

SMSC Newsletter



Who knows what sort of a Christmas we can expect this year. Whatever happens, I'm sure the usual excitement will be in the air around school but with social distancing and COVID rules, keeping the students apart could be a problem.

Now I'm not saying I've solved this problem for you, however, there are one or two ideas in here for activities and games that are suitable for social distancing and can still be fun. All have a smattering of SMSC (of course) plus one or two things to be aware of in these unprecedented times.

If you know anyone who would like to subscribe to our monthly newsletter, please let them know.

Priorities may have changed in school this year, however, there is no need to put SMSC, British Values and PSHE on the back burner. In just one

minute they can be added to GridMaker to provide a bank of evidence of all the wonderful and innovative ways teachers weave SMSC, British Values and PSHE into the lessons.

Gridmaker

Our Newsletter [Grid](#) has activities added in Newsletters but you may want to add something in that you've taught this month - have a go.



Primary



Reindeer Games



This is a lovely idea to keep a classroom focused on school in December - just put in your email address, your name and it's yours for the taking.

<https://www.secondstorywindow.net/reindeer-games-holiday-classroom-management-freebie>

Recognising the things people and communities share in common, Investigating moral and ethical issues and appreciating others' viewpoints, Understanding the consequences of their behaviour and actions, Experiencing enjoyment and fascination in learning, Using imagination and creativity in learning, Mutual respect and tolerance.

Guess!

This is another really good idea to keep the younger ones focused - the link for the PDF with blank and written cards to play WHO AM I is towards the bottom of the page.

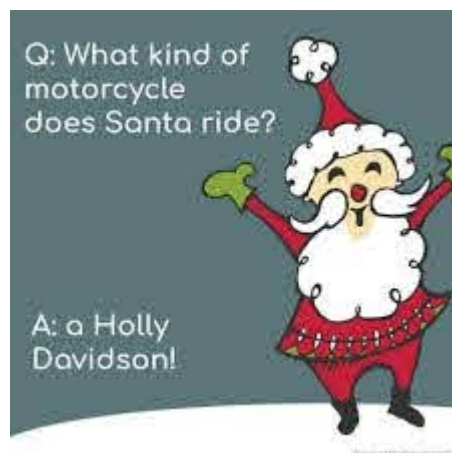
<https://www.theboldabode.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/christmas-game-who-am-i-1.pdf>

free!
Who am I?
Printable
Christmas
Game



Using a range of social skills in different contexts, Volunteering, cooperating with others and resolving conflicts, Experiencing enjoyment and fascination in learning, Using imagination and creativity in learning, Mutual respect and tolerance.

Ho. Ho. Ho.



Who doesn't love a good old fashioned Christmas joke - whilst we might groan, it will amuse the younger ones and maybe even prompt them to make up their own.

<https://happyhomefairy.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/CHRISTMAS-JOKES-2.pdf>

<https://www.fathermag.com/christmas-jokes-for-kids>

Using a range of social skills in different contexts, Volunteering, cooperating with others and resolving conflicts, Experiencing enjoyment and fascination in learning, Using imagination and creativity in learning.



Secondary



Escape Room

These free printable escape games cost nothing and could provide a challenge to older students.

<https://mamateaches.com/digital-escape-rooms>



Investigating moral and ethical issues and appreciating others' viewpoints, Using a range of social skills in different contexts, Understanding the consequences of their behaviour and actions, Volunteering, cooperating with others and resolving conflicts, Experiencing enjoyment and fascination in learning, Using imagination and creativity in learning, Mutual respect and tolerance.

Self-Evaluation Innovation



Take iAbacus on a 30 day free [trial](#).

Take a look at this [article](#), written by John Pearce about his take on preparing Middle Leaders to speak confidently about curriculum intent and implementation during an Ofsted inspection.

Explore the website while you're there - it has everything you need to know about iAbacus but if you'd like a one to one webinar, [click here](#)

Question One!

I can't believe how many quizzes are on this website. There are so many you could take some from several quizzes to construct your own. Love it!

<https://www.challengethebrain.com>



Using a range of social skills in different contexts, Volunteering, cooperating with others and resolving conflicts, Experiencing enjoyment and fascination in learning, Using imagination and creativity in learning, Mutual respect and tolerance.

Murder Mystery



This Murder Mystery game has everything you need to get your students into character to find out who dunnit!

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/murder-mystery-game-murder-menu>

Investigating moral and ethical issues and appreciating others' viewpoints, Using a range of social skills in different contexts, Understanding the consequences of their behaviour and actions, Volunteering, cooperating with others and resolving conflicts, Experiencing enjoyment and fascination in learning, Using imagination and creativity in learning, Mutual respect and tolerance.

Safe Social Media

Lockdowns and restrictions must have been hard on students and of course, their use of social media will have increased if they can't talk face to face. Here are some safe social media sites to use and recommend.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/social-media-networks-made-for-kids>



Using a range of social skills in different contexts, Volunteering, cooperating with others and resolving conflicts, Mutual respect and tolerance, Mental Wellbeing, Internet Safety & Harms.

Lonely this Christmas



Loneliness

It seems a bit weird talking about loneliness at Christmas but hey - it's been a weird year! The

introduction to this article says - loneliness doesn't just crop up when you're alone. I explored the website a bit - check out the 32 mouthwatering recipes for Brussels Sprouts (I'm not kidding)!

<https://www.self.com/story/pandemic-lonliness>

Recognising the things people and communities share in common, Understanding different cultures essential for life in modern Britain, Engaging with British values and contributing to life in modern Britain, Investigating moral and ethical issues and appreciating others' viewpoints, Reflecting on experiences, Respecting different people's faiths, feelings and values,

And finally..

When I was young, my mother and I would watch old films on Sunday afternoons and she nurtured the love I have for cinema and all those wonderful stars that graced the silver screen.

Christmas is upon us and as already stated, it's going to be very different. We have been in touch with many of you before and after lockdown and my colleagues and I know just how hard this year has been for staff in schools.

So I'm leaving you with this, sung by one of my favourites, Judy Garland. The lyrics could not be a more appropriate sentiment for enjoying the Christmas we will have and hope for the future.

Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MKG5X0QMSWA>



Have yourself a merry little Christmas
Let your heart be light
Next year all our troubles will be out of sight

Have yourself a merry little Christmas
Make the yule tide gay
Next year all our troubles will be miles away

Once again as in olden days
Happy golden days of yore
Faithful friends who were near to us
Will be dear to us once more

Someday soon, we all will be together
If the fates allow
Until then, we'll have to muddle through somehow
So have yourself a merry little Christmas now

Bye for now

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*Previous editions of our Newsletter can be found
on our [website](#)

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