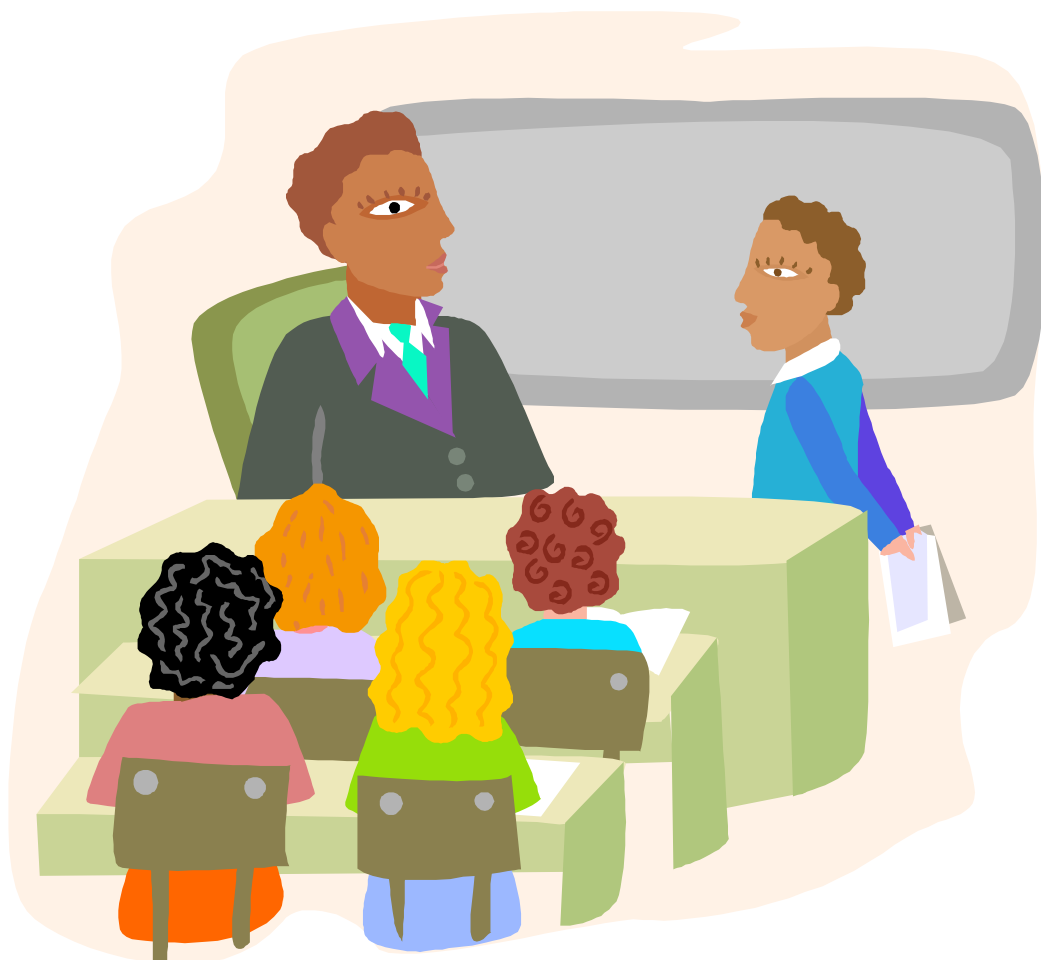


Class Transition Day



50 Ideas and Activities

Collected from [TES.co.uk](https://www.tes.co.uk)

All About Me

Passport to Year X

I have uploaded a printable 'Passport to Year...' file. It makes a little A5 booklet with space for a photo and for the kids to add their details, favourite subjects, etc.

All completely editable before printing/copying.

<http://www.tes.co.uk/article.aspx?storycode=6001312>

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS2/3	Suggestion made by:	tafkam
-----------------------	-------	---------------------	------------------------

Introductory Letter

For upper KS2 a colleague has suggested that each child writes a letter to you about themselves and their favourite subjects/hobbies etc etc.

This way you can get a feel for ability and preferences.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS2	Suggestion made by:	psycho_jo
-----------------------	-----	---------------------	---------------------------

Shoe-box portrait

Prepare shoe box with personal items that tell the children something about yourself and say why they are important. Children then draw/write what they would put in a shoebox that would demonstrate their personality. At the end of the session, give each child a self addressed postcard and ask them to write and send it back when they have had a really good day - would make a good display.

Suggested Age Ranges:	All	Suggestion made by:	mrs.j
-----------------------	-----	---------------------	-----------------------

3 'Facts'

Write 3 'facts' about yourself but one has to be made up. This caused much hilarity among Year 4s.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS2/3	Suggestion made by:	avg25
-----------------------	-------	---------------------	-----------------------

Match the descriptions

With a Y4 class we made little booklets (one sheet of A4 folded in half then half again) about ourselves but without names on. The front page was a self-portrait, the next page 5 facts about myself (I have blue eyes, I have 2 brothers, etc), the next page 5 things that I like, the last page 5 things I would like to do (better)/achieve next year in school (do better at maths, get a place on the football team, have neater handwriting, etc). At the end I collected in all the books and shuffled them around and the class had to try and guess who was who based on the information, not the picture. This can be a short or long activity depending on how much time you have.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS2	Suggestion made by:	dinx67
-----------------------	-----	---------------------	------------------------

Personal Shields

I usually do a shield, split into 4 sections: name, pictures of family, favourite things, favourite subject etc. Children do them during the handover session in the last week, then I have them displayed in the classroom for the first week back in Sept.

http://share1.esd105.wednet.edu/bishopci/portfolios/coatofarms_template.htm

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1/2	Suggestion made by:	clarehw
-----------------------	-------	---------------------	-------------------------

Animal Portraits

A really successful one I used last year with Y4/5 class was to introduce myself in the following way: Hello! My name is If I was an animal I would be a bee, because I'm always buzzing around! However I would like to be more of a tortoise because I need to slow down!

The children then drew a picture of themselves as their animal and wrote the completed sentences underneath. These made a lovely display.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS2	Suggestion made by:	carriecat10
-----------------------	-----	---------------------	-----------------------------

People Bingo

Have year three class and I usually play a game of getting to know you bingo. Each child is given a bingo board split into 12 with a statement in each box. e.g someone with a brother or someone who walks to school. The children have to walk around and try to get a signature in every box.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1/2	Suggestion made by:	blatham
-----------------------	-------	---------------------	-------------------------

Jigsaw Puzzle

I have a lovely jig saw template which has small sections for children to write about what they are good at, what they like and what they want to achieve this year. There are also some blank pieces - makes an excellent display in September.

<http://www.tes.co.uk/teaching-resource/jigsaw-piece-3013479/>

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1/2	Suggestion made by:	MsDaisyChain
-----------------------	-------	---------------------	------------------------------

Circle Time / PSHE

Listening Skills

Just to say, when I went to my new school (with great ideas from this thread), they'd already planned my session (hooray! - can do my stuff on the first day), and it was great. The class had to follow instructions themselves to make a starburst.

- Draw two big spots (like a reception child's full stop) on a piece of paper.
- Draw 10 tiny spots around the big spots.
- Using a ruler, connect each tiny spot to each big spot.
- Colour in the starburst

It was very interesting to see who could follow instructions, who could use a ruler (Y6!), who relied on friends to help, motor skills colouring in etc.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1/2	Suggestion made by:	tangerinecat
-----------------------	-------	---------------------	------------------------------

Success Criteria

With my new class I got them to create a Success Criteria for a quality learning environment and this was our set of class rules, I also took a photo of them making a 'quality line' and again made a success criteria for a quality line, I stuck both up on the classroom door to remind them how to line up each time we lined up in class.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1/2	Suggestion made by:	ssjwade
-----------------------	-------	---------------------	-------------------------

Job Applications

We looked at a powerpoint I'd created (uploaded in resource bank here: <http://www.tes.co.uk/teaching-resource/Job-applications-6048987/>) and used application forms to apply for roles. (30 children in class, 10 jobs, job contracts last a term) This year I am going to take it a bit further and get them to role-play interviews, using class-written questions and think about their responses. Going to get my husband in, in the afternoon, to interview them.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS2	Suggestion made by:	hanaprice
-----------------------	-----	---------------------	---------------------------

Time Capsule

A time capsule - we wrote letters to ourselves, including information on who we were at that point, things that we're going on in our lives right then and there, likes/dislikes. We wrote hopes and wishes and included predictions (personal and worldly). In the tin also went a class photo and a newspaper front cover.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS2	Suggestion made by:	hanaprice
-----------------------	-----	---------------------	---------------------------

Getting to know you Bingo

I usually play a game of getting to know you bingo. Each child is given a bingo board split into 12 with a statement in each box. e.g someone with a brother or someone who walks to school. The children have to walk around and try to get a signature in every box.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1/2	Suggestion made by:	blatham
-----------------------	-------	---------------------	-------------------------

Introduce a friend

A nice circle time activity to get to know the children is for them to go around and talk about the person to their left (3 things?) 1- their name, 2- something about them 3- something their good at. Takes the focus off them and makes everyone feel special.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1/2	Suggestion made by:	glittergirlie
-----------------------	-------	---------------------	-------------------------------

I am happy when...

On the board i put up numbers 1-6 and the following titles-1.I am happy when.../2.I am sad when.../3.I'm a good friend because.../4.I get worried when.../5.I get excited when.../6.I'm glad I'm me because...

We sat in a circle and took it in turns to roll a big dice and then share with the class the answer to the corresponding 'feeling' on the board. We then turned our ideas into 'feelings flowers'-the children wrote down their responses to when they felt happy/sad... on 6 different petals and I took a photo of each child to go in the centre of their flowers. These looked really good and will make a nice display because they used brightly coloured card. Also allowed me to learn a bit about the children.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1/2	Suggestion made by:	dcygan
-----------------------	-------	---------------------	------------------------

Friendship garden

You make flower templates, 1 child sits in the middle of the circle on a special cushion or beanbag, and the others have to say nice things about them ; a good friend, good at football, a good speller, etc. You write the things they say on the petals, with the child's name in the centre. The flowers go in a 'friendship garden display', with leaves and grass etc. It's especially nice to establish friendships in a new class, say at the beginning of term.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1/2	Suggestion made by:	seiglinde
-----------------------	-------	---------------------	---------------------------

You're special because...

If you're lucky enough to get a class that knows each other, you could do something that I saw a placement teacher do. Give each child a class list and ask them to write 1 thing nice about every single person except themselves. Over the summer (and this is the hassle), cut up the class lists and put them into an envelope for each child. As the year goes on, have a child of the week who can do special jobs but they start of their week opening their envelope and reading lots of lovely things about themselves!

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS2	Suggestion made by:	pinkfluffyprincess
-----------------------	-----	---------------------	------------------------------------

Dream Tree

I use a 'dream tree' display in my first lesson with my new class. We have a display board prepared with the branches of a tree and every child is given a leaf made from green paper and they write an aspiration for the year. We discuss it first, circle time style, and then stick our leaves on the tree. Over the year they can add other leaves as they want to and transfer their dreams to an 'our achievements' roll of honour we create later on (this can be added to without a leaf too).

Suggested Age
Ranges:

KS1/2

Suggestion made by:

[ferarkjc04](#)

Skills

For a Year 2 class to be, I set them 'tasks' based on what I expected from a class. So for good listening I gave them an outline of an alien and then gave instructions and they added detail eg. a long nose, 3 tiny green eyes. For following instructions we did Simon Says. For good talking and listening they talked with partner and then told me one thing about their partner. For concentrating they had a 'spot the difference'.

Suggested Age
Ranges:

KS1

Suggestion made by:

[katiekatie](#)

Hopes & Wishes

Shoebbox covered in gorgeous paper, little slips to be completed by the children (and me) My hopes for year ... Filled in on the visit day and popped in the box (along with a pinch of glitter and a wish!) Box is then opened and shared on the last circle time of the year for a reflection.

Suggested Age
Ranges:

KS1/2

Suggestion made by:

[Waterfin](#)

A class song

We discussed and mindmapped what kind of class we wanted to be...enthusiastic, responsible, imaginative etc. We wrote a class song/rap, to the tune of 'We will rock you' using these words and phrases. We wrote, learnt and practiced during the day. We then created wordles of these lyrics (www.wordle.net) to put in the classroom windows for visitors to see and in our PSHE books. We used this song throughout the year to remind ourselves when we weren't quite living up to our own expectations and all to celebrate our successes as a class!! They loved the activity and sung it passionately!

Suggested Age
Ranges:

KS2

Suggestion made by:

[hanaprice](#)

Word Hunt

I did an 'explore' the classroom hunt sort of thing: basically I put letters on pieces of card and put each one in a place I refer to regularly or something I often ask the children to get out e.g. whiteboards. The children were in small teams and had a list of the places where the letters were. They had to go around collecting the letters and then work out what they spelt (the class name - it's quite long)

Suggested Age
Ranges:

KS2

Suggestion made by:

[KMD](#)

Display pictures

I ask class to draw and colour in 2 pictures of themselves (no bigger than about 10cm²). I laminate these to use in Sept. These pictures can then be used in a wall display to show which group each child is in for Lit and Num. A good visual reminder for pupils in the first few weeks and the groups can be changed around easily.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1/2	Suggestion made by:	youarehired
-----------------------	-------	---------------------	-----------------------------

Five expectations

I did one last year where I got the children to draw round each of their hands (need to get a friend to help with one of them depending on whether you're right or left handed). They then wrote all the things they expected of themselves over the next year on the fingers of one hand, and on the fingers of the other hand they wrote what they expected of me as their teacher. Made for quite interesting reading - although one girl wrote that she expected me to have nice nails, think she'd missed the point rather...!

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1/2	Suggestion made by:	Huckleberry-Finn
-----------------------	-------	---------------------	----------------------------------

Art & Design

Art Gallery

Classes doing CLJ, creative curriculum or the like. Do a really fab big piece of art based on the topic you're doing in September. Display this in the first week so children see their work on the wall from day one - also brightens your classroom. Make sure everyone's is on the wall - good, bad and ugly.

This year my pupils each had an A1 sized painting on the wall waiting for them in September and the whole room looked like an art gallery. Made September a positive start!

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1-3	Suggestion made by:	year6teacher93
-----------------------	-------	---------------------	--------------------------------

Eggrams

I have a template of an egg which has markings on to cut into 12 geometric shapes. I print on variety of different colours of paper/thin card and each child has one and cuts out the shapes. They can then swap pieces of their choice (must keep whole egg but can swap like pieces for a different colour) Then must use pieces to make a picture - often a bird (duck or owl) which I mount on black paper for a display. Is very effective and popular with all ages.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1/2	Suggestion made by:	louisaeliza
-----------------------	-------	---------------------	-----------------------------

Crystal Ball

I gave my children a template of a crystal ball and asked them to write on the bottom what they can see themselves achieving by the end of the next year. They then draw a picture of that in the centre.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1	Suggestion made by:	samstb
-----------------------	-----	---------------------	------------------------

Half-portrait

I take a digital photograph of each child (on a blank background) and then print only one half of each photo out in black and white. Using pencils the children then draw the other half of their face. The effect is fantastic and the children love seeing the display on the first day of the new term.

Suggested Age Ranges:	All	Suggestion made by:	gcsouth
-----------------------	-----	---------------------	-------------------------

Name Cards

The children make and decorate a name card to go next to their coat hook. Some choose to do it using ICT, others draw etc. The new labels are there for them, next to their coat space, when they return in September.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1	Suggestion made by:	jajwuth
-----------------------	-----	---------------------	-------------------------

Self-portraits

Two I've done in the past is getting the children to draw their faces and stuck them on
1. purple ovals and made a display - 'We're a grape bunch!
2. On coloured circles - title - 'There are smarties in this class!'

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1+	Suggestion made by:	rosalie36
-----------------------	------	---------------------	---------------------------

Create backing paper

This is for the very brave only, get some wall lining paper or similar and lots of paint, arrange children around long tables, paint a little shape or pattern, then on signal (or when music plays or whatever) move around and add a bit to the next bit of the paper, and so on until all the paper is filled or the bell goes! (Hope I explained that ok, easier to see it!) Makes a nice bright display for empty classroom and can use it as a background for other stuff later.

Suggested Age Ranges:	All	Suggestion made by:	tog
-----------------------	-----	---------------------	---------------------

Birthday Cards

One activity i usually do is to give my new class a piece of A4 card and get them to make a generic Happy Brirthday card with appropriate age on -as i teach Y2 this is 7. The children decorate the card and write a general message inside such as 'Happy 7th Birthday from all your friends in 2HH' then throughout the year when it a child's birthday they get to choose one of the cards out of a box and then we have fun identifying who made the card. The children really like the idea and love it when someone chooses their card.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1	Suggestion made by:	helen26
-----------------------	-----	---------------------	-------------------------

Bookmarks

Last year we made bookmarks. Each child wrote and decorated their name on one side and on the other drew pictures of their favourite things eg pet/animal, sport, character, place, number etc. We then laminated and cut them out. At the beginning of the new school year we gave them back to the children during their first individual read. Most have kept and used them throughout the year (Y2).

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1/2	Suggestion made by:	Alibea
-----------------------	-------	---------------------	------------------------

Marker-pen portrait

Something I have done is: get them to draw a portrait of themselves (or each other) by giving them a black marker pen and an A3 piece of paper. Tell them that once the pen touches the page they cannot take it off again. It helps them to concentrate that they can't rub their drawing out and that it is one continuous line. Afterwards, ask them to colour with pens or crayons. It's really effective! Works with any age!

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS2	Suggestion made by:	Shelly78
-----------------------	-----	---------------------	--------------------------

Two-way portrait

Another portrait idea is to have a photo of each child. Ask the children to copy the picture and draw themselves. Then mark out each picture into strips (poss 2cm apart). Cut both the pictures and glue the strips back on, but the first photo strip followed by the first drawing pic, then the second strip for each, then the third etc. When all pieces are glued on, ask the children to fold the paper back and forth where each strip meets. It gives a great effect when pulled slightly out - from one angle you see the photo and from another angle you see the drawing! (Hope this makes sense!).

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS2	Suggestion made by:	Shelly78
-----------------------	-----	---------------------	--------------------------

Stained-glass names

We have done window art, using ripped tissue paper for a background in a laminating pouch, then coloured paper for their name. We added glitter and other bits and pieces and laminated them. When on the window the light shines through the tissue paper, but not their name, making it really clear to read.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS2	Suggestion made by:	Shelly78
-----------------------	-----	---------------------	--------------------------

Class Jigsaw display

A jigsaw idea I used was to write a word/ phrase e.g. Welcome to our class in bubble writing then cut out the pieces as if a jigsaw. Give to each child to decorate with what they like (you need an arrow to make sure they are all up the right way). Then "ta da" put them together to spell out a word & to show how well they work as a class & every part is important! This is then put on noticeboard. I numbered the pieces as I cut them, to make putting together easier.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1/2	Suggestion made by:	NeKo
-----------------------	-------	---------------------	----------------------

Pop Art ideas

What I did was took a photo of each child and put four of them on an A4 page in the style of the Four Marilyns by Warhol. Then I photocopied it and blew it up to A3. The children then coloured over their faces using felt tips, in either realistic or zany colours. I also took in lots of food cans and they drew them in the style of Warhol's Campbell's soup tins. Take a look at Lichtenstein's 'Girl Drowning' (Max in Hollyoaks had it up in his house!). Then hand out some comics or books from the library that have comic strips. Get the children to choose one frame, trace it and blow it up on photocopier, then colour in. Or design their own...

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS2	Suggestion made by:	mmmunchkin
-----------------------	-----	---------------------	----------------------------

Photo Weaving

Print a colour photo of each child, then print the same photo in B&W (or photocopy it). Cut one photo into strips (about 1.5-2cm wide) vertically. Cut the other into strips horizontally, (best to make it 3-4mm thinner than the vertical strips as they go together easier). Weave both photos together. It looks amazing. Mount onto coloured card when finished. I use this with Year 6 students.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS2	Suggestion made by:	kel_bel22
-----------------------	-----	---------------------	---------------------------

Paper Chain of Talents

Begin by asking students "Who can do something really well?" After a brief discussion about some of the students' talents, pass out paper and ask students to write down five things they do well. Then provide each student with five different-colored paper strips. Have each student write a different talent on separate paper strips, then create a mini paper chain with the strips by linking the five talents together. As students complete their mini chains, use extra strips of paper to link the mini chains together to create one long class chain. Have students stand and hold the growing chain as you link the pieces together. Once the entire chain is constructed and linked, lead a discussion about what the chain demonstrates -- for example, all the students have talents; all the students have things they do well; together, the students have many talents; if they work together, classmates can accomplish anything; the class is stronger when students work together than when individual students work on their own. Hang the chain in the room as a constant reminder to students of the talents they possess and the benefits of teamwork.

Suggested Age
Ranges:

KS2

Suggestion made by:

[julioteacher](#)

Class Flag

Im going to make a class flag this year with little sections of material and fabric pens. They will each design a section and I will sew them together and hang it up in the class for September. That way I can use it to highlight how we all stick together as a class etc etc.

Suggested Age
Ranges:

KS1/2

Suggestion made by:

[schooling2](#)

Kites

We made kites last year. I supplied the tables with a template and some A3 paper. We started by FIRSTLY discussing what we had enjoyed in the previous year(which gave me an idea for the next terms planning). Then SECONDLY the things we were looking forward to in the next year, then THIRDLY our strengths, and FINALLY the things we wanted to improve in this next year. Once discussions were done (addressing and speaking and listening issues straight away) the children then used the template to create their kite splitting it into the 4 discussed sections. They added sentences and pictures to each section and coloured all the backgrounds. To finish they added a string tail to the kite with tissue paper circles gathered in the middle to look like bows. I then put them on display "flying high in year 5" for their first day. They looked good too - bonus! Hope this helps.

Suggested Age
Ranges:

KS1/2

Suggestion made by:

[KatWare](#)

English

Postcards

I also give them a blank postcard with a stamp on it. During the session they fill the school name and address in. Over the holiday they have to draw a picture on the front of themselves or something they did during the holiday. They then have to write it to me telling me about themselves or their holiday. They send it back to school and when I arrive in September we share them with the class and then made a display.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1/2	Suggestion made by:	llovemarmite
-----------------------	-------	---------------------	------------------------------

Drama activity

I always finish the afternoon with a fun story for them to act out e.g the enormous turnip, I take props, puppets etc. in and they act it out as I read. This can be done with older children, e.g George's marvellous medicine.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1/2	Suggestion made by:	lizzylou
-----------------------	-------	---------------------	--------------------------

Application Form

Some fantastic ideas thanks. I have taught year 5/6 for the past few years and I usually do an application form. They apply to be in the class like they would for a job so they include, photo, personal info., skills/qualities, why they should be chosen to be in the class, what they will bring to the class. This makes a great display!

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS2	Suggestion made by:	kthirlaway
-----------------------	-----	---------------------	----------------------------

Music

Song Lyrics

We discussed and mindmapped what kind of class we wanted to be...enthusiastic, responsible, imaginative etc. We wrote a class song/rap, to the tune of 'We will rock you' using these words and phrases. We wrote, learnt and practiced during the day. We then created wordles of these lyrics (www.wordle.net) to put in the classroom windows for visitors to see and in our PSHE books.

We used this song throughout the year to remind ourselves when we weren't quite living up to our own expectations and all to celebrate our successes as a class!! They loved the activity and sung it passionately!

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS2/3	Suggestion made by:	hanaprice
-----------------------	-------	---------------------	---------------------------

PE & Games

Hoop game

Children stand in a circle holding hands. The teacher lets two children break hands so a hula hoop can be placed within the circle, then they rejoin hands. The game is to get the hula hoop all the way round the circle until it gets back to its starting point without anyone breaking hands. They aren't allowed to talk either. If anyone does, they have to be removed from the circle. They can nod and use gestures with their heads etc but no words are allowed. You could split the room up into four groups and see who is the first group to win. (they have to climb through the hoop to pass it on).

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1/2	Suggestion made by:	yogagirl
-----------------------	-------	---------------------	--------------------------

Silent ordering

Another non-verbal communication game is the one where they have to order themselves in order of their birthdays without speaking. They can touch each other and show the months on the digits of their fingers etc (e.g. hold up five fingers for May) but talking or miming is forbidden. The winning team is the first to have all children lining up in order.

Suggested Age Ranges:	KS1/2	Suggestion made by:	yogagirl
-----------------------	-------	---------------------	--------------------------