



## Moving image resources

ONE OF OUR CONTRIBUTORS, Nick Chandley, has added a new resource that many users will find useful: a selection of links to short videos and video clips freely available on the internet. His document of links, along with summaries, thoughts about related concepts and recommendations for age-group suitability are available in the 'Recommended' section of the P4C Library. It would not be legal to embed the videos in p4c.com; we can only provide links.

Nick says: 'I've used many of these videos for P4C and other projects and I've found them all to be very engaging and thought-provoking. It is by no means an exhaustive list and could only ever be seen as a catalyst for the contributions of others. There are links in my document to the videos, some of which are only available as streaming, whilst others are in that category of apparently not being able to be downloaded, despite the ever-growing number of programmes available on the Internet for just such a purpose.'

'All the videos are fairly short, none more than eight minutes long and mostly averaging four minutes. They can be shown on interactive whiteboards, which are fairly standard equipment now in classrooms, but depending on your hardware, some loss of quality may occur when viewed in full-screen mode. I've already amassed at least double the number I've recommended, but had to stop somewhere!'

We've added a comment facility to the page so you can respond to Nick's suggestions with your own, comment on your use of the videos or tell us if any of the links cease to work.

## Personal and social philosophy update

By Roger Sutcliffe

Feedback from various people who have seen the PSP manifesto in the last newsletter has been generally positive about the idea in principle – of re-titling PSE as PSP, thus providing a whole and permanent home for PS(HC)E, PLTS, SEAL, Global Dimension and various other good, but isolated, ideas and practices.

Jason Buckley, a p4c.com contributor, is conducting a small piece of research in connection with this project. It is to ask pupils, by mean of a questionnaire, what concepts they think are most important and that they would like to discuss in school.

Jason is inviting p4c.com members in secondary schools to do the same research and send it to him. He says: 'I am canvassing the views of young people in Years 7-9 about the concepts that they consider important and worth exploring. I think the results may be interesting so I am making the questionnaire available for others to use. There may be some vocabulary that needs explaining, but it should be possible to conduct the

## p4c.com news

THIS IS THE SECOND EDITION of our new, printable-format newsletter This, and future newsletters, will bring you new articles and news of resources, events and discussion from the p4c.com website.

**Personal and Social Philosophy.** Since launching the idea of PSP in the last newsletter, we have added a couple of forum items to keep you in touch with the small amount of progress that a few people have made so far. Look at the Personal and Social Philosophy forum find out more.

**Finding resources on p4c.com.** Two useful ways of finding resources, apart from using the menus in the left column, are to look in the right column at the two links directly under the 'Help' graphic. They are 'Recent content' and 'Browse by category'. The first gives you the latest site additions, the second allows you to search by concept, age range of pupils, or curriculum subject.

**Keeping track of interesting forums.** Here is a reminder. If you contribute to forum topics, you receive email updates when other people post new messages. Even if you don't contribute yourself, you can receive the updates by clicking on 'Add to my briefcase' at the top of any forum topic. You can cancel this at any time too. So, if you are interested tracking what people put in the new 'Initial Practice' topic, then add it to your briefcase.

**Writing poems to explore 'unfairness'.** In relation to philosophy for children, simple and direct poems, written by children, could provide examples of their conceptions of 'courage' or 'fairness', 'pleasure' and pain'. In a new addition to the website, Steve Williams, sets some 10-year-olds the task of writing verses about 'unfairness'. Then he discusses with them their thoughts on what makes something unfair. Audio files are included of some verses read by children and some of the discussion. To see this item, look in the 'Concept-stretcher' section.

**Dialogue about drugs in sport.** Lynda Dunlop, a new contributor to p4c.com, has submitted a dialogue about doping in sport. We like dialogues so we are particularly pleased to have it. She works in a 'science in society' project at the University of Ulster and she includes some introductory work on some of science behind the issue. Look in the 'scripts and dialogues' section of the library.



## Events and courses

### Advance notice

survey during a registration period or at most two. It will be very helpful to us in considering what should be the first concepts we work on. We will also send you the compiled results of your class and the survey as a whole (from as many returns as we receive).'

Each pupil should fill in their own copy of the survey. When they're done, please add a note to say what year group you did it with. Include your email address if you would like to see the results, and send the whole bundle to: Jason Buckley, Outspark, 7 Tower Road, Writtle, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 3NR

**Download:** The survey sheet at:

<http://www.p4c.com/jasons-questionnaire>

## Call for contributions

By Steve Williams

In academic circles, you often come across a 'call for papers', which means a call for written-up research or argument to stimulate thinking and discussion at a conference. P4C.COM is a kind of online practical conference where resources, ideas about curriculum pathways and recommendations about how to do p4c can be shared, catalogued and commented upon.

We have developed what we think is an ethical approach to this project of sharing. Our website works on a 'give and take' basis. If people write and share resources, they get paid for their efforts. That payment may amount to substantially more than the subscription they pay. The more they write, the more they get paid. If people never write and share resources, they simply pay the subscription in order to fund the service they are benefiting from. This arrangement also allows the site to be maintained and developed and for editorial services to be paid for.

We want the site to develop, from the bottom up, into the kind of resource that could, amongst other things, fulfil a similar function to the manuals that came with Matthew Lipman's novels while at the same time encouraging discussion about the kind of support materials that are best for p4c. We felt that, without the manuals, much had been lost in the move towards teachers having to be more self-reliant in coming up with resources to support classroom inquiry. This is a particular problem when a teacher has no philosophical background. The manuals provided material to help develop the conceptual capacities of pupils – not only with regard to those contestable concepts such as fairness and beauty but also to those concepts that enable everyone to think and argue about everything else such as: all, some, none, similar, different, reason, cause and alternative. On p4c.com we refer to exercises to develop both these kinds of concepts as *concept stretchers* and *inquiry builders*.

We invite you to send your exercises – your concept stretchers and inquiry builders to us. In the first instance, send them to [steve@p4c.com](mailto:steve@p4c.com). We will do the rest and contact you about how to become a contributor.

**Writing workshop for subscribers.** So far there has been little interest in this idea, posted in the October newsletter. If you are interested, please respond soon via the questionnaire (see below). If you would like us to work on an online version of the workshop that is possible too. You can indicate your interest in this on the questionnaire. The idea is this:

One of our subscribers has suggested the idea of p4c.com running a writing workshop to help adults write dialogues, narratives and role-plays suitable for using to stimulate inquiry. Others have shown an interest in writing exercises such as inquiry builders and concept stretchers. In response set up a questionnaire to find out the level of interest. For more details: [www.p4c.com/writing-workshop](http://www.p4c.com/writing-workshop).

**SAPERE conference.** *Learning to give an inch: dealing with controversial, contested and taboo subjects.* In partnership with the NUT in London.

**Speaker** Shami Chakrabarti: Director, Liberty. Plus a choice of workshops - led by exemplar schools and expert practitioners - focusing on the skills and approaches that enable teachers and young people to consider 'difficult' questions and ideas. See the p4c.com events page under 'UK Events' [www.p4c.com/events/term/237](http://www.p4c.com/events/term/237)

**Level 1, 2 and 3 courses.** There are SAPERE-validated level 2 and 3 courses running in:

- Swansea (Wales) in January with Sue Lyle and Ishmael Lewis. *Level 1*
- Northumberland in February with James Nottingham. *Level 1*
- Swansea (Wales) starting in November with Karin Murriss and Sue Lyle. *Level 2*
- Northumberland (England) in February with James Nottingham and Steve Williams. *Level 2*
- Swansea (Wales) starting in November with Karin Murriss and Joanna Haynes. *Level 3*

For details about these courses see the p4c.com events page under 'UK Events'. [www.p4c.com/events/term/237](http://www.p4c.com/events/term/237)

SAPERE is also running courses. For those, see: [www.sapere.org.uk/courses/search.aspx](http://www.sapere.org.uk/courses/search.aspx)

**SOPHIA events.** SOPHIA is the European Network for doing Philosophy with Children. SOPHIA organises meetings, courses and conferences. For details about these courses see the SOPHIA website: <http://sophia.eu.org>