



HJS SEND NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the half-termly Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) newsletter for Hillborough Junior School.

THIS MONTH'S TOPICS:

- Transition to secondary school
- Transition to new year groups
- Activities you can do at home
- Getting your child ready for secondary school
- Books that might be helpful

IMPORTANT!

Transition day this year at Hillborough is

Thursday 7th July.

This is the same for most high schools, but some have a second day as well.

TRANSITION!

It can be a worrying time for parents and children when they start to think about Transition to a new school or year group. There are lots of things we do in school to try and make it easier, but there are also things you can do at home too.

What we do in school - Transition to a new year group

- The children will be told who their new teacher is as soon as we have made all the arrangements.
- They will already know the teachers, unless it is a new member of staff.
- We have a transition day in the summer term where all classes move up to their new teacher and spend time with them.
- Children complete transition work in school and think about their strengths, things they find difficult, and what they are looking forward to next year. We want all children to be excited to move up, not worried.
- If your child has a 1:1, they will continue to have a 1:1 in September, although this could be a different person.



What we do in school - transition to secondary school

- The teachers and SENCO will have a meeting or telephone conversation with the teachers and SENCO of the different secondary schools.
- Any children with EHCPs will have their annual review and the new SENCO will be invited to attend too.
- Sessions will be arranged for children to visit their new school on transition day and at additional times if it is felt it would help them.
- Teachers do sessions with the children about how things will be different in secondary, what to expect and what to look forward to.

Things you can do at home:

- There are lots of transition resources online that you can do with your child. Look at www.twinkl.co.uk as they have lots of supportive resources and worksheets.
- Have a look at the school website together and find out what you can about your school, teacher, year group etc.

The most important thing is to talk to your child. Find out how they are feeling, if they have any particular worries or concerns, what are they looking forward to, etc. Do they have any older siblings or relations who could put their mind to rest?



Anxiety can be a real problem for everyone. Why not try making your own 'settle jar'? Your child can watch it when they are feeling upset.

Instructions

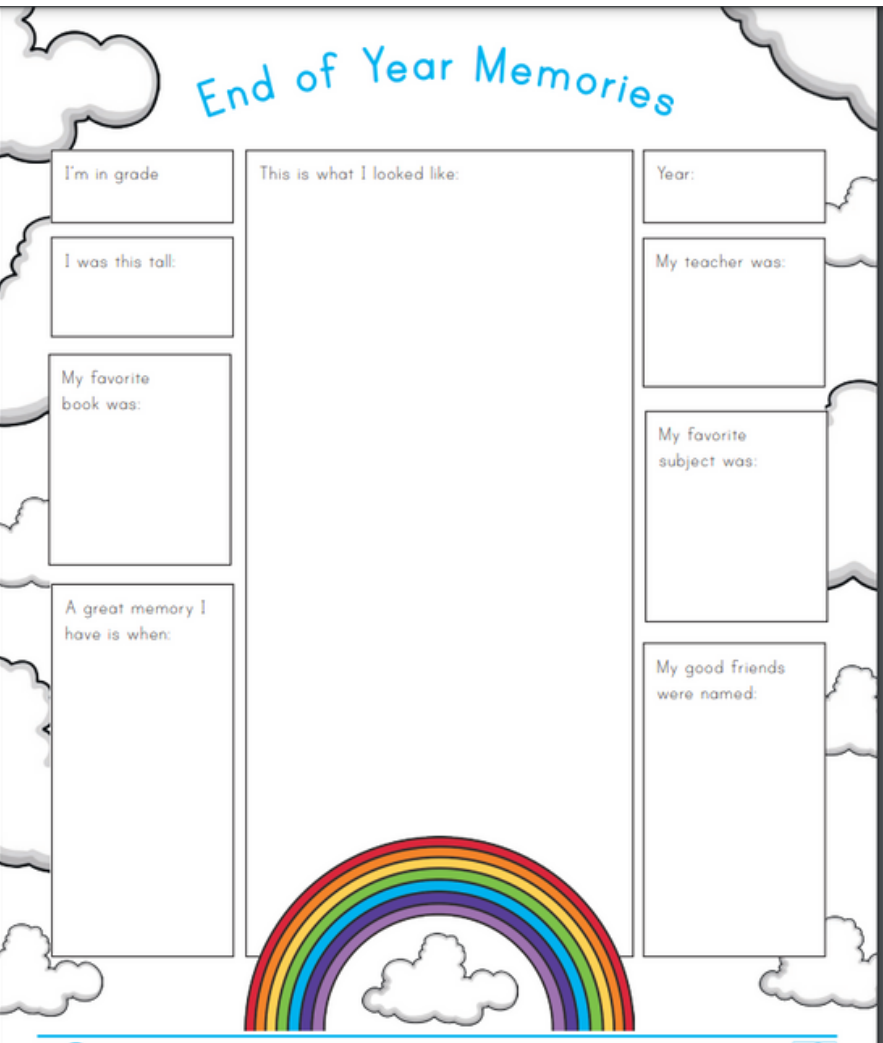
1. Pour a dollop of glitter glue into the jar. How much depends on the jar that you're using, but don't worry, you can always add more if you need to.
2. Get a grown-up to help you add hot water to the jar and stir it with the spoon to dissolve the glitter glue. Do not use boiling water in the jar as it could break the glass.
3. Once all the glue has dissolved, wait for it to cool down before you screw the lid back on. When it's on tight (and make sure it's really tight) give it a shake and watch the glitter storm calm down.



Shake the jar and see the glitter swirl around. Watch as it settles and helps you to feel calm and more focused.

Activity for home

There are lots of things you can do at home to support your child and their transition to the next class or school. Twinkl have lots of great activities and sheets, like the one below. Talk to them about what they have enjoyed this year and see if they can record their memories.



The worksheet is titled "End of Year Memories" in blue cursive. It features a central large box for a drawing, with a rainbow and clouds at the bottom. Surrounding this are several text boxes for writing. The left side has boxes for "I'm in grade", "I was this tall:", "My favorite book was:", and "A great memory I have is when:". The right side has boxes for "Year:", "My teacher was:", "My favorite subject was:", and "My good friends were named:". The entire worksheet is framed by a decorative border of clouds and a rainbow.

End of Year Memories

I'm in grade

This is what I looked like:

Year:

I was this tall:

My teacher was:

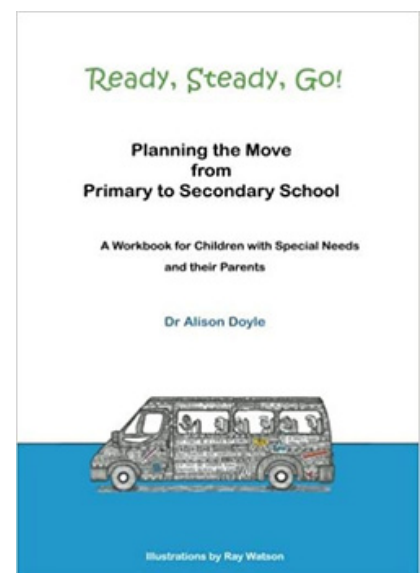
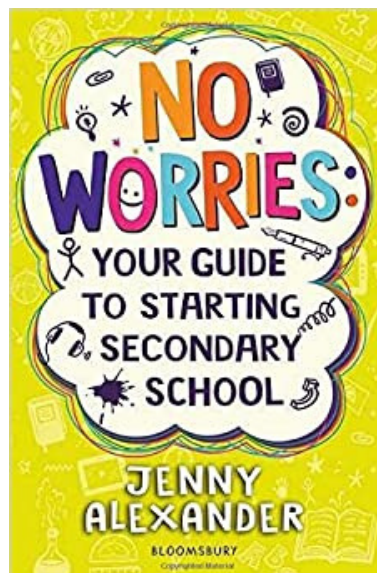
My favorite book was:

My favorite subject was:

A great memory I have is when:

My good friends were named:

Some books that might be helpful are...



Jargon buster - Glossary of terms

There are lots of abbreviations used in school, so here are a few to help you understand when they are used and what they mean.

SEND

Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities

EHCP

Education, Health and Care Plan (a legal document that is only needed in a tiny number of cases.)

EAL

English as an Additional Language - where a person speaks another language at home.

SALT

Speech and Language Therapy / Therapist

EP

Educational Psychologist

IEP

Individual Education Plan which will have targets on for the child to work on in school and at home.