie Round The Bins at Christmas Time' be a hit? We think it should be!

### What do you need to know about the news?

We recommend that you head over to The Day via the student dashboard to see what's been going on in the news recently. There are some interesting stories from last week, including news about:

- The BBC's list of the 100 most inspiring women
- How wolves can help to rebalance the environment
- Covid vaccinations
- The Christmas lockdown restrictions

- The launch of a new military space command
- The comeback of chess!

Remember that if you find reading difficult, you can always click on the



button on each article so that you get the same news story but in language that you'll find easier to access.

The Day has also started translating some of its articles into Mandarin, which we think is pretty cool!

### Across the world

#### Events calendar

**1st December** is [World AIDS day](#)

**2nd December** is the [International Day for the Abolition of Slavery](#)

**3rd December** in [International Day of Persons with Disabilities](#)

**3rd December** is also [National Roof over your Head Day](#), which fits in perfectly with our theme of **THANKFUL**

A bit of a silly one, but **December 4th** is [National sock day](#) which celebrates pairs of socks that manage to find one another after they've been through the wash!

#### Lighthouse messages

Nationally there has been an increase in the level of anxiety in young people as a consequence of lockdown and associated issues. Have a read of our information document [Anxiety - Information for Young People](#) which could help you, or someone that you know.

#### Spotlight on careers

##### [The Comeback is always Greater than the Setback](#)

A little inspirational video to raise spirits whilst we are in the midst of this global pandemic, it won't last forever and we belong to a strong community at Stokesley School and in the North East.



Resilience at work- School – or in any other part of life – is not only important to your emotional well-being, but it can help you manage the daily stresses and strains of working life and enable you to progress in your career.

**What is resilience?**

There are lots of different definitions of resilience, but put simply, it is a person's ability to adapt and bounce back in the face of difficulty.

Maybe you've heard the saying "what doesn't kill you makes you stronger". Being resilient helps us see challenges as opportunities instead of obstacles. This means that when something unexpected or unpleasant happens in our lives, we are able to learn from it, adapt to it and move beyond it a stronger person.

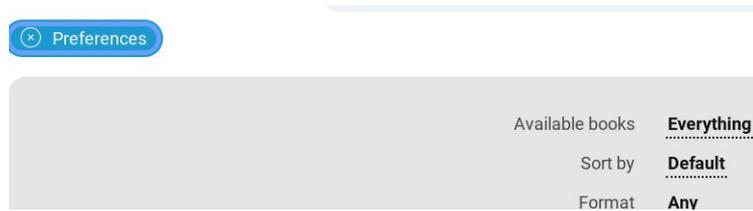
**News from the OLC**

**Reserving Books on SORA**

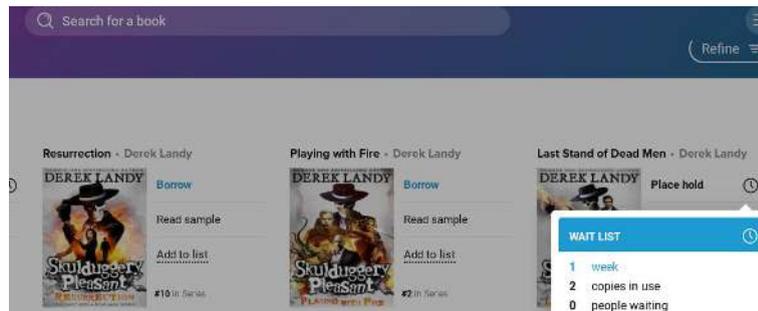
There are lots of new top titles on Sora, some of which are on loan to other students. You can reserve these books rather than just waiting for them to become available. Many of the books only have days or one week waiting time. Reserving ebooks will ensure you get the titles you want as soon as they are returned.

To reserve a book:

1. Go to preferences: on '**Available books**' ensure '**Everything**' is selected. (using the dropdown menu box).

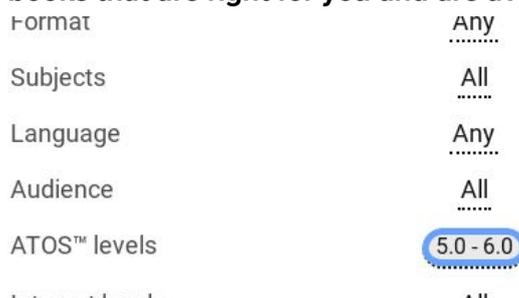


2. Search for your book; if it isn't available to borrow click on the clock symbol to find out how long the wait to borrow the book is.



3. If you would like to reserve this book, click on '**Place hold**'. It will be allocated to you once it is available.

**Remember, you can also look for books within your Accelerated Reader range and borrow or reserve books that are right for you and are available to quiz on.**



**Messages from your Heads of Year**

**Mrs Metcalfe**

I don't know about you, but December has crept up on us so quickly! Can you believe you have been a part of Stokesley School for 3 months now? Are you feeling in the Christmas spirit yet? I am definitely starting to and have been making

	<p>Christmas crafts and baking Christmas goodies with my daughter. Why not have a go yourself and make some Christmas decorations to brighten up your own room or even bring them into school and we can decorate our pod! <a href="#">Take a look here for some ideas to get started.</a></p>
<p><b>Mrs Bailey</b></p>	<p>It's great to see Y8 overall attendance creeping up, we are now at 94.8%. Let's have another week of keeping on keeping on and try to reach 95% next week. Don't forget the <a href="#">Fair Trade non fiction competition</a>. The deadline is this Monday so get any entries in quickly!</p> <p>Remember Wednesday is our reading day so don't forget to bring in a book!</p>
<p><b>Mrs Brosnan</b></p>	<p>What a week it has been Year 9. Our overall attendance is good and although we have a large number of students isolating, it is great to have you all back in today. It is the season to be jolly, December seems to have come around so quickly. Although, I have had my Christmas decorations up since 1st November. We only have 3 weeks left of this term and I'd like to see a final big push for ambition points, 100% attendance, and reductions in negatives. You have the celebration assembly in the last week of term and I'd like record numbers of certificates going home.</p> <p>I am starting to plan your Christmas week for the final week of term, if you have any suggestions of tutor activities please send me an email. Enjoy your week.</p>
<p><b>Mr Wilson</b></p>	<p>Well done to the three tutor groups who did the charity walk last week, hopefully we will get everyone done this or next week. Carrying on with Charity, I hope you are all managing to bring in some food for the foodbank appeal. This is something that is going to be needed more than ever this year and we should all be doing a little to help out others, who are worse off than we are.</p> <p>Finally, I hope you managed to have a good rest at the weekend and made use of the extra day off to recharge the batteries for the last few weeks at school.</p>
<p><b>Mr Hamer</b></p>	<p>It is very easy for us to begin to feel sorry for ourselves under the current circumstances, especially when we have to keep altering plans due to covid. However, as long as we continue to look after ourselves and keep each other safe we have a lot to be thankful for. It is a test of character when times are difficult, to carry on and think of others less fortunate than yourself. As part of the 'Thankful' theme this week, I would like to remind you that we can help to improve the lives of local people slightly, by donating items to the foodbank. I am asking you all to try to do this next week, even those of you who are isolating at the moment.</p> <p><a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SWHLFCzujLA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SWHLFCzujLA</a></p>