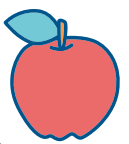


The EduTwitter Times



THE BEST RESEARCH AND PEDAGOGY TO
IMPACT YOUR CLASSROOM
COLLATED AND EDITED BY TOM ROGERS

www.rogershistory.com/the-edutwitter-times

IN THIS ISSUE

A Rubik's Cube with a difference by **Will Fitzgibbon**


The Genius Project by **The Hectic Teacher**

The teacher who made a difference by **Ruth Fox**

Metacognition - what do teachers need to know? by **Oliver Caviglioli**

3 Maths megastars to follow on twitter by **Kathryn Arithmatics**



 @rogershistory



Welcome

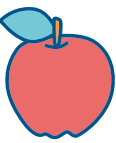
Summer is Coming!

Last week, I had the pleasure of talking to Vigo's biggest periodical; **Faro De Vigo** (read here: www.farodevigo.es/gran-vigo/2018/05/16/influencer-aulas-o-castro/1892301.html) about all things teaching! In fact, every time they asked me a question, it came back to the same thing - the kids I teach are amazing! I have to be thee luckiest teacher on the planet. Every single day, I never have a lesson to fear or a conversation to dread. Its incredible.

Anyway, enough gushing. This edition of the edutwitter times is one i've loved putting together. I'm delighted to welcome exclusive contributions from James Fitzgibbon, a teacher whose twitter feed I follow with envy most days and the "hectic teacher", another twitter user with fantastic ideas. Both contribute here alongside the illustrious Oliver Caviglioli, Kathryn "arithmatics" and Ruth Fox, a person you have to hear from! Excellent stuff - enjoy the read!

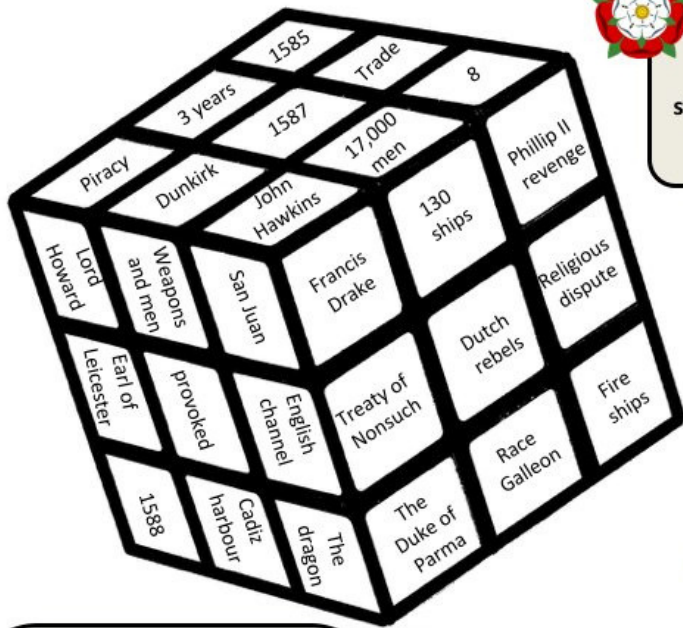
Tom :)

A Rubik's Cube with a difference



The Content Knowledge 'Rubik's cube'

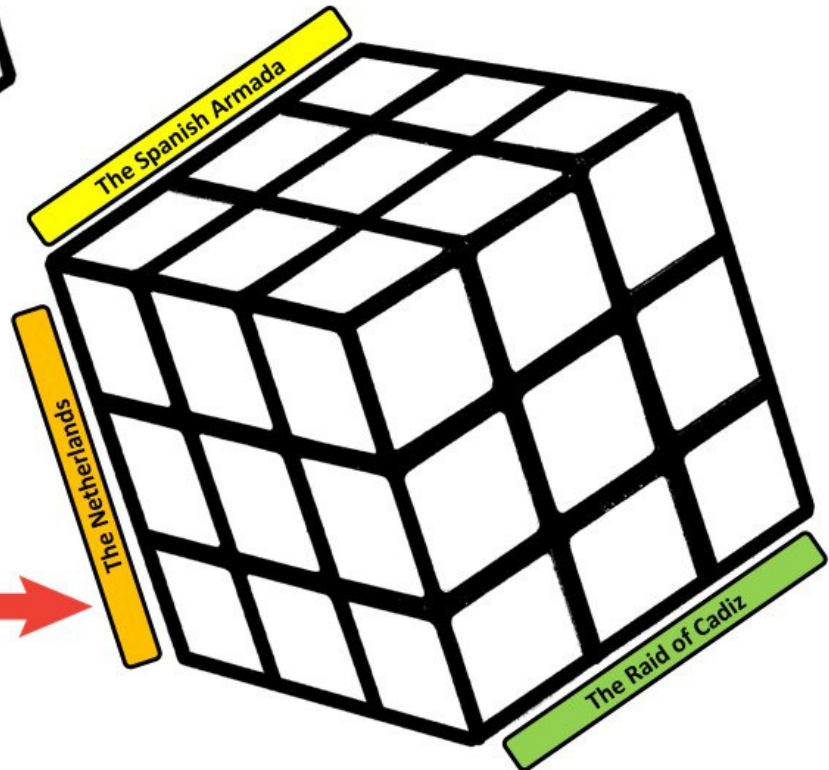
Within the Rubik's cube on the left, there are key terms, dates and statistics all connected to key military events during the reign of Elizabeth I.



Task

Your task is to solve the Rubik's cube and fit the key words, dates and statistics with the correct event.

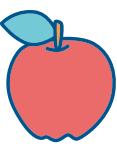
Once you have connected each piece of evidence with the event, you then need to write an explanatory paragraph for each key event including the key terms you have just sorted.



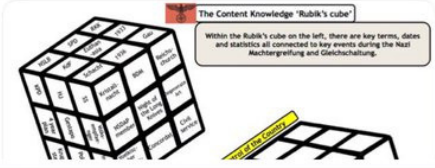
"Created in 1974, the Rubik's cube it would seem has stood the test of time and is a frequent feature on the corridors of my school. It was only after constant requests of 'Put that away now please.', that the potential of this puzzle as a classroom resource dawned on me.

After trialing with a few classes, what stands out is the cube's versatility. Within the History classroom, it has been an effective template for a range of historical skills ranging from knowledge recall to evaluative judgement.

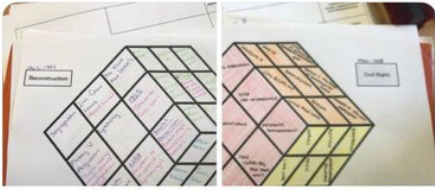
Thanks to Twitter, this simple idea has begun to morph into something much more complex with other professionals, from a range of subjects, adopting the cube for essay planning, linking evidence and differentiation to name just a few....



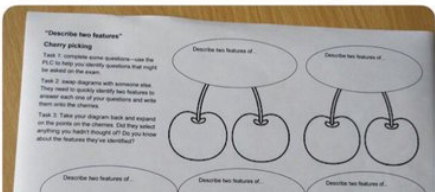
Pirated from [@mrfitzhist](#) - NSDAP power and control for Y10/11 rev.



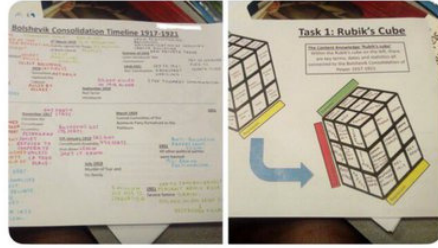
Just to add to the chorus of praise for [@mrfitzhist](#) rubix cube revision activity. Really helpful to remind key words and categorise.



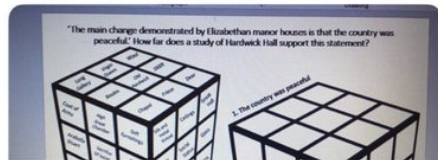
Nicked [@mrfitzhist](#)'s idea today with an adaptation: I made the students write the questions and get someone else to answer them. We did a round for Western Front and a round for Elizabeth. Worked a treat 👍 thanks! [#historyteacher](#)



Replying to [@mrfitzhist](#)
Year 12 revision made nice and quick with the help of your fab Rubik's cube idea- thanks for sharing! [@mrfitzhist](#)



[@mrfitzhist](#) I've completely stolen your idea for my year 11 revision session on Wednesday. Thank you for this gem! [#historyteacher](#) [#revision](#)

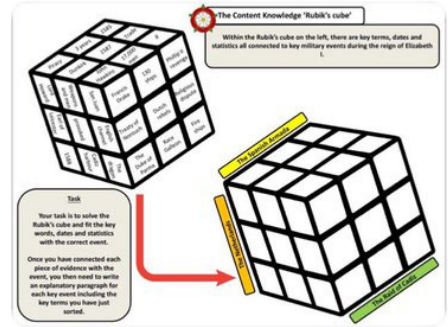


One of the best [#retrieval](#) type activities I've seen in a while 🔥👍

Mr Fitzgibbon [@mrfitzhist](#)
Attempting to harness the retro Rubik's cube craze in school through the 'Elizabeth content knowledge cube'. Solve the puzzle by matching the key evidence with the



This resource is simply excellent via [@mrfitzhist](#) - perfect for revision lesson(s) [#historyteacher](#)

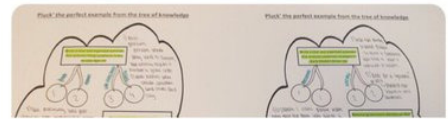


12/05/2018, 16:19

Tweet your reply



Inspired again by [@mrfitzhist](#). Year 11 revised peoples health by 'plucking' the best examples to answer the question in the theme tree. Hopefully they've got more knowledge rooted in their memories... [#historyteacher](#)



Another fantastic resource from [@mrfitzhist](#) we love it 😍 and can't wait to try it out

.....As well as versatility, the cube has only strengthened my belief in providing students with creative formats along with the more traditional. 'Camouflaging the content within creativity' is something I have tried to incorporate within my teaching practice and the results have been overall positive, with both engagement and knowledge retention being achieved simultaneously.

It is clear, that the Rubik's cube holds far more potential and this is something I am looking forward to exploring. However, what I'm most pleased with is that I have had the opportunity to give something back to those who have shared consistently inspiring practice."

James Fitzgibbon, History teacher, [@mrfitzhist](#)

A teacher who made a difference to me



Ruth Fox @Foxinthebox05 is a mental health campaigner, writer and works with the mental health football association. Here she talks exclusively about her biology teacher - who helped her through some of her darkest moments.

Personally, I think schools have such an important role in educating young people about the issues that could face them; how to maintain positive mental health, how to seek help if you're struggling and how to look out for a friend or family member who is going through a tough time. I had never heard of mental illness because I suffered from it. I thought depression was the same as sadness and that everything to do with 'mental', including mental health, meant being locked away in an institutional hospital, chained to a bed etc. This was not through ignorance or misunderstanding, but purely through lack of knowledge. During years of PSHE sessions in my time at school, I'd never once been told about mental health. **It shouldn't be the case that you're only made aware of an issue by going through it, but that was definitely the case for me.**

Teachers also need to be in a more confident position to deal with students struggling with their mental health. During my first bout of depression in year 9, I was told I had to be in school by law and keeping the structure of the school day would help me. I understand and respect that this approach might work for some or even most students. But for me, driving to school crying, sitting with the school nurse crying and driving home crying didn't do anything to help me at all. **Using a one-size-fits-all approach doesn't work as each student's situation is different and brings with it its own challenges.**



In the sixth form, I was lucky enough to have Mr Donoghue, my biology teacher, and a lot of other teachers who provided me with the time, support and care that I needed. **Mr Donoghue was the first person I ever opened up to, by choice, about my battle with depression.** I spoke to him because I knew he was a genuine guy and we got on well. Instead of palming my issue off to professionals, just listening to a student can mean just as much. For me, sitting with Mr Donoghue over a cup of tea and unloading to him helped me more than any conversations with CAMHS support workers or the school nurse. As a teacher, you have a unique relationship with a student and it is likely that they will trust you more than others. Mr Donoghue went above and beyond what was expected of him as a biology teacher but for what reason? Because he cared about me, because he wanted to see me well, because I was a human being who needed support. **Mr Donoghue will never know how much his intervention helped me, I genuinely believe he saved my life.** He didn't have any answers, any first-hand experience or much advice, but he sat with me at my most vulnerable, he guided me through my last year of school and most importantly he lent me an ear when that's all I needed. It's because of this that I have decided to dedicate my book, which will be out in September, entirely to him. We need more Mr Donoghue's in the world!

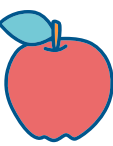
Metacognition - what does it all mean for educators?



Oliver Caviglioli is a former special school head teacher. Now, an information designer, creating visual narratives around teaching concepts and processes. In one of his latest creations, he aptly summarises the findings of the education endowment foundation report on metacognition.

<p>Self-regulated learning consists of</p> <p>COGNITION</p> 	<p>Self-regulated learning consists of</p> <p>METACOGNITION</p> 	<p>Self-regulated learning consists of</p> <p>MOTIVATION</p> 	
<p>1 Develop knowledge and skills</p>  <p>Labelling and understanding the three stages of metacognition help teachers develop these skills in their students. They clarify conversations when students apply the cycle to the task at hand, selected strategies and themselves as learners.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>METACOGNITION & SELF-REGULATION</p> <p>GUIDANCE FOR TEACHERS</p>  <p>A personal summary of the Education Endowment Foundation's 2018 Guidance Report on Metacognition and Self-Regulated Learning.</p> <p>Get the report at www.educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk</p>	<p>2 Teach metacognition</p>  <p>The teaching of metacognitive skills is most effective within subject content. While it involves explicit strategy instruction and modelling, it also includes questioning to activate prior knowledge, and ensures memorisation, practice, and reflection.</p>	
<p>3 Model your thinking</p>  <p>Teachers need to move beyond their unconscious competence and make explicit their implicit and natural expertise. With the aim of future independent learning clearly in mind, there will need to be a gradual reduction of this scaffolding.</p>		<p>4 Challenge self-regulation</p>  <p>Only when students are challenged will they develop their self-regulation. But the optimum level of challenge is difficult to gauge. Cognitive load theory helps teachers consider the pressures placed on students' working memory.</p>	
<p>5 Promote metacognitive talk</p>  <p>Talking helps students learn to reason, discuss, argue and explain their thinking. The teacher's role is crucial in posing ever-challenging questions, insisting on close listening and, in effect, designing better conversations for learning.</p>		<p>6 Teach organisation and management</p>  <p>The bedrock of independent learning is the ability to manage and organise one's learning. Teachers will want to provide feedback that supports this, as well as setting up guided practice in which prompts and scaffolding are gradually withdrawn.</p>	<p>7 Support teachers</p>  <p>Professional development needs to be actively championed by SLT. High quality PD is mostly in-house, iterative over several terms, designed around student learning, mostly subject-focused, collegiate, and reflective. And its impact is assessed.</p>

Genius Hour Projects



The Hectic Teacher is a much admired edutwitter resource sharer. Here, she shares her idea that she rolled out in her school - the "Genius Hour" projects.



"Genius Hour projects are an independent research projects that year 7 and year 8 complete as part of their PSHE homework. In year 7 the students complete two projects over the course of the year, one is a personal interest project and the other is a problem-solving project. In year 8 the students choose what type of project they wish to do. However, the students choose what they want to do their project on. The students work on the projects in their own time either individually or in small groups, and then present them at a fair which we hold in the sports hall. Parents and teachers are invited to see what the students have produced. The projects are judged by teachers based on the presentation of the work as well as how well the students can discuss the projects and badges are awarded to the best in each category. There is also the Leonardo Da Vinci Award for the best project on show."

3 must follow Maths teachers on twitter



I asked one of my favourite Maths twitter teachers "@arithmaticks" for three Maths teachers to follow on twitter. Here are her top tips!

"This was a hard list to write because I'm obsessed with Twitter and its wonderful Maths teachers. If you've already joined, it is likely you already follow the 'big names' like Craig Barton (@MrBartonMaths), John Corbett (@corbettmaths), Jo Morgan (@resourceaholic), Ed Southall (@solvemymaths), Mel Muldowney et al (@JustMaths)... So I'll attempt to suggest some less obvious choices!"

Ben Gordon @mathsmrgordon



"Ben is an extremely passionate teacher and is very invested in research. Ben often tweets and blogs about how this research has helped him in the classroom, giving a more practical approach to the papers on memory and variation. Ben also starts very interesting discussions with his posing of introspective questions, that get me reflecting on my own teaching all the time!"

<https://teachinnovatereflectblog.wordpress.com/>

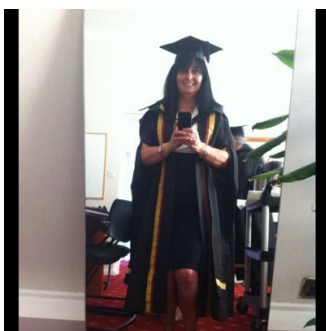
Jemma Sherwood @jemmaths



"I saw Jemma speak about being Head of Department and the changes she has made in teaching and learning at her school at MathsConf14. She's become my idol for leading a maths team. She talked sense then and continues to do so online, about maths education and education in general. What more do you need?"

<https://jemmaths.wordpress.com/>

Julia Smith @tessmaths



"OK...an obvious choice. HOWEVER, Julia is an absolute gem of a maths teacher and a generally amazing human being. I am obsessed with her 'Mathematical Hooks' at the moment and am trying to use them more and more in my lessons. Always positive and always sharing ideas and wisdom on various official chats or even if you just ask a random question."

"Generally speaking, any of the teachers above you'll end up finding more and more of them. It's also a good idea to follow #mathscpdchat on a Tuesday 7-8pm and #mathschat on a Wednesday 8-9pm, and you'll find even more fantastic ideas and tweeters!"

Teaching and Learning

On the horizon

Some of the most eye catching upcoming teaching and learning conferences



TMGeographyIcons



"This is a national event for Geography teachers from around Europe, It is by Geography teachers for Geography teachers and is completely free to attend!"

@TMGeographyIcons

 23/06/18

 **Waiting List**



<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/tmgeographyicons-tickets-36251257487>

The Telegraph Festival of Education



The Festival of Education brings together some of the leading thinkers in UK education in one place - the Huntingdon Research School in Wellington, for an informative and packed programme of keynotes and seminars. Not to be missed.

 21/06/18

 **Varied**



<http://educationfest.co.uk/>

TM Enfield

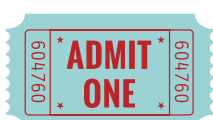
#TMEnfield
28.06.18
5.30pm - 7.45pm
A range of inspirational presenters
Live 'Share Table' workshops - Refreshments and Prizes!
Including guest presentations from:
Paul Wright @tsp4teachingUK - Clare Erasmus @cceramus@teach

Officially Sponsored by: **sincereeducation**
Education Recruitment

Ritesh Patel has gathered some of education's great and good together in one place for this teachmeet that boasts a stellar line up of speakers including Ross McGill, Bukky Yusuf and James Hilton.

 28/06/18

 **FREE**



<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/tmenfield-2018-tickets-43607466105>



"What they said"

Tweets that made the ground shake



Note: Even a busy person will make time for you if they truly want too! Know your worth & notice the difference between someone being busy & someone straight up ignoring/avoiding you.

Urban Teacher
@urban_teacher



The lead inspector who gave us such a rough ride in our last inspection has just stepped down from his headship role - the stresses of the job were too much. I'll just leave that there.



John Connor
@bootleian

I've brought marking home with absolutely no intention to mark.

Kirsty
@kirstrogITT



So, my son is spending at least 2 hours tomorrow sitting Year 2 #SATs. He's already recognised his confidence is low in English. He's probably spent the last 3 months preparing for them, so he and I will be bloody glad when it's all over.

Definitely boycotting year 6 ...



Ross Morrison McGill
@RossMcGill