

TEACHING AND LEARNING



**It don't mean a thing,
If it ain't got that swing!**



THE ASHLAWN JAZZ AWARD

Serving an ACE lesson!

Each half term we will recognise and celebrate inspirational classroom ideas which enable learning to 'swing'. Without doubt the first award goes to **Dave Unwin** for "winner, winner, chicken dinner", a creative adaptation of badminton. As Dave explains; "Students will use the giant playing cards. A player/pair serves and counts the number of their shots it takes to win the rally. They then receive the appropriate card i.e an ace gets an ace, second shot winner gets a king etc. Alternate serve so the opposition do the same. The aim is to manipulate the rally to win the point on the shot that will get you 21 and "winner winner chicken dinner". This means higher ability students can work on setting up their opponents to score at particular moments or in certain ways, forcing them to play shots out of their comfort zone or go 'bust'. Development of this could be, draw a card, face cards mean you have to win with a drop shot, ace means smash or tram lines etc I am sure this could be adapted to theory lessons. Draw a card and give an appropriate number or type of response. Face cards are higher order tasks low numbers can be simple definitions. I am sure there are many ways this can be adapted."

John Hattie's 'table of effect sizes' proves that such interactive learning is one of the key drivers of successful 21st Century learning. **Steve Taylor** has packs of large playing cards as well as a host of other exciting teaching and learning resources. If you would like to recommend a colleague to be the proud recipient of the next "Ashlawn Jazz Award" then email **Richard Cahill** with the details of the lesson or activity and we'll do the rest!



LEARNING COMMUNITIES

Ashlawn Learning Communities are there to enable you and your colleagues to develop your classroom practice. Why not try:

- Joint lesson-planning of parallel groups
- Peer observation of shared groups
- Searching the Best Practice Matrix for new ideas (updated regularly)
- Trying out the 'Research Lesson Study Project' approach (see below)
- Creating a shared resource

If you have something to share with others then why not set up and advertise your own Learning Community – as piloted by **Rob Southern**.

Research Lesson Study Project

Ashlawn School are involved in a national project in developing teaching and learning within and across schools. In Research Lesson Study, small groups of teachers join together to plan a lesson based on an agreed hypothesis and case study students. We will be linking with Avon Valley School in developing RLS within English very soon and will have an update on progress in the next issue.

Take the Challenge...

Each issue we will be issuing a challenge for you to take into your classroom based on this year's strategic priorities. *This issue the challenge is:*

Pace, Stretch and Challenge in KS3

How far do you push your KS3 classes? When using questioning, how many supplementary questions do you use? Do you have an incoming activity to ensure the pace is set right from the start? How challenging is the homework? How much do you involve students in determining the success criteria?

Challenge yourself in your next lesson and share your successes with others.